

NEWS RELEASE



"STICKS IN THE SMOKE"

Nick Andrew

Celebrating London's green spaces

Curwen Gallery, London 5 -29 April 2017

(Private View: Tuesday 4th April, 6-8pm)

Each week since January 2016 Wiltshire artist, **Nick Andrew** has been taking his sketchbook to a different public garden or park in central London, drawing, discovering, meeting park users and researching for his '**Sticks in the Smoke**' project.

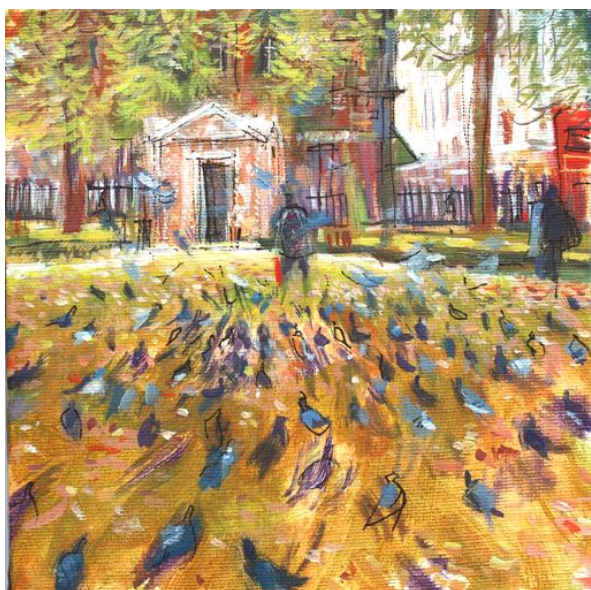
These drawings, as well as studies (*small paintings*) he creates after each visit, will be exhibited at the **Curwen Gallery**, Windmill Street, London (www.curwengallery.co.uk) from **5 - 29 April 2017**, with a follow- up exhibition in **2018**. A proportion of the exhibition sales will go to support the **Sensory Trust** (*a charity which aims to make the outdoors accessible and enjoyable for all people, regardless of age, ability or social circumstance. Their work benefits young and older people, and people living with ill health or disabilities, together with their families and carers.* www.sensorytrust.org.uk).

Nick is aiming to cover all of central London's 60+ parks and gardens, from the huge acreage of **Hyde Park** (see the sketchbook drawing below) to pocket handkerchief spaces such as **St. Mary Staining** (see above). He's now on his 46th week and has found that *every green space has something extraordinary and unique to offer*: visually, historically and currently. He finds it exciting and compulsive, so sees this as an ongoing project over the next year or so, taking him to green spaces in parts of London further afield.



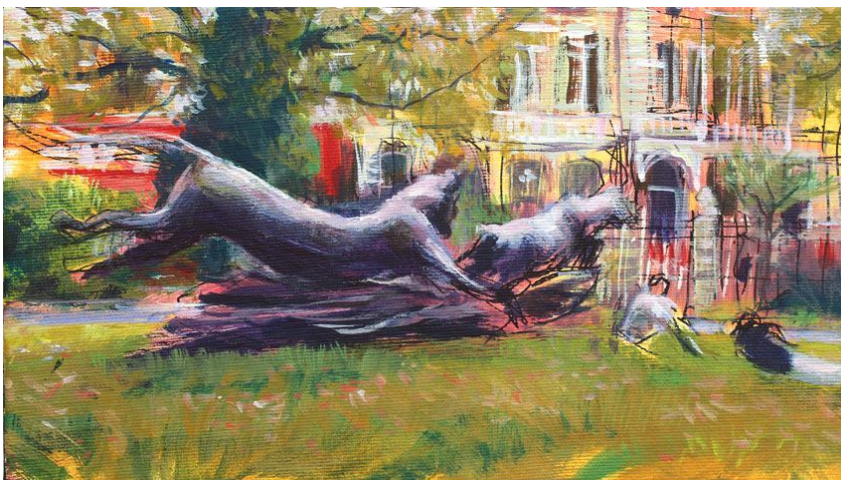
Nick writes about each visit in his regular '**Sticks in the Smoke**' blog. Every garden seems to say *something* about London's fascinating origins and rich social histories (*The sketch of St. Mary's Staining Garden in Oat Lane, at the top, was made in August during a visit to three city gardens which are all based on the footprints of churches destroyed in the **Great Fire of London** 350 years ago*). And while he's drawing, he can watch how the park is used today, and often chat with regular users to get local insights and interesting gossip! His blog can be found at www.nickandrewblog.wordpress.com, along with the drawings and photos.

Below are images of a small selection of the 60 studies which will be on show in the exhibition.



'Lower Grosvenor Gardens. 28 09 16' *Left*

'Upper Grosvenor Gardens. 28 09 16' *Below*



'Finsbury Circus Gardens. 07 04 16' *Right*

'Meanwhile Gardens, Kensington. 28 09 16' *Below*



The exhibition runs from **5 -29 April 2017**. Nick and the staff at the Curwen Gallery would be very happy to meet you at the Private View on Tuesday 4th April, 6-8pm. For more information about '**Sticks in the Smoke**' contact:

Nick Andrew:

na@nickandrew.co.uk

07730 400784

www.nickandrew.co.uk

www.nickandrewblog.wordpress.com

www.twitter.com/NickAndrewArt

www.facebook.com/nickandrewart

www.instagram.com/nickandrewart

Curwen Gallery:

34 Windmill Street, London. W1T 2JR

gallery@curwengallery.com

0207 323 4700

www.curwengallery.co.uk

www.twitter.com/CurwenGallery

www.facebook.com/Curwengallery

www.instagram.com/curwengallery