

# PORTHMINSTER GALLERY

## SARA DUDMAN RWA

**Porthminster Gallery is proud to present this new body of earthy, ancient, and geologic - almost subterranean - mixed media works painted with natural Cornish earth pigments - such as ochres, by Sara Dudman. These dynamic and energising mixed media works are rich in both texture and structure.**

### **A note from Sara:**

"I am a contemporary hunter-gatherer, seeking not only the raw materials with which I make paints and pastels, but searching out the stories, histories and promises which every footstep reveals.

A short residency in West Penwith in May 2021 was spent walking and foraging for earth pigments, developing an embodied understanding of this mineral-rich land. Deep reds, terracotta and magenta pigments have been extracted from the spoil heaps of the old Levant tin and copper mines, with pure black from the nearby Botallack mine. The Leswidden China Clay pits offered a rich source of kaolin, from which the creamy whites have been procured. Extending my travels to Gunwalloe, on the edge of the Lizard, I collected yellow ochre from the egg yolk-yellow rocks, extending the palette of colours which have been used to express and interpret this unique environment.

Each paint has not only its own individual colour, but also a unique texture, opacity, and character, each of which brings its own voice to the paintings. The physicality of the surface of these paintings suggests the surfaces of the land itself and at times the sea-washed and corroded metal hulls of ships and shoreline rocks. The lines, painted using seagull feather quills trace the movement lines of birds, fishing lines and the continual movement and rebalancing of the dynamic equilibrium of the marine environment.

Walking across tors, along coastal footpaths and moors, the presence of past inhabitants, all of whom have shaped this land, is felt. The standing stones which populate and characterise this landscape emerge and recede within the paintings, playfully recalling Barbara Hepworth's Garden sculptures and the views through the garden and beyond. The glimpsed fragments of land, sea, and sky which we experience while walking along the coastal footpath are woven together into an enticing, intangible emotional response within these works.

These paintings have a pulse. They breathe. At times evocative of the flow of water, suggestions of distant horizons, meteorological or cave-like, the paintings echo the layers of sedimentary rock as repositories of previous generations of organic life and the future of life to come. The rock recurs as a motif and metaphor for permanence and impermanence simultaneously. Thin, transparent veils of earth pigments simultaneously reveal and conceal the layers of rocks and time within the paintings, paying tribute to the work of the C20th St Ives group of painters.

The laborious process of creating these paintings which are simultaneously carefully crafted, yet also unpredictable and fluid, reflect the human relationship with coast and land. I work in the studio: part-artist, part-scientist, part-geologist, part-cook, soaking, grinding, sieving, drying, mixing, pouring, making. My work stems from the urgent need to better understand and review our relationship with each other, the world, and its myriad of inhabitants with their interwoven relationships."

Sara lives and works in Somerset and has been regularly exhibiting in Cornwall at the Porthminster Gallery for four years.

For full details and larger images, please see the end of this document.



**Sara Dudman RWA**

*When Rocks Become Sea (West Penwith) 01, 2023*

signed to verso

west Penwith earth pigments & acrylic on paper, framed  
behind glass

paper: h. 59 x w. 120 cm

frame: h. 70 x w. 130 cm

(SD/23/06)

£ 2,900.00

[View detail](#)



**Sara Dudman RWA**

*When Rocks Become Sea (West Penwith) 02, 2023*

signed to verso

west Penwith earth pigments & acrylic on board, framed

board: h. 76 x w. 76 cm

frame: h. 80 x w. 80 cm

(SD/23/02)

£ 1,600.00

[View detail](#)



**Sara Dudman RWA**

*Dynamic Equilibrium (Rock Stack, West Penwith) 01, 2023*

signed to verso

west Penwith earth pigments & acrylic on board, framed

board: h. 76 x w. 51 cm

frame: h. 82 x w. 57 cm

(SD/23/13)

£ 1,100.00

[View detail](#)



**Sara Dudman RWA**

*Dynamic Equilibrium (Rock, West Penwith) 02, 2023*

signed to verso

west Penwith earth pigments & acrylic on board, framed

board: h. 92 w. 92 cm

frame: h. 98 x w. 98 cm

(SD/23/11)

£ 2,200.00

[View detail](#)



**Sara Dudman RWA**

*Dynamic Equilibrium (Rock, West Penwith) 03, 2023*

signed to verso

west Penwith earth pigments & acrylic on Fabriano paper,

framed behind glass

paper: h. 69 x w. 104 cm

frame: h. 77 x w. 112 cm

(SD/23/12)

