

ALAN COTTON: GIVING LIFE A SHAPE

Jenny Pery

This lavishly illustrated book begins by picturing the painter working intensively for his latest exhibition. Illustrations combined with text reveal the way in which his ideas take shape through drawing in the landscape, and show how these drawings become the seed corn from which he composes the knife paintings that have made his name. The book describes how the imperative to produce a body of work for an annual exhibition has shaped his life, and how his travels and charitable activities fit around these exhibitions. It dips into his past life to recall formative events and provides valuable information about his current working practice. It gives a fascinating insight into the artist/dealer relationship and the running of a Fine Art gallery. With interviews with collectors and reminiscences from friends, as well as pithy commentary from Alan himself, this book gives a comprehensive overview of Alan Cotton's work through more than three decades, and also contains much of interest for the would-be painter.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jenny Pery is the author of many monographs on painters and sculptors, including Solomon J Solomon RA, Claude Rogers OBE, John Dodgson, the Polish painter Czaziel, Edward Piper, Tristram Hillier RA, Anthony Eyton RA, Robert Organ, Bridget McCrum, Benedict Rubbra and Daphne Todd OBE. Her recent publication, *A Being More Intense* (Oblong 2009), explores the art of six contemporary English wood engravers and sheds new light on this exacting medium.

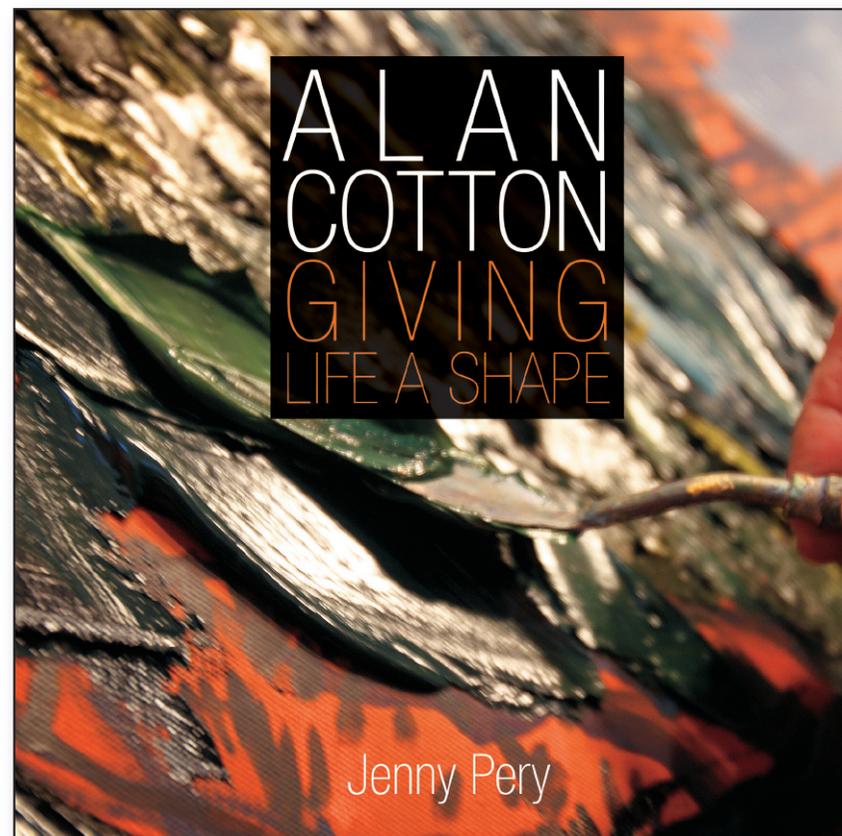
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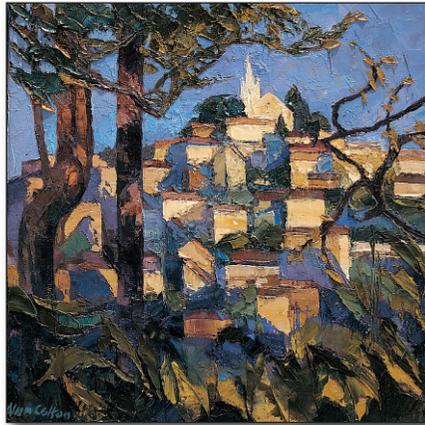


