



Margaret Neve

New Paintings

22 November to 19 December 2006

Opening Hours Mon - Fri 10 – 6pm Sat 11 – 4pm

Private view 21 November 4 – 7pm

Robert Sandelson is delighted to present its second exhibition of landscape paintings by Margaret Neve.

Margaret Neve's paintings are infused with a highly spiritual quality, transforming simple elements such as trees, rocks and mountains into magical landscapes. Her human figures are timeless, innocent and anonymous; shepherds, saints, bathers and wanderers inhabit a strange realm between life and death. They are caught at sunset or in moonlight, an inherent yet transient part of their landscape.

Her work is inspired by her experiences of Wales where she lived with her young family in the 1950s and 60s, and where she continues to visit on a regular basis. Here she found peace and solitude high on the slopes of the Aran Mountains. "I was completely free in my mind. We lived very, very simply. And one got this extraordinary feeling of nature, through the twenty-four hours of each day and through the seasons of the year, with the movement of the sun and moon and the stars. A truly elemental feeling."

Neve's style combines a strongly articulated structure, a distinctive vocabulary of non-naturalistic forms, and a jewelled, carefully worked surface of brilliant colours. Inspired by Byzantine Bible covers, she has developed a technique of dots that are painstakingly and evenly applied across the entire picture surface. This microscopic application of pure pigment gives her enormous control and allows her to continually rework the surface. The dramatic effects of light created by the build up of colour, combined with her often religious subject matter produces deeply passionate and emotive landscapes.

Now in her late seventies, Margaret Neve has worked as a painter for over 50 years, and has been widely collected and exhibited in the UK and America. A richly illustrated monograph with accompanying text by Sister Wendy Beckett was published in 1998. She lives in north London with her husband and continues to paint her symbolic landscapes.

Please contact **Britta Vetter** or **Julia McNaught** for further information
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