

PRESS RELEASE

OCT 2024

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Harbour House presents South-West based artist Llyr Davies' solo painting exhibition, inspired by folk tales of 'The Wreckers' and shipwrecks around the South Devon Coastline

Opening Event: Friday 25 Oct, 6pm - 8pm, Harbour House Ground Floor Gallery

Exhibition: Sat 26 Oct 2024 - Sat 11 Jan 2025, Harbour House Ground Floor Gallery

Ship Sculpture Building Workshop: Sat 30 Nov 2024, Time TBC

Christmas Card Printing Workshop: Sat 7 Dec 2024, Time TBC, Harbour House Ground Floor Gallery

Harbour House is delighted to show local artist Llyr Davies' first solo exhibition *Wreck*. Davies' practice draws inspiration from local landscapes, everyday objects and folk tales to create works which capture the emotional and psychological context of a place or object and the traces of humanity left behind. His work draws on the landscape and folk tales of South Wales, where he grew up, as well as the landscapes, tales and histories of the South West, where he is now based.

The exhibition brings together existing works with a new body of works painted on site at Harbour House, inspired by the tale of 'The Wreckers' and the many wrecks around the South Devon coastline. Davies grew up on the South Wales coast with stories about shipwrecks and wreckers - ruthless gangs who lit false beacons to lure seamen to their doom. Whilst visiting Kingsbridge, he came across a copy of Ken Radford's book 'Tales of South Wales' in a local charity shop, which recounts three tales of wreckers at large on the South Wales Coast. This became the starting point for the new works, which explore the motif of the wreck in the landscape and the traces of humanity in these tragic tales from different perspectives.



Harbour House Director, Amy Dickson said 'We are really excited to launch the first painting show of the new programme at Harbour House and to be bringing Llyr Davies' brilliant work to our communities. We are delighted to have been able to support Llyr in making this new body of work and can't wait to welcome visitors to the gallery.'

Davies' works go through many stages before they are complete; scraping off and overlaying figurative motifs with gestural mark making is one of the many processes in his work. His paintings employ a rich use of colour and texture with various combinations of materials and techniques, such as oil paint, spray paint and collage on canvas.

As part of the programme around *Wreck*, Harbour House will be announcing a series of exciting free events and workshops for all the community, including sculpture making workshops, printing workshops and another gallery silent disco in collaboration with Kingsbridge Celebrates Christmas. Dates to be announced soon. There will also be a free activity as part of the exhibition, for visitors to respond to the artwork on display and design their own postcard.

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>>ENDS<<

NOTES TO EDITORS

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



## About Llyr Davies

Llyr Davies is a painter from Porth Tywyn, South Wales, and has been working in Plymouth, Devon since 2012.

Llyr's practice draws inspiration from local landscapes, everyday objects and Folklore Tales to create abstract works, capturing the emotional and psychological context of the place, object or tale.

The works go through many stages before they are complete; scraping off and overlaying figurative motifs with gestural mark making is one of the many processes behind his work. Llyr's works employ an excessive use of colour and texture with various combinations of materials, such as oil paint, spray paint and collage on canvas.

Llyr Davies website: <https://www.llyrdavies.com/>

## About Harbour House

Harbour House is a contemporary art, movement and wellbeing centre in Kingsbridge, South Devon. Our mission is simple: to enrich the lives of the people of our town and surrounding communities through art, creativity, movement and wellbeing practices. We achieve this through an inspiring and inclusive programme of exhibitions, performances and educational activities that invite everyone to participate. We also provide flexible spaces dedicated to mindfulness, movement and yoga. Join us as we explore, create, move and thrive together.

## Links

Harbour House Website: <https://harbourhouse.org.uk/>

Harbour House Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/harbour-house-68065898243>

Harbour House Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/harbour.house.art.wellbeing/>

Dropbox Promotional Images:

## For further information/images or interview requests please contact:

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