



CHARLES WATSON
NEW PERSPECTIVES

THE GALLERY AT GREEN & STONE
251—253 FULHAM ROAD
LONDON SW3 6HY
MONDAY TO SATURDAY: 10.00–17.00

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8 – 13 APRIL 2024

FOREWORD

Charles Watson is not just an exceptional artist but also an extraordinary person. Helping him plan the early stages of his exhibition was a delightful experience. Working with Charles provided valuable insights into the remarkable organisation Ripple Africa and its significance in Malawi, both for the community and for Charles.

As an artist, Charles is relatively new to the scene, but you could never tell this from looking at his work or hearing him discuss it. Charles is wonderfully passionate about painting and Ripple. Hearing him discuss the two together is a real treat. Meeting someone as dedicated and generous as Charles is rare.

I eagerly anticipate Charles's exhibition, expecting it to be a vibrant and eclectic narrative encapsulating a crucial topic of our contemporary world: our natural environment. I encourage everyone to attend the show, experience Charles's passion for the environment, and consider acquiring a picture or making a donation to Ripple Africa. I am confident that just visiting the show will brighten your day. Much like Charles, this exhibition is full of life and promises to leave you thoroughly joyful.

Mary Petherick - Gallery Manager

NEW PERSPECTIVES

Charles Watson fondly recalls his childhood in Malawi, describing it as a wonderful time marked by the freedom to explore, vibrant market colours, diverse wildlife, and the warmth of the people. The memories include carefree holidays by Lake Malawi, appreciating its unique Cichlids, and enjoying Chambo fish.

After travelling and working globally, Charles now lives and paints by the River Exe estuary in Devon. Despite the location change, he remains connected to Malawi and is aware of the environmental challenges the country faces, including population growth, pollution, and overfishing, affecting Lake Malawi's eco-balance. Notably, the huge decline in mature Chambo is a concern.

Charles supports Ripple Africa's efforts to restore sustainable fishing practices. The charity focuses on changing regulations, like minimum net grill sizes, to gradually recover fish stocks, benefiting biodiversity, local economies, and community health. Charles has committed his artistic pursuits to raise awareness and funds for Ripple Africa's mission.

In a broader artistic context, Charles's recent works, including 'Arcadia' and 'Help!,' delve into the symbolic representation of Baobabs in Malawi/Southern Africa and Olive trees in Greece and beyond. Both species are threatened. Spiritually, they are both 'trees of life', and they serve as powerful metaphors for the broader environmental crisis, illustrating the interconnectedness of ecosystems across diverse regions. The choice of these symbols in his artwork reflects Charles's commitment to raising environmental awareness and promoting sustainability, creating a thematic link between the specific cause of conserving fish stocks and the more significant challenges faced by ecosystems globally.



HELP!
OIL ON CANVAS
90 x 120 cm



ARCADIA, KARDAMYLI
OIL ON CANVAS
90 x 120 cm



LET'S DANCE
OIL ON CANVAS
60 x 90 cm



OLIVE GROVE, KARDAMYLI
OIL ON CANVAS BOARD
30 x 40 cm



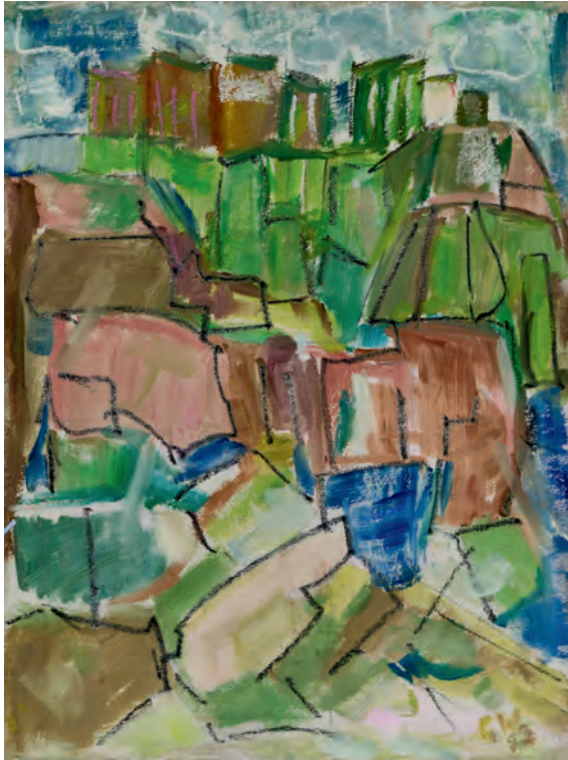
THE GREAT OLIVE
CHARCOAL ON PAPER
28 x 40 cm