£ 1,800.00

[View detail](#)



**Sara Dudman RWA**

*Dynamic Equilibrium (Rock, West Penwith) 03, 2023*

signed to verso

west Penwith earth pigments & acrylic on board, framed

board: h. 51 x w. 76 cm

frame: h. 57 x w. 82 cm

(SD/23/14)

£ 1,100.00

[View detail](#)



**Sara Dudman RWA**

*Dynamic Equilibrium (Rocks, West Penwith) 04, 2023*

signed to verso

west Penwith earth pigments & gesso on board, framed

board: h. 76 w. 51 cm (x3)

frame: h. 83 x w. 165 cm

(SD/23/09)

£ 3,600.00

[View detail](#)



**Sara Dudman RWA**

*Dynamic Equilibrium (Rosewall Hill, West Penwith) 05, 2023*

signed to verso

west Penwith earth pigments & acrylic on board, framed

board: h. 92 w. 92 cm

frame: h. 98 x w. 98 cm

(SD/23/10)

£ 2,200.00

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**Sara Dudman RWA**

*Standing Stones (West Penwith) 01, 2023*

signed to verso

west Penwith earth pigments & acrylic on paper, framed

behind glass

paper: h. 58 x w. 117 cm

frame: h. 68 x w. 127 cm

(SD/23/04)

£ 2,750.00

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**Sara Dudman RWA**

*Standing Stones (West Penwith) 02, 2023*

signed to verso

west Penwith earth pigments & acrylic on paper, framed

behind glass

paper: h. 46 x w. 115 cm

frame: h. 56 x w. 125 cm

(SD/23/03)

£ 2,000.00

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**Sara Dudman RWA**

*Standing Stones (West Penwith) 03, 2023*

signed to verso

west Penwith earth pigments & acrylic on paper, framed  
behind glass

paper: h. 47 x w. 114 cm

frame: h. 56 x w. 125 cm

(SD/23/01)

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[View detail](#)



**Sara Dudman RWA**

*Study 01 for When Rocks Become Sea (West Penwith) 02, 2023*

signed to verso

west Penwith earth pigments & acrylic on flotsam, framed  
behind glass

flotsam: h. 18 w. 67 cm

frame: h. 28 x w. 77 cm

(SD/23/08)

£ 850.00

[View detail](#)



**Sara Dudman RWA**

*Study 02 for When Rocks Become Sea (West Penwith) 02, 2023*

signed to verso

west Penwith earth pigments & acrylic on flotsam, framed  
behind glass

flotsam: h. 31 w. 37 cm

frame: h. 41 x w. 47 cm

(SD/23/07)

£ 750.00

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signed to verso

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behind glass

flotsam: h. 23 x w. 17 cm

frame: h. 33 x w. 27 cm

(SD/23/05)

£ 390.00

[View detail](#)





**Sara Dudman RWA**

*Study 01 for 'Dynamic Equilibrium (West Penwith Rocks)',*  
2023

signed to verso

west Penwith earth pigments & gesso on driftwood, framed  
behind glass

driftwood: h. 18 x w. 23 cm

frame: h. 28 x w. 33 cm

[View detail](#)

(SD/23/19)

£ 390.00



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*Study 03 for 'Dynamic Equilibrium (West Penwith Rocks)',*  
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behind glass

flotsam: h. 14 x w. 18 cm

frame: h. 24 x w. 28 cm

[View detail](#)

(SD/23/18)

£ 360.00



**Sara Dudman RWA**

*Study 04 for 'Dynamic Equilibrium (West Penwith Rocks)',*  
2023

signed to verso

west Penwith earth pigments & acrylic on wood block framed  
behind glass

wood block: h. 58 x w. 12 cm

frame: h. 68 x w. 22 cm

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*Study 06 for 'Dynamic Equilibrium (West Penwith Rocks)'*,  
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flotsam: h. 39 x w. 27 cm

frame: h. 49 x w. 32 cm

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£ 780.00

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To reserve or purchase an artwork, or to request further information, please contact the gallery on +44 (0)1736 795 888, or by email at [info@porthminstergallery.co.uk](mailto:info@porthminstergallery.co.uk)

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- **Working at least 16 hours a week** (employed or self-employed)
- **A retired person in receipt of a pension**
- **A person in receipt of disability allowance**

If you do not meet one of these criteria but are married to or living with a partner who does, then you may still apply provided that your partner is happy for their income details to be included on your application form.

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