

WEST CONTEMPORARY PRESENTS

AN ARTIST'S EYES

Me n' Jack







## FOREWORD BY JOHN-PAUL PRYOR

I first met Chris Moon when I curated his show at LondonNewcastle some six years ago, and aside from his clearly prodigious talent as a painter, I immediately noted in him a certain otherness that made him stand apart. Through the process, we became firm friends, and soon after spent time together in Los Angeles, where he created a series of works that have become favourites among his collectors. It was during the time we spent together in the United States that it became clear to me just how nomadic and close-to-the-edge his existence was – at that time, he was living out of a camper, chasing not only a desire for freedom from the constraints of mainstream society, but also outrunning the black dog of depression that seemed to be forever close at his heel; a demon want's to sometimes destroy his work, and conversely, spur it on.

In his own words, Chris is a painter who chimes more with the outsider art scene, than the contemporary art crowd, and it's true indeed that painting for him is an obsession, tied inexorably to the very grist of his existence. His is an often-reclusive, painfully inward-looking talent that has an ability to communicatively explode upon the canvas, living out a unique existential paradox, through the act of painting. It was precisely this fearless absolutism in Moon as a painter that attracted the legendary filmmaker Jack Bond to him as a documentary subject. Bond is a man who has distinct parallels in character to Moon, carving out a hugely respected and indelible mark upon the film industry with similarly individualistic outsider verve. Indeed, it's testament to Moon that the only other painter who has been the celluloid subject of Bond's lens is Salvador Dali, and while these two are clearly poles apart in their output as artists, there is, perhaps a single-mindedness that they share across the expanse of time.

The beauty of the film *An Artist's Eyes* lies very much in Bond's simplicity of purpose as a documentarian, in that it is a very pure and non-judgemental snapshot of Moon's life as he drifts from a temporary studio in Essex, to digs in New York, and the Spanish desert, armed only with his crayons, paints and sketchbook. It's an existence of extremes, with the painter at times finding himself in the overpowering presence of industry legends such as Mick Rock (shooting him as a slightly uncomfortable stylized figure

for *Interview*), and at times sitting in lonely dive bars, watching the pouring monsoon rain. Opening with an uncompromising ten-minute section in which we witness Moon stare into, then subsequently attack and transform a blank canvas, the film leaves us in no doubt from the outset to the staggering depth of the talent that the working class down-to earth persona we are then introduced to somewhat belies. It's a wonderful piece of cinema and an incredibly bold opener by a director who knows true genius lies in letting go, and just letting it happen.

But to say *An Artist's Eyes* is simply a film about Chris Moon by Jack Bond, would be to do it a disservice. The film, and indeed entire project, is effectively as much about Bond himself, in that it is about the relationship between both the subject and the director, and is in essence a romantic paean to the searing authenticity of a certain rock'n'roll archetype that feels all too lacking in modern society. The relationship between the two men, and their shared love for that archetype is what that the exhibition *Me 'n' Jack* explores even further, documenting not only work that was conceived and created during the filming process but also, if you like, training the lens of the artist back upon the director.

There is perhaps nothing more fascinating in the construction of identity than that of which is projected and that which is received, and there is an interplay in both the film and the exhibition between two men—who span generations—that hints very much at the intangibility of an artistic inner life that we can only every hope to commune with through the work itself, the painter and the filmmaker merely acting as vessels for the talent that flows through their respective veins. *Me 'n' Jack* asks you not only to consider the film, or the paintings in this exhibition, but also to look at our own reflection through them, and asks you whether, in a finite lifetime, you are really doing what you feel you are meant to be doing, and where you might find those angels, who will help you achieve that goal.

[AN-ARTISTS-EYES.COM](http://AN-ARTISTS-EYES.COM)



### JACK 'N' ME

Chalk on raw canvas  
Unique 1/1  
122 x 152cm  
Signed by the artist

### JACK 'N' ME #1

Oil pastel on overprinted  
image on paper  
Edition of 6  
50 x 64cm  
Signed by the artist  
and Jack Bond





**JACK 'N' ME #2**

Oil pastel on paper

Unique 1/1

50 x 64cm

Signed by the artist

Framed



**JACK 'N' ME #3**

Oil pastel on paper

Unique 1/1

50 x 64cm

Signed by the artist

Framed



**JACK 'N' ME #4**

Oil pastel on paper

Unique 1/1

50 x 64cm

Signed by the artist

Framed







### NEW BLOCK BLOCKS

Oil and pastel on paper

Unique 1/1

33 x 26cm

Signed by the artist

Framed



## HARLEM LIGHT FIGHT

Oil on canvas

Unique 1/1

40 x 38cm

Signed by the artist

Framed

POSTCARDS FROM NEW YORK



1	2	
3	4	5



## POSTCARDS FROM NEW YORK



6	7	8
9	10	



POSTCARDS FROM NEW YORK



11	12
13	14

POSTCARDS FROM NEW YORK



15	16
17	18



## POSTCARDS FROM NEW YORK



### POSTCARDS FROM NEW YORK #1-21

Oil on canvas board

Unique 1/1

12 x 18cm

Signed by the artist

Framed



19

20

21



**STUDY OF NEW  
YORK CAROUSEL 1**

Oil on board  
Unique 1/1  
72 x 90cm  
Signed by the artist  
Framed





## STUDY OF NEW YORK CAROUSEL 2

Oil on canvas

Unique 1/1

44 x 46cm

Signed by the artist

Framed







### **BULL RING**

Oil and acrylic on canvas

Unique 1/1

100 x 100cm

Signed by the artist





### RONDA GORGE

Oil and acrylic on canvas

Unique 1/1

100 x 100cm

Signed by the artist





**PETE'S POOL**

Oil Crayon sketch on paper  
Unique 1/1  
28 x 36cm  
Signed by the artist  
Framed



