
COS ARTIST NEWS

A CLOSE UP ON OUR ARTISTS, BY [ROB WILKINSON](#).



RICHARD & KELVIN HARVEY

The family way for Cowal's open studio artists.

It's a case of 'like father like son' for Cowal Open Studios' artists Kelvin and Richard Harvey.

The duo are looking forward to being part of their first COS open weekend in September (22nd to 25th), opening up their studios to the public together with around 50 artists across the breathtaking Cowal peninsula in Argyll.

Originally from Devon, painter Kelvin moved to Strachur from Yorkshire following in the footsteps of his son Richard who fell in love with Scotland after getting married to his wife Sara in Edinburgh and subsequent honeymoon in the Highlands.

There won't be many better views than the one you get from Kelvin's studio space overlooking Loch Fyne whilst Richard at Ardmore studio has similarly inspiring views out over Holy Loch.

Kelvin explained: “I am a bit of a polymath gaining a degree in ceramics and glass at the grand old age of 50, Initially with ceramics and sculpture but currently painting, abstract landscapes in acrylics and oils. My approach usually involves a conversation with the materials I use and looking beyond the obvious, drawing out hopefully something different whatever the format.

“I’m inspired by the New York Abstract School and St Ives modernists with their use of colour and movement across the canvas in a groundbreaking way,” added Kelvin who promotes his works through exhibitions and galleries.

“My father, who inspired me was a capable artist but unable to pursue his dream, whilst Richard my youngest son, is a fantastic photographer whose images also influence my landscapes.

“This is my first year as a member of Cowal Open Studios and it’s proving to be a very supportive community of artists and makers. I’m looking forward to the open weekend and showcasing my approach to painting to members of the public,” he added.

Richard describes himself as a contemporary artist whose chosen media are photography and paintings.

“Since graduating from Leeds University with an Arts degree in 2009, I now document and take inspiration from my surroundings, no matter what that chosen subject is. It could be a derelict building, a beautiful landscape during the golden hour or a simple doorway that I can reflect through the lens or on canvas.

“Social media plays a very prominent role in the promotion of my work as it provides access to thousands of people instantly from all over the world,” added Richard.

Both father and son are in agreement when it comes to the most satisfying aspect of their artistic endeavours.

“There’s no better feeling than standing back when I’ve finished a work and admiring what’s been created from an initial idea or moment,” explained Richard with Kelvin echoing those sentiments:

“I love it when I’ve completed a work. It’s a reward for all of the effort that goes into the process.”

The synergy between this father and son is wholly reciprocal.

“I wouldn't be the artist I am today without my father. I have always been surrounded by art or creative spaces and he has always given me a steer or material for me to research so that I can develop my work,” concluded Richard.



There's also two mother and daughter duos taking part in the upcoming open studios weekend with Sandbank-based ceramic artist Pauline Beautyman and daughter Skye together with textile makers Carroll English and daughter Mishka Holland, also based in Sandbank.

It seems that 'keeping it in the family' really is the way forward for a number of Cowal artists!

For more details visit ardmorestudio.co.uk and cowalopenstudios.co.uk or email [kelvinharvey53@gmail.com](mailto:kelviharvey53@gmail.com).