ACROPOLIS OLD TOWN
OIL ON CANVAS
30 x 40 cm



GARA ROCK WALK, SALCOMBE
OIL ON CANVAS BOARD
30 x 40 cm



FROM THE AREOPAGUS, ATHENS
OIL ON BOARD
25 x 20 cm



UP TO ANO, SYROS
OIL ON BOARD
50 x 35 cm



OVER TIKLA, KARDAMYLI QUAY
OIL ON CANVAS BOARD
30 x 41 cm



THE GOOD LIFE, FINICAS, SYROS
OIL ON BOARD
38 x 30 cm



AFTER THE RAIN
OIL ON CANVAS BOARD
50 x 40 cm



BATSON CREEK, SALCOMBE
OIL & CHARCOAL ON BOARD
40 x 50 cm

BATSON CREEK, SALCOMBE
OIL & CHARCOAL ON BOARD
40 x 50 cm



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Balkon
reel 14



DUSK, LAKE MALAWI
WATERCOLOUR ON PAPER
29 x 20 cm



PIG
OIL ON CANVAS
50 x 40 cm



SNOWY & CARMEL
OIL ON CANVAS BOARD
30 x 40 cm



ERMOUPOLI PORT, SYROS
OIL ON CANVAS PAPER
30 x 40 cm



LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS, LONDON
OIL ON BOARD
46 x 36 cm



SALCOMBE 2023
OIL ON BOARD
40 x 30 cm



BEHIND FINICAS, SYROS
OIL ON CANVAS
90 x 120 cm



WESTERLY CLOUDS, TOPSHAM
OIL ON CANVAS
30 x 40 cm



MAY 26TH
OIL ON CANVAS BOARD
60 x 42 cm



MAY 29TH
OIL ON CANVAS BOARD
58 x 41 cm



THE WHITE HOUSE, FINICAS, SYROS
OIL ON CANVAS CARD
30 x 40 cm



TANGERINES AT THE DUTCH HOUSE
OIL ON CANVAS
60 x 60 cm



AMPELA BEACH, SYROS
OIL ON CANVAS CARD
30 x 40 cm

ABOUT RIPPLE AFRICA

Around 70% of people in Malawi live below the international poverty line. The population has grown from five million in 1975 to over 18 million today. This has put huge pressure on all Malawi's natural resources.

Lake Malawi, the ninth largest and most bio-diverse lake in the world, covers 20% of Malawi's area. However, in recent years, overfishing has led to reduced fish stocks. To increase the number of fish that they catch, fishers have been using longer nets with smaller mesh sizes, often made from malaria-prevention mosquito nets. These nets catch fish at a very small size before they are fully grown and able to breed. Many fish species, including two types of the popular and once commonly caught Chambo (*Oreochromis lidole* and *Oreochromis karongae*) are now classified as endangered or vulnerable. The problem has been exacerbated by the lack of government funds to enforce fishing regulations.

Fish is Malawi's most commonly eaten animal protein and the total weight of fish being caught has declined dramatically in recent years. This has serious nutritional implications for vulnerable groups such as pregnant and nursing women, young children and HIV/AIDS sufferers. The current situation is also unsustainable for the 60,000 fishers in Malawi. They rely on income from fishing for their livelihoods and are finding it harder to catch enough large fish to sell. It also impacts the 500,000 other businesses that rely on fishing (fish processors, boatbuilders, net salesmen, etc.) and community businesses such as shopkeepers who depend on a thriving local economy.

Ripple Africa's Fish Conservation project is important because it tackles this national problem by empowering local communities and officials to take control of the situation in their own areas. It is a sustainable approach, both environmentally and financially.



WWW.CHARLESWATSONART.COM

*The complete catalogue will be available online ahead of the exhibition.
Please visit www.charleswatsonart.com to view the whole collection.
For any enquiries, please email thegallery@greenandstone.com.*

Charles will be donating all proceeds raised from this exhibition to Ripple Africa.

All buyers are encouraged to fill out a Gift Aid form to maximise the donation given to Ripple.

Please visit their website to learn more about the valuable work Ripple Africa is doing.

WWW.RIPPLEAFRICA.ORG



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