





SAM TOFT COLOURED IN

15 - 30 September 2018

JOHN NOOTT GALLERIES

10 The Green | Broadway | Worcestershire | WR12 7AA
T: 01386 858969/858436 | E: gallery@john-noott.com | www.john-noott.com
Opening hours: Monday to Saturday 9.30-1 and 2-5, Sunday 11-4



Coloured In Drawings. That's how I think about my work. And how I love the colouring in. It's the dreamy, meditative part of my working day. The drawing is the hard bit.

I rarely use sketchbooks nowadays. I love the immediacy of diving straight in with a bold drawing directly onto the board. And there's a whole lot of rethinking and rubbing out. I'm impatient. I get ahead of myself. I'm already starting to imagine the colours of the oil pastels whilst I've still got the pencil in my hand. I write colour notes on scraps of paper inspired by things I've seen that day: wild flowers in my favourite meadow, pretty prints on summer dresses, patterns in the sky, shop window displays seen from the top of a double decker. And colours make all the difference. It may sound obvious to some but it always surprises me. I don't use computers, mainly because I don't know how. Instead I scrub little patches on brown paper with blunt crayons, experimenting until I feel I've matched the image in my head. And for this show

there's been a whole lot of chopping and changing. In a good way I think. I've literally scraped back entire finished pieces and started in again many times. It's exciting. I'm still learning how it all works.

Using my characters, Mr Mustard, his dear lady wife Violet, their portly Jack Russell terrier Doris, Rover the goldfish and a host of furry friends, I'm colouring in my own imaginary world. Conjuring up a life more hopeful, less cynical. A more creative life with old fashioned ideas and a fresh optimism. A life where everyone feels able to show their colours without judgement.

When I am kind to people, I find myself more able to see them at their best. And I feel very lucky. Actually I think that most of us are lucky. We can colour our lives in so many different ways. The optimist will see good bits, the pessimist will see the bad. But we have the power to change how we feel about things. Maybe its time to get the crayons out.

The Bread Crumb Man
25 x 60 cms



THE BREAD CRUMB MAN



Strictly Fun
25 x 60 cms



Another Suitcase of Sardine Sandwiches
25 x 60 cms



Cats and Dogs
50 x 70 cms



Never Forgotten
19 x 14 cms



Skylark Hunt
22 x 16 cms



It's Lilac Time
30 x 40 cms



Sitting with a Dog at the Bay
30 x 30 cms



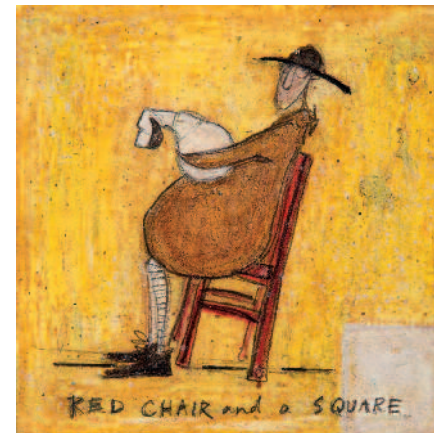
Watching the Tide Roll Away
30 x 30 cms



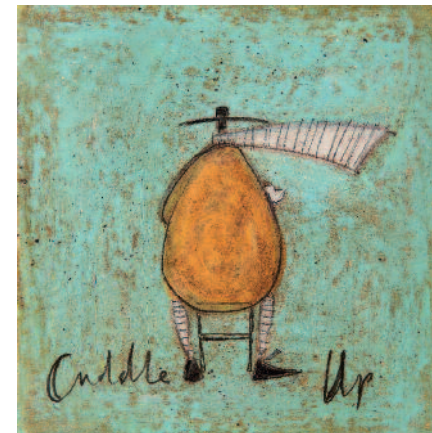
Waiting for the Next Bit
15 x 15 cms



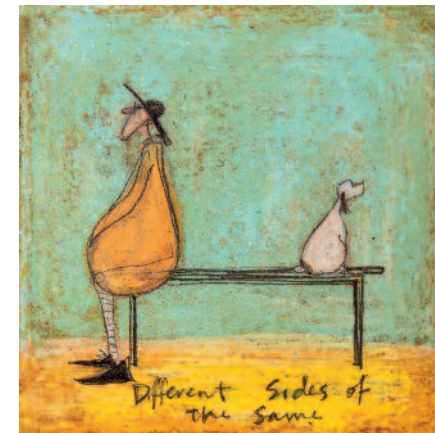
Together
15 x 15 cms



Red Chair and a Square
15 x 15 cms



Cuddle Up
15 x 15 cms



Different Sides of the Same
15 x 15 cms

True Colours
25 x 60 cms





It Takes All Sorts
30 x 40 cms

OPPOSITE:
Be Who You Be
40 x 50 cms



Until We Meet Again
50 x 70 cms





The March of the Sausages
25 x 60 cms



Happy Days are Here Again
25 x 56 cms



And the Blossom Came Early
15 x 15 cms



Run Rabbit Run
15 x 15 cms



Just Perfect
15 x 15 cms



We've Come So Far Doris
15 x 15 cms



Days Like These
15 x 15 cms



Love You Forever
30 x 30 cms



We Have All We Need
30 x 30 cms



Coffee is Served
15 x 15 cms



Tea Time Me Time
15 x 15 cms



Did Someone Say Cake?
15 x 15 cms



Wish You Were Here
16 x 22 cms



Wayward Sausages
40 x 40 cms



Joy
30 x 25 cms



Last Hug of the Day
40 x 30 cms

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