**ANDALUCIAN  
FOREST**

Oil Crayon sketch on paper  
Unique 1/1  
28 x 36cm  
Signed by the artist  
Framed





**UNFINISHED  
PROJECT**

Oil Crayon sketch on paper  
Unique 1/1  
28 x 36cm  
Signed by the artist  
Framed



### ROADTRIP SKETCH #1

Charcoal sketch on paper

Unique 1/1

28 x 23cm

Signed by the artist

Framed





### ROADTRIP SKETCH # 2

Charcoal sketch on paper

Unique 1/1

28 x 23cm

Signed by the artist

Framed



### ROADTRIP SKETCH #3

Charcoal sketch on paper

Unique 1/1

28 x 23cm

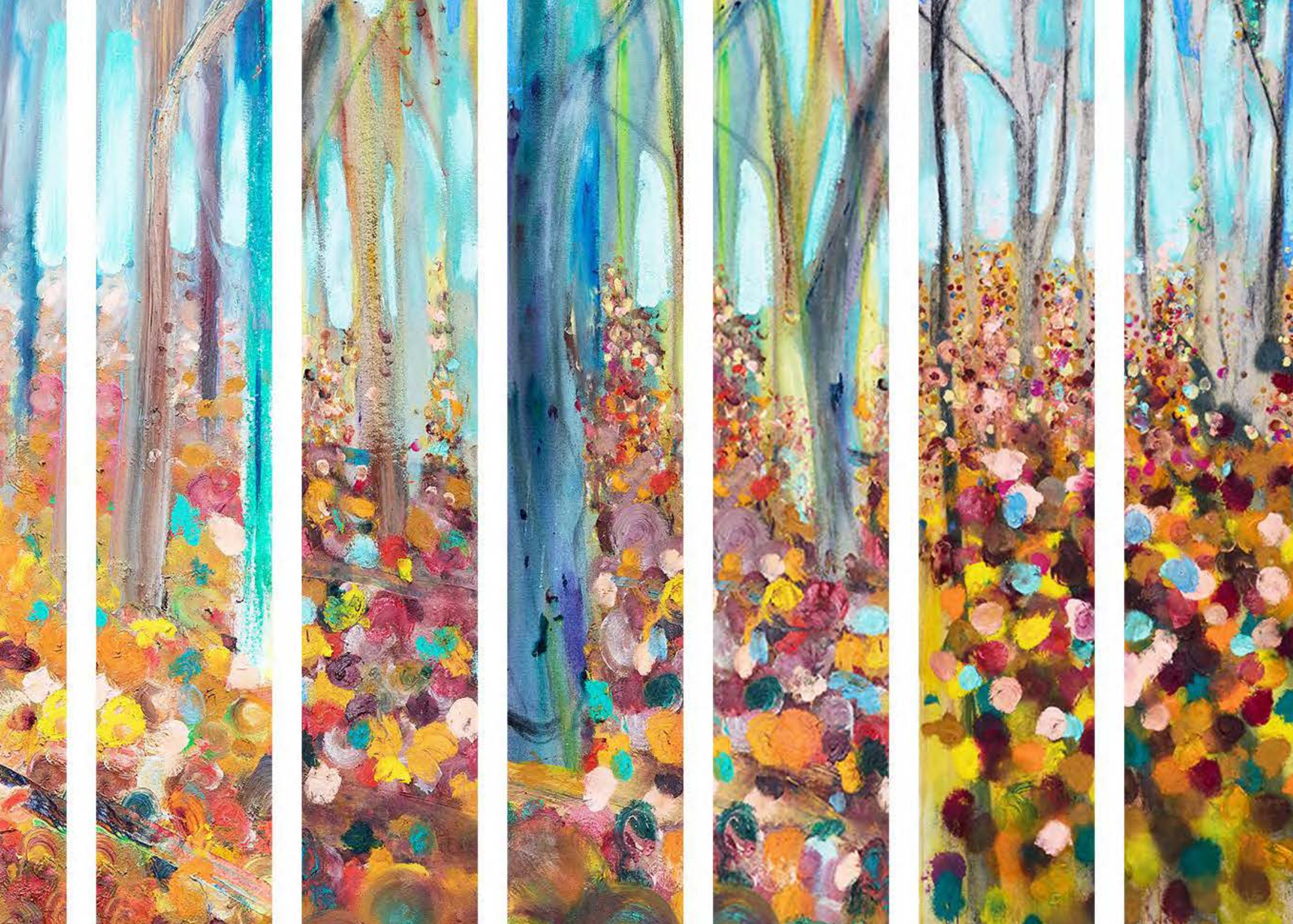
Signed by the artist

Framed









### DISSEVERANCE

Oil and canvas  
8 panel piece  
Unique 1/1  
15 x 160cm each panel  
Signed by the artist  
Framed





**ME 'N' JACK- CIGARETTES AND ALCOHOL**

Charcoal and oil on paper

Unique 1/1

78 x 84cm

Signed by the artist

Framed



## JACK

Charcoal and oil on paper

Unique 1/1

65 x 113cm

Signed by the artist

Framed





### NYC PARTY MASKS

Oil press print on paper

Unique 1/1

155 x 185cm

Signed by the artist



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HERRICK GALLERY

93 PICCADILLY, MAYFAIR, LONDON, W1J 7NQ

5TH - 10TH NOVEMBER 2018

FOR OPENING TIMES PLEASE VISIT  
[AN-ARTISTS-EYES.COM](http://AN-ARTISTS-EYES.COM)

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