

The background is an abstract composition of textured blue and green hues, resembling a close-up of a natural surface like stone or water. A prominent horizontal line of shimmering gold or yellow pigment runs across the middle of the image, separating the darker blue upper section from the greener lower section. The overall effect is one of depth and organic complexity.

Sennen Cove

A Moment in Time

Tony & Rosalind Davie

Sennen Cove – Holy Cove

Front Cover Painting – Summer Breeze



Into the Night

Sennen, which is mentioned in the Domesday Book, means 'holy valley' and has a long and fascinating history.

Sennen parish is situated at the western tip of the Penwith peninsula in Cornwall, close to Land's End. Geologically, it is located on the Land's End Granite, one of the five major granite batholiths that make up the spine of Cornwall. Consequently, the parish has a bare moorland-like character with very few trees and no woodland.

Preface

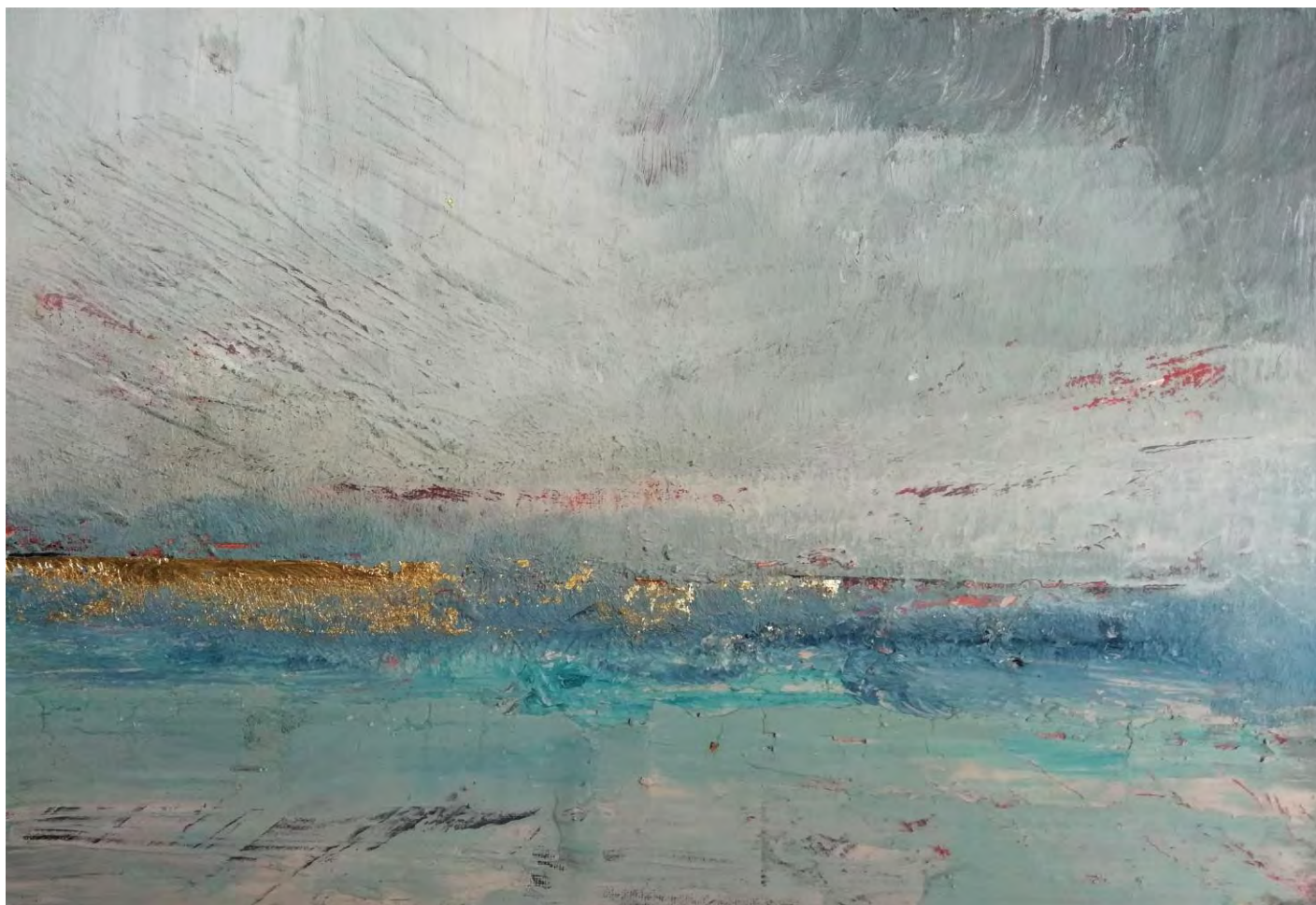
Tony Davie has had a long connection with Sennen Cove, having had many childhood holidays there and having often revisited with his own children. His fascination with the area continues, especially its sea and sky where four seasons seem to take place in one day. His artwork reflects his interest in this ever-changing nature of the cove and the idea of its continuity in its physical presence but also the ways in which it continues to exist in memory and imagination as well as reality.

