



FROM MOUSEHOLE TO MARAZION Preview 23 July 2022

Sasha Harding, Sophie Harding and Gemma Pearce at The Old Coastguard

Three of Cornwall's most popular artists, Sasha Harding, Sophie Harding and Gemma Pearce, come together for a summer exhibition at The Old Coastguard in Mousehole.

Running from 24 July - 19 September, **From Mousehole to Marazion** presents a new collection of paintings and drawings by three artists who grew up together in Dorset and who, independently, each moved to Cornwall over 20 years ago. They now draw their inspiration from the coastline, beaches and harbours that surround them. This first joint exhibition offers an insight into the connections and contrasts between their work, all of which exudes a strong, yet beautifully poignant sense of the place. The exhibition is an opportunity to see these paintings in the Cornish location in which they are set.

Sasha's paintings have a strong narrative, with characters and layout often determined before she puts paint to canvas; local fishermen, harbours and trawlers chugging home with a string of gulls in their wake, beached boats, acres of sand. After studying at Falmouth College of Art, Sasha settled in Cornwall to develop her signature style of painting, and now exhibits regularly including at the Red Rag Gallery in Stow-on-the-Wold, The Yard Gallery in Belfast and The Mulberry Tree, Dorset. She has written and illustrated **A Brush With the Coast**, the story of her 630mile along the South West Coast Path.

Sophie originally studied Fashion Design at Central St Martins, and has since then worked as a painter, illustrator and textile maker. Sophie is best described as a colourist painter, her paintings focussing on the interaction and emotive power of colour, simplicity of form and a celebration of the simple joys in life. The themes she favours are still life, seasonal flowers and fruit, and Cornwall's tropical Gardens and many beaches, her inspiration coming from her own life in Cornwall. Sophie exhibits with Liberty London, Air Contemporary, Byre Gallery, Among the Pines, Gallery Tresco, Morgans and The Art Buyer.

Gemma's paintings juxtapose simple, domestic interiors with a foreground still life of indigenous flowers, shells, feathers and other flotsam, behind which a window opens out to the views of the Cornish harbours and coastlines where she lives. Equally carefully composed, her paintings start with chosen flowers, or a view, and by contrast develop organically to the finished arrangement. Gemma's muted palette of blues, greys and the occasional burst of colour focuses our attention on the characters and stage that is daily Cornish life. Gemma exhibits regularly with the Lighthouse Gallery, Penzance and the Red Rag Gallery.

From Mousehole to Marazion promises to be a celebration of friendship and renewal, played out on the Cornish coast path.

