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Halsgrove Sales Contacts:

Sue Rhodes-Thompson – DDI 01823 653770 suet@halsgrove.com

Roger Start – DDI 01823 653773 rogers@halsgrove.com

Marie Lewis – DDI 01823 653771 mariel@halsgrove.com

Andrew Stirling – Mobile 07971 572468 andrews@halsgrove.com

A PICTURE OF DEVON

CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS AND THE INSPIRATIONAL LANDSCAPE

Ray Balkwill

Devon means many things to many people. Whether it be her picturesque thatched cottages of colour-washed cob, the deep-cut lanes, rolling green hills and embosomed farms that epitomise the county. Or perhaps it is her wave-lashed cliffs, sandy coves or sweeping moorland that first spring to mind. Whatever it may be, one thing is agreed, her scenery is unsurpassed and of a variety that is unequalled in all England. Its landscape has always been a haven for the creative spirit and has not only inspired artists, but poets and writers too, both native and visitors alike.

This beautifully illustrated volume is aimed at all those who have a love of Devon, those who appreciate art, and those who simply enjoy a good book. Here, brought together for the first time, are a number of Devon's most celebrated contemporary artists who have been chosen, not only for their diversity of styles and methods of working, but also for the obvious passion they have for the Devon landscape. They include: Lionel Aggett • Stephen Brown • Colin Allbrook • Andrew Coates • Alan Cotton • Alwyn Crawshaw • Stuart Edmondson • John Hammond • Judy Hempstead • Michael Hill • John Hoar • Robert Jennison • Paul Lewin • Michael Morgan • Tina Morgan • Robert Mountjoy • Martin Proctor • Keith Stott • Richard Thorn • Barry Watkin • Tony Williams.

Each takes the reader to their favourite haunts, describing to the author their passion for the county, and the inspiration behind their art. *A Picture of Devon* is destined to become one of the region's classics.

Ray Balkwill is a well-known West Country artist who paints in watercolours, pastels and oils. Born in Exeter in 1948, he graduated from Exeter College of Art, thereafter making a career in advertising as an Art Director. In 1990 demand for his paintings led him to give up his job to become a professional artist. He has held many successful solo exhibitions and his work has featured in group and open exhibitions. These include the Royal Institute of Painters in Watercolour, the Royal West of England Academy and the South West Academy of Fine and Applied Arts. He also teaches painting and for the past twenty years has run painting courses throughout the UK, as well as abroad. An art instruction film *Capturing Estuary Moods* has also been made by APV Films. He is a regular contributor to *The Artist* magazine and his work has also featured in many other publications. He is author of five art books including *Ray Balkwill's Exe Estuary* also published by Halsgrove. In 2006 he was elected an Academician in the South West Academy of Fine and Applied Arts and he is also a member of the St Ives Society of Artists.



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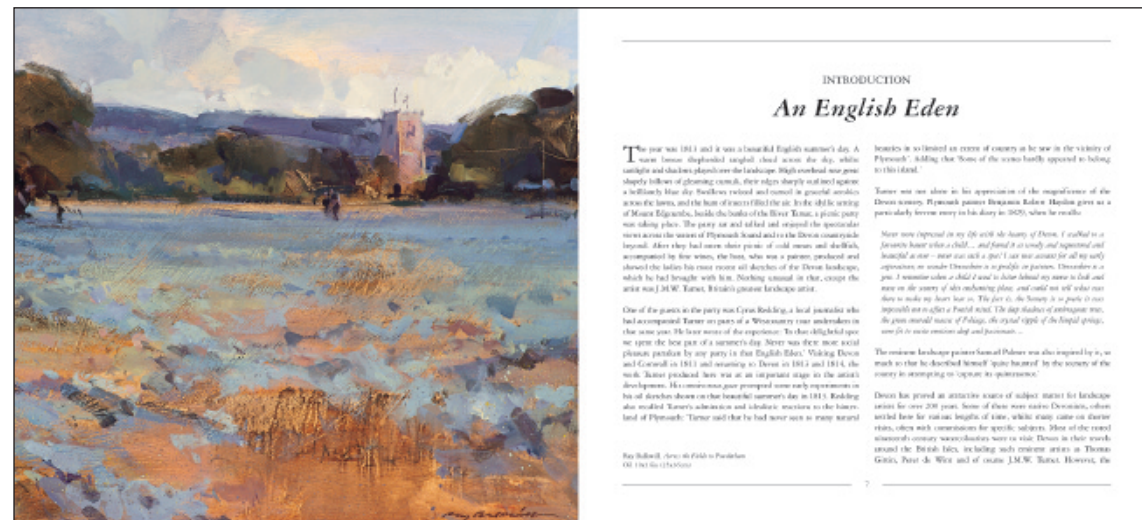
Halsgrove House, Ryelands Industrial Estate,

Bagley Road, Wellington, Somerset TA21 9PZ

Tel: 01823 653777 Fax: 01823 216796

www.halsgrove.com e-mail: sales@halsgrove.com

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Example of a double page spread.



Above: Lionel Aggett. *Devon Red* Pastel 40.5x40.5in (103x103cm)

Above right: Stewart Edmondson. *Big Oak, Shutterford, Near Holne* Mixed Media 22x30in (56x76cm)



TITLE INFORMATION – A PICTURE OF DEVON



Ray Balkwill. *Rising Mist, Budleigh Salterton* Oil 10x14in (25x36cm)



Michael Morgan. *Distant Dartmoor* Watercolour 14.5x14.5in (37x37cm)