

PAINTING THE WARMTH OF THE SUN

ST IVES ARTISTS 1939–1975



TOM CROSS

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Halsgrove Sales Contacts:

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

Caren Ash – DDI 01823 653772 carena@halsgrove.com

Marie Lewis – DDI 01823 653771 mariel@halsgrove.com

Andrew Stirling – Mobile 07971 572468 andrews@halsgrove.com

PAINTING THE WARMTH OF THE SUN **NEW AND REVISED EDITION**

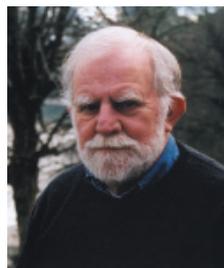
ST IVES ARTISTS 1939–1975

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The artists' community in St Ives is recognised internationally as having played a leading part in the development of one of the most significant art movements of the modern era. Emerging from the influences of the earlier Newlyn and St Ives artists whose numbers included Stanhope and Elizabeth Forbes, Walter Langley, Lamorna Birch and Laura Knight, came a new generation of painters and sculptors whose work contributed vividly to the post-war modernist movement. At the outbreak of the Second World War, St Ives became home for a small group of the most progressive artists and sculptors, including notably Ben Nicholson and Barbara Hepworth, already leaders in the advanced art movements of the 1930s, and committed to the principle of abstraction. Their work drew together a group of younger artists who were to make St Ives a centre of avant garde activity in post-war Britain. They included John Wells, Bryan Wynter, Wilhelmina Barns-Graham, Peter Lanyon, Roger Hilton, Terry Frost, and the potter Bernard Leach.

This book was first published in 1984 at a time when the art movement, which we now know as 'St Ives', could be described as 'undervalued'. It is based on a series of interviews and discussions with those artists who were still working in and around St Ives in the 1970s and 1980s, and the book, which has become a standard work on the subject, as has its sister publication *The Shining Sands – Artists in Newlyn and St Ives 1880–1930*, now has added value insofar as these many conversations, formal and informal, can no longer be repeated as sadly few of the artists of that time are still alive.

Further in the future were the proposals to establish a permanent national collection in St Ives based on the work of this group. This came about when the handsome galleries of the Tate St Ives were opened in June 1993 overlooking Porthmeor Beach, a site that had stimulated so many artists from Whistler onwards.



Tom Cross has made his mark upon the world of art in Cornwall and will be known to many, not only through his teaching as a former Head of Falmouth School of Art, but also through his many writings on the history of art in Cornwall. Born in Manchester, he trained at the Slade School and spent two years travelling and painting in Italy and France. On his return he worked in Wales for the Welsh Arts Council, later became Senior Lecturer in Painting at Reading University and, until 1987, was Principal of Falmouth School of Art. He continues to write and lecture, and his major books *The Shining Sands*, *Painting the Warmth of the Sun* and *Catching the Wave* are standard works on the history of the Newlyn and St Ives Schools and of contemporary artists working in Cornwall today.



Halsgrove House, Ryelands Industrial Est.ate,
Bagley Road, Wellington, Somerset TA21 9PZ

Tel: 01823 653777 Fax: 01823 216796

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

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TITLE INFORMATION – PAINTING THE WARMTH OF THE SUN



BORLASE SMART, *Cornish Cliffs, Zennor*, 1925.



BARBARA HEPWORTH, *Large and Small Forms*, 1934.



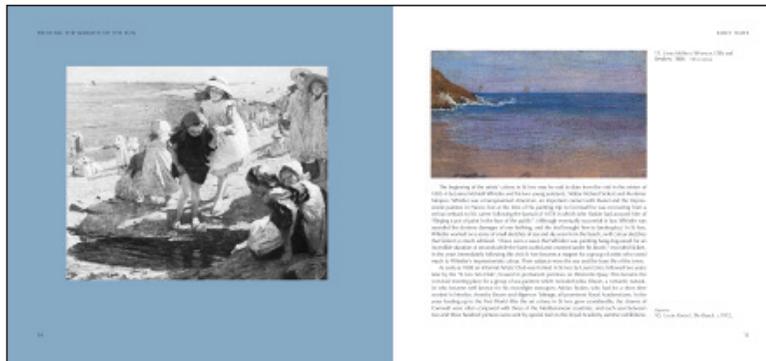
W. BARNs-GRAHAM, *Glacier Crystal, Grindelwald*, 1950.



WILLIAM SCOTT, *The Harbour*, 1948-9.



PETER LANYON, *Heather Coast*, 1963.



Example of a double page spread.