He has sought to re-create Sennen in a series of 365 paintings based on moments in time throughout the year's seasonal shifts. This book guides the viewer through some examples of these on a month by month basis, observing the scenic life of Sennen as it subtly changes with the nuanced light and colour of time.

Rosalind Davie, Tony's wife, has a PhD in English Literature and is currently writing several books. One of her interests is in the synergy between art and language as two harmonious forms of poetry. In this book the reader will find a series of poems written by Rosalind which interact and engage with Tony's art. In her poetry she seeks to express in words the seasonal changes which Tony observes in his paintings. Poetry and art enhance each other and form a perfect companionship which illuminates the mystic and magical beauty of Sennen in all its moods and variations.

January

In the bleak post-Christmas month of January we often lose our connectivity with the outdoor world, hurrying indoors away from the cold and cutting winds. Our vision is focused away from nature into warm interiors and bright lights. And yet, there is such beauty at this time in wide open spaces where we can see into the future.



Mist in Time
Mixed Media on Board
21"x17"

January

A new sky bleak and billowing looms mercilessly above.
Clouds flock and cluster, threatening rain, sleet, snow.
And dark beneath is the choppy, churning ocean,
Its depths of grey, navy-blue and cyan,
An ice-cool cerulean chill, without invitation.

Yet neither beauty nor hope is entirely absent.
Pared back to its brittle bones,
The scape of sea, land and sky, opens wide -
To its full, imperceptibly curved, expanse.

Nothing is hidden. And every tentative tingle of light is treasured
In the short, ashen hours between dawn and dusk.
The eye lingers, mesmerised by the slow, measured lightening of the hours,
As the rhythmic earth tilts ever closer to the sun.



A Step Closer to Heaven
Gold Leaf & Mixed Media on Board
21"x17"



Against the wind
Gold Leaf & Mixed Media on Board
21"x17"

February

New-born colours arrive in February as the long night of winter draws to a close. The air is still sharp and cold but longer days give us new horizons of hope. In tune with the rhythms of time we are stirred by expectation and anticipation.



Morning is Breaking
Inks & Mixed Media on Board
21"x17"

February

Crayon colours start to spring into life

And carmine and ruby incarnadine the storm-touched evening sky.

A passion of vermilion streaks into the heavens

And a mirror foxed begins to reveal its hidden secrets.

An ephemeral blueness tantalizes fleetingly

And the sea is salted with chartreuse, cornflower and slate.

Sea-green islands drift unmoored,

As depths of multi-faceted jasper ornament unfathomable spectrums.

The winter of expectation has moved through instants of time,

Slipstreaming towards the precious vernal equinox.



Twilight Dream
Inks & Mixed Media on Board
25"x13"



Blue Night
Inks & Mixed Media on Board
25"x13"

March

As spring nudges into existence there are bright bold days amongst the bitter. Life is on the move, a new freshness comes to Sennen. Dreams start to become reality as our souls stretch and grow in this beautiful, verdant expanse of light and colour.



Spring
Inks & Mixed Media on Board
21"x17"

March

The air is lighter, and fresher.

A cool aqua-blue enters the colour sphere,

Glazing the cove with a mint-fresh,

Numinous wash.

Astringent with new purity,

A piquant lustre is enkindled.

And, through youthful pastel tones,

A brilliance emerges,

Luminous with anticipation,

Heralding the nascent spring.

We shiver a little

In the crisp, virginal air,

Lift pale faces to the sun,

Sloughing away the gloom of winter,

As our world shrugs off its overcoat.



Spring Awakening
Acrylic, Inks & Mixed Media on Board
21"x17"



On the Third Day
Acrylic, Inks & Mixed Media on Board
21"x17"

April

A new energy arrives with the freshness of April. The sea becomes a garden bursting with a myriad dewy hues and the sky is more often benign with gentler, softer light. There is a mood of youthfulness, uplifting us with the clear vivacity of spring.



Still Green
Gold Leaf, Inks & Mixed Media on Board
21"x17"

April

The lime light is lush and tender, softness seeps in.

An emerald seafoam glistens with the silver of shoaling shape-shifting life.

