



Hannah Parker

## Introduction | Reflections

My work has always been about the documentation of everyday society and the individuals that create it. It is not so much a documentation of the subject, but a record of me painting them. It is about legacy and sentiment. This is why I feel the need to paint how I do; using thick, textured paint to put a part of myself into the portrait, in opposition to a photographic recording.

The exhibition is a series of single figure paintings. I invited a variety of strangers, associates and friends to come and sit for me in the studio, and through painting these individuals I explored the experience of a sitting. I took this route as they are all valued members of society and I wanted to see what worked best. With all, as expected, I felt the pressure to impress; as it is as much their portrait as it is mine. The added push with painting from life also allowed me to discover a need, passion and devotion to painting these selected individuals.

When I first visited Jamie Hill's Salon, I knew this was the ideal place to exhibit. I saw a link between my work and that of a hairdresser; the importance of the subject to feel comfortable and valued, yet also entertained. The shared focus being that we want the outcome to be representative of the time spent, and to have aesthetic acceptance from the client or sitter.

The backgrounds are minimal allowing the people in the paintings to be the main focus- like a client to the hairdresser is treated and seen. As I painted numerous characters (ranging from strangers to friends), the works are also titled using the sitters' names so that no specific connection between the subject and myself is suggested.

The paintings reflect the customer looking into the mirror in the salon, hence the title 'Reflections'. They record my version of events with my sitters, as the hairdresser records theirs through the customer's appearance. People who have their hair cut in a salon can relate to the situation portrayed through the paintings as it mirrors their experience. Though hairstyles aren't a key component in this body of work, it is an important factor in how the subjects see themselves. It is an exploration into how both the hairdresser and myself would present the individual to the rest of society.

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## About | Hannah Parker

I am a recent Fine Art graduate of Aberystwyth University, where I specialised in painting. I paint in oils using a thick, impasto style and find documentation fascinating; particularly of society, it's people, and their eccentricities. I am currently based in Swansea and undertake commissions.

## Art Related Projects/Employment

11/2012- Present: Community Arts Project, Swansea: Mural Painting Co-ordinator.

06/2012- Present: Mission Gallery, Swansea: Front of house volunteer.

03/2012: Porthmadog Ladies Church Group: Painting Workshop Helper.

11/2011- 03/2012: School of Art, Aberystwyth University: Student Ambassador.

11/2011- 12/2011: Tickled Pink Charity Society: Voluntary calendar photographer.

08/2011: Shrewsbury Folk Festival: Arts Assistant.

04/2011- 07/2011: International Ceramics Festival, Aberystwyth: Voluntary Events Management/ Student Helper- Gallery Assistant.

## Artistic Achievement & Exhibitions

05/2012- 06/2012: Aberystwyth University Undergraduate Degree Show: Aberystwyth School of Art.

12/2011: Winter Painting Exhibition: The Old College, Aberystwyth.

08/2011: Aberystwyth Landscape Exhibition: The Band Stand, Aberystwyth.

05/2011- 06/2011: STARTS Open Exhibition: Stockport Art Gallery, Stockport.

06/2009: Ashton Sixth Form College A Level Show: Ashton Sixth Form College, Ashton-Under-Lyne.

06/2008: Art Works of Tameside: Central Art Gallery, Ashton-Under-Lyne.

2007-2008: Award for AS Level Fine Art: Ashton Sixth Form College.

# Paintings



*Ashley*, Oil on canvas, 18 x 24 inches, 2012.



*Beth*, Oil on canvas (mounted on wood), 18 x 24 inches 2012.



*Corinthia*, Oil on canvas, 18 x 24 inches, 2012.



*Dave*, Oil on canvas, 18 x 24 inches, 2012.





*Jack B*, Oil on canvas, 18 x 24 inches, 2012.



*Jack S*, Oil on canvas, 18 x 24 inches, 2012.



*Jonathan*, Oil on canvas, 18 x 24 inches, 2012.



*Laura*, Oil on canvas, 18 x 24 inches, 2012.



*Liam*, Oil on canvas, 18 x 24 inches, 2012.



*Sam*, Oil on canvas, 18 x 24 inches, 2012.



*Simon*, Oil on canvas, 18 x 24 inches, 2012.

## Mission Gallery | About

“To nurture development and push the boundaries of Visual Art and Applied Art”

Mission Gallery is one of Wales' best adapted spaces for the contemporary arts. Mission Gallery has developed a reputation for dynamic and distinctive programming, to present excellence across the visual arts, applied arts and craft, from across Wales and beyond. With exhibition space, craft space, learning resources, events, residency opportunities and more, Mission Gallery provides the local and wider community with opportunities to develop their understanding and knowledge of art. Providing a collective experience in which visitors can immerse themselves in; exhibitions that push the boundaries of visual art; purchase cutting edge design and contemporary craft and engage in friendly conversation with art led individuals. Mission Gallery seamlessly provides raw creative energy, an exceptional place to shop for every price range, and a commitment to learning, ensuring every age group is welcome.

## Jamie Hill | About

At 'Jamie Hill', the philosophy is, 'providing the highest quality service to our clients using the latest hair styling techniques and products, in a welcoming and friendly atmosphere.' Jamie Hill opened his salon in his home town of Swansea in 2010 following a successful career working in top hair salons. The vibrant and cultural Swansea Marina houses the spacious contemporary 'New York Warehouse' feel salon. Personal and innovative the interior features 3 specially-designed workstations, graffiti art and a large antique Chesterfield suite. Customers can relax and listen to the extensive music selection whilst enjoying professional the hair care of Jamie Hill. Jamie Hill has won a number of top styling awards including:

Goldwell Welsh Junior Stylist of the Year Runner Up

Loreal Men's Image Award Regional Finalist

Loreal Colour Trophy Regional Finalist

Loreal Talent Spotting Regional Winner and National Runner Up



## Acknowledgements

I would like to thank both Mission Gallery and Jamie Hill for this opportunity.

I would also like to thank those who have helped and supported me in curating this exhibition; Deirdre Finnerty, Matthew Otten, Rhian Wyn Stone.

Artist & Curator | Hannah Parker

Technical Assistance | Sam Lee, Sean Olsen, Lisa Jones.

Catalogue Design | Matthew Otten

## Opening & Contact

Mission Gallery | Gloucester Place | Maritime Quarter | Swansea | SA1 1TY  
Tuesday - Sunday | 11am - 5pm | Open Bank Holidays | Admission Free  
+44 (0) 1792 652016 | [info@missiongallery.co.uk](mailto:info@missiongallery.co.uk)

Jamie Hill | Unit 2 | Squire Court | Victoria Quay | Swansea Marina | Swansea

Monday | Closed

Tuesday | 9:30am to 6:00pm

Wednesday | 9:30am to 6:00pm

Thursday | 10:00am to 8:00pm

Friday | 9:30am to 7:00pm

Saturday | 9:00am to 5:00pm

Sunday | Closed

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Mission Gallery

*Jamie*  
HILL

 Cyngror Celfyddydau Cymru  
Arts Council of Wales

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