

An Introduction to Brian Boreham

18 months ago, I inherited the music collection of a friend who'd recently died. Kevin from Eel Pie Records was one of those who came to view & possibly buy some of the collection. While there, he saw some of my paintings & bought 5 of them on the spot. Now Kevin & Phil have invited me to show a small selection of my work in the shop along with a short biography.

I was born in Hackney, east London in 1948, moved to Kingston aged 14 & relocated to Twickenham where I've lived for the last 47 years.

I always enjoyed art at school & got good grades but never considered it as a career. I am self-taught - which means I never went to art school: I was too busy working at many & various jobs including accounts clerk, garden labourer, park keeper, postman & NHS supplies officer. Art was an occasional hobby, quite happy to give & occasionally sell my work to friends.

Now retired, I have the time & freedom to do what I most enjoy. I love both drawing & painting, & as you can see here, especially painting abstracts. They are never planned; I'm constantly surprised what emerges by accident.

There is too much art in the world for me to say which artists have most influenced me though discovering Howard Hodgkin 30 years ago inspired me enough to buy a set of acrylics & start painting seriously. At the moment I particularly enjoy studying the lives & work of two very non-abstract artists, Francis Bacon & Frank Auerbach, the latter quoted as saying: "It seems to me madness to wake up in the morning & do something other than paint, considering that one may not wake up the following morning".

Anway, let my pictures speak for themselves. I wonder what they're saying to you?