

AT CASTLEFIELD GALLERY

22 NOVEMBER TO 21 DECEMBER

NEW PAINTINGS

MARILYN HALLAM

GEOFF HOLLOW

PAUL TONKIN

**VISIT MANCHESTER'S CONTEMPORARY ART GALLERY • CORNER OF LIVERPOOL RD. &
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**MARILYN HALLAM
GEOFF HOLLOW
PAUL TONKIN**

MARILYN HALLAM was born in Yorkshire in 1947, and studied painting at the University of Reading from 1965 to 1972. Since 1979 she has worked at the Greenwich studios, also lecturing part-time at various colleges, including Hull College of Higher Education, Manchester Polytechnic, and North East London Polytechnic. Her work has been widely exhibited, in both group and one-man shows. Recently it has been seen at the Hull Artists' Association Studio Gallery, the Bakehouse Gallery, the Whitechapel Gallery (Open Exhibitions 1983-85), the Cafe Gallery, the Vortex Gallery, the Winchester Gallery and in the Greenwich Studios.



MARILYN HALLAM is primarily concerned with working to reveal an image that is fresh, resolved and open. The fear of labouring or cluttering a picture leads her to develop compositional ideas away from the canvas through monotypes and drawings. Her compositions are figurative and intimate, with no assertive narrative content. They often possess a wistful quality, being a gentle record of mortality. A more definite subject matter is the exploration of recession, and the creation of a living pictorial space. She regards drawing as one of the prime building blocks in her working process, which gives her pictures a deeply studied quality, and seeks a seemingly effortless balance between colour and line, enjoying colour that is both sensual and celebratory.

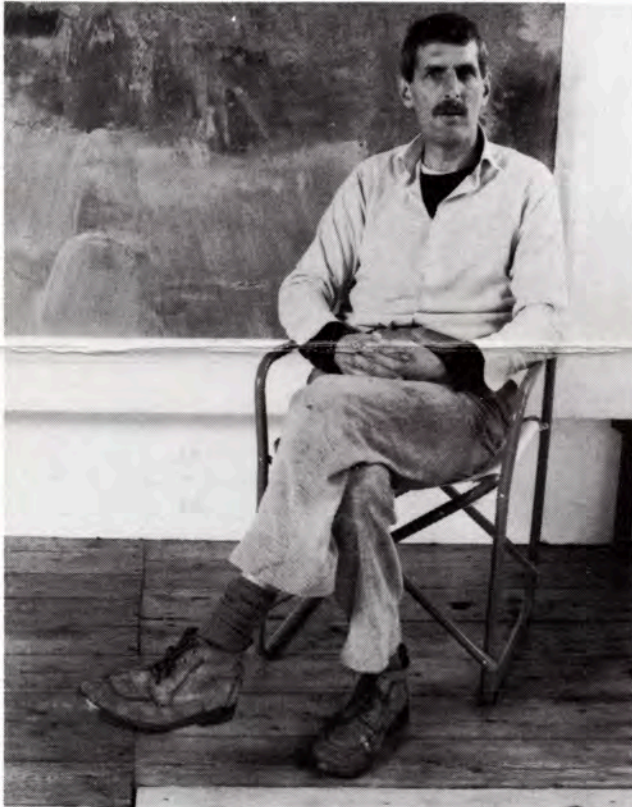
PAUL TONKIN was born in Southampton in 1951.

He trained as a painter at Southampton and Canterbury Colleges of Art and since 1974 has worked in the Space Studios, Wapping Wall, London. His work has been represented in a group exhibition at the Air Gallery, (1980), annual shows at Stockwell Depot, (1976-79), the Hayward Gallery, (1980), Serpentine Gallery, (1982) and in studio shows at Space Studios.



There is a degree of spontaneity in his paintings; the starting point is a process of staining large lengths of canvas with very fluid paint; which is then cut up into smaller lengths according to the compositions suggested by the colours. These are then built up with thick, swirling acrylic paint, worked wet into wet. Through this rather improvised technique emerges a very controlled harmonious manipulation of colour. There are areas of great activity, bravado and excitement, others of rest, tranquility and calm. In these large abstract works he also achieves a great sense of movement and spacial depth. He sees his rich vibrant paintings as symphonic arrangements of colour to be enjoyed for its own sake, and sharing music's power to evoke the imagination.

GEOFFREY HOLLOW is a self taught, exploratory painter. He was born in London in 1944, but did not begin painting until 1972, after being almost challenged and provoked into looking at modern abstract paintings. Having had no formal training, he was initially influenced by the work of Mondrian, Clifford Still and Barnett Newman, gradually developing his own working methods and interests. In 1974 he moved to a studio at the Stockwell Depot, exhibiting in the 12th Annual Exhibition, and now works in the Greenwich Studios. In 1982 he was invited to attend the Triangle Workshop in New York State, where he exhibited work. He had a One Man Show at the Air Gallery, London, in 1981; his paintings have also been seen at the Whitechapel Gallery, and The New Acme Gallery. He has been widely encouraged as a painter and has works in a number of private collections. He has recently returned from Canada where he was painting and lecturing.



His paintings have a raw, intense vitality; and are reminiscent of organic forms: landscapes, beaches, partly due to his subdued, earthy palette; the thick ridges contrasting with thin stains or splashes of paint. He feels painting is a very enjoyable, beautiful activity, in which he exploits the broad handling properties and expressive potential of acrylic paint, using a roller, squeegee and spray gun, as well as more conventional tools.