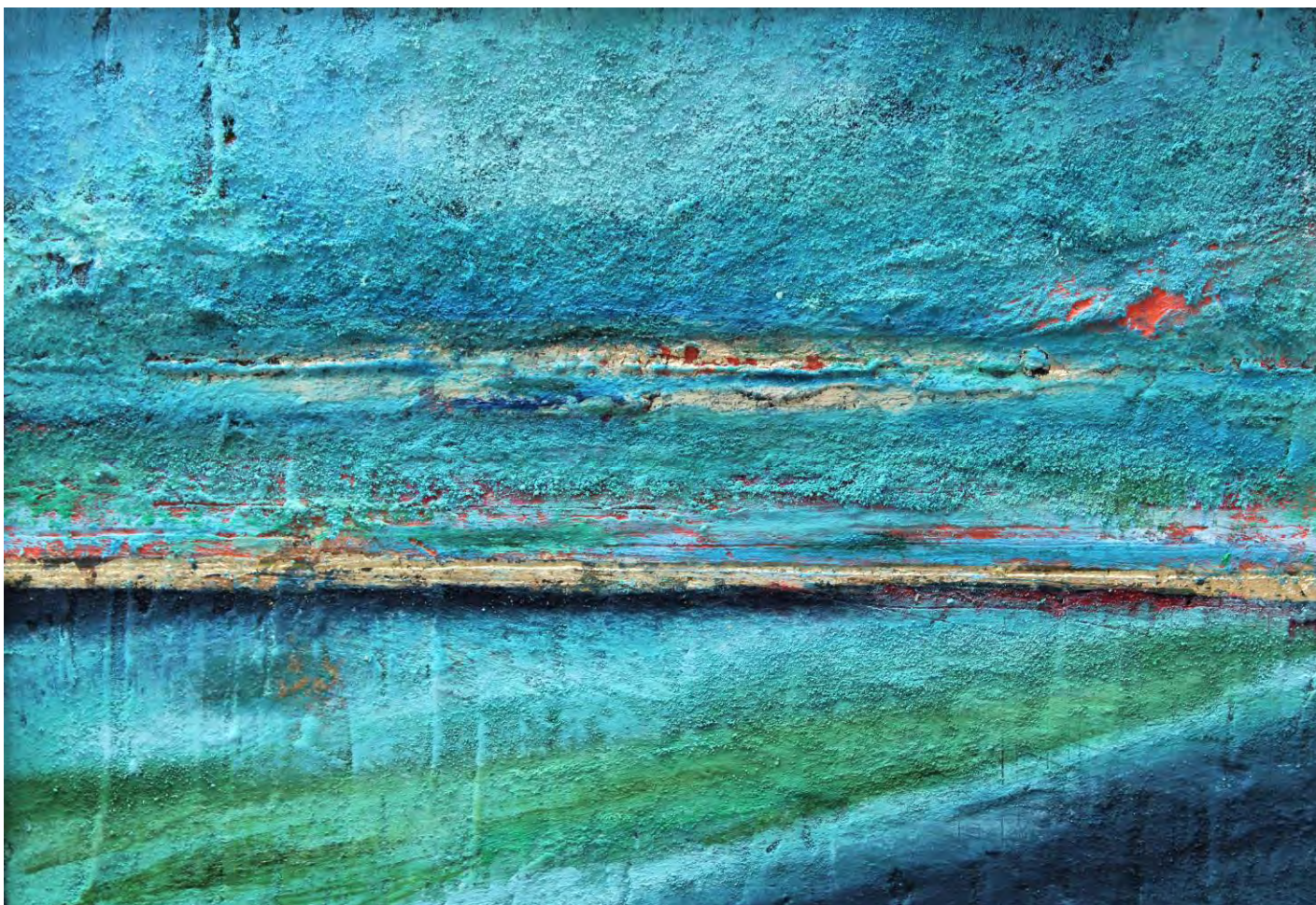
The sea brims and burgeons like a harmonious herbaceous border,
And sage, olive, pear, mingle into new-grown fruitfulness.

Teeming spring is urgent, animated and thrilling.

The sap of life oozes with vigour.

Existence is exuberant, elated, in this seasonal swirl of pep and brio.

Our hearts sing and zing.



Into the Night
Gold Leaf, Inks & Mixed Media on Board
21"x17"



Breeze
Gold Leaf, Acrylic Paint & Mixed Media on Board
21"x17"

May

May is filled with melodies, the music of colour and form as real warmth flows into the air. Late spring is merging slowly into summer and Sennen is radiant with the luminous magic and textured softness of sea, air and light.



Summer Herald
Acrylic Paint & Mixed Media on Board
21"x17"

May

Lilting cadences of softening ocean waves and gentler zephyrs
caress

The senses, whilst memories of rain commute into warmth and
luminosity.

Satin, velvet, gauze and muslin, diaphanous materials smoke
across

A plethoric panorama of lace and sheen.

Aerophane and angora, bombazine and cashmere -

Sennen is wearing new clothes of softness and texture.

Charmeuse, chiffon and chenille bedeck the skies.

Damask and farