

New exhibition "Recent Paintings"

Opening night Monday 1st October 2018 6pm-9pm, open until 6th October 2018.

The Coningsby Gallery, London

Artist **Caroline Romer**

Caroline Romer presents "Recent Paintings" a collection of work from her recent trip to Benin and from her new home & work location Devon. The exhibition will be on view Monday 1st of October through to Saturday 6th of October 2018. It will include over 40 paintings that show once more the strength of the artist in being able to captivate a moment and represent it through her own vision and vivid sense of colour.

This is Caroline Romer's 24th solo show. She has a very large body of work behind her now and her painting continues to develop in range and power as a colourist. She releases us into space through her intense use of colour and observation be it in the market places of West Africa or the coastal rocks and seas of Devon. Caroline Romer moved only recently to the Devon coast so the work in this exhibition at the Coningsby Gallery is about her very direct and spontaneous response to the sea and the rocks. She paints the energy she finds in both adding flashes of golden yellow and pink, the lichens and Thrift that grow there. As an admirer of the work of Joan Eardley, Caroline works outside setting her easel up along the shore and on the rocky headlands much as Joan did in Scotland.



Rennie's Island, Devon (oil on canvas 24" x 22")

In January of this year 2018 Caroline returned to West Africa to the small, little known country of Benin. Benin is famous for its Voodoo tradition. On 10th January, each year they celebrate National Voodoo day. Caroline has painted several pictures of the festival either of the crowds that gathered or the deities' dancers in their finery being chased and chasing in the streets of Abomey the ancient capital of Dahomey. Other paintings show the everyday life of Natitingou the markets and street life. Caroline uses the figure in these African landscapes as an indicator of space but also intrinsic to the landscape.

However, in the Devon coastal paintings the painter has not used the human figure but has deliberately left it out. A chance to see an unpopulated space, the sea, the last wilderness.



Market in Natitingou, Benin (acrylic on canvas 46" x 35")