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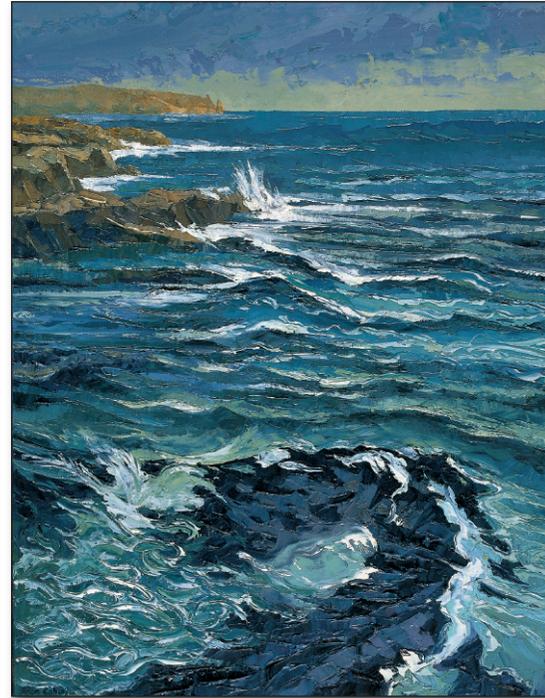


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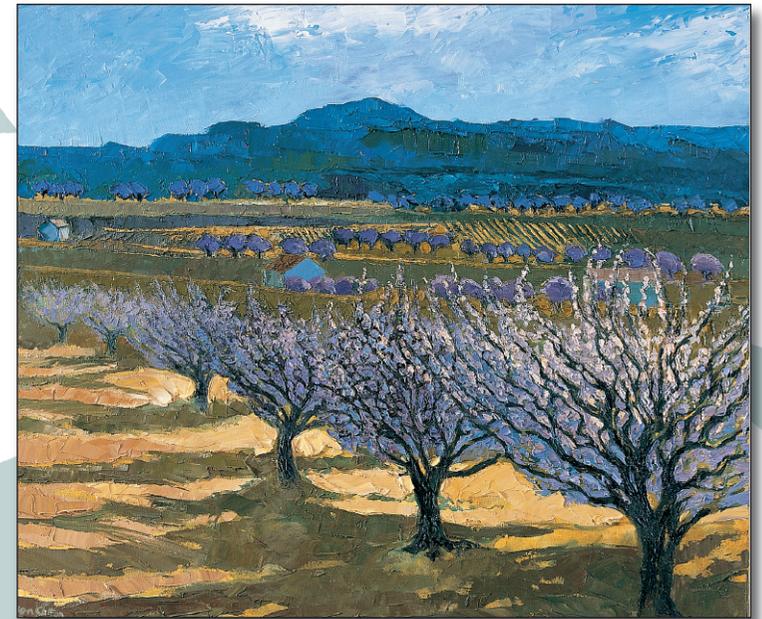
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Left: *Provence – Bonnieux from the Coppice*, 2008
 Bottom left: *Piemonte – Evening Vines* (opposite)



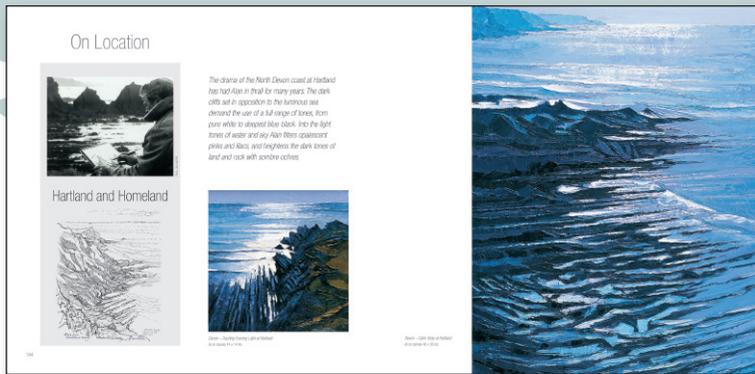
New Zealand – Surging Waves at Taiaroa Head



Provence – Cherry Orchard in the Luberon



County Kerry – Grazing Sheep at Dingle Bay, 2007



Example of a double-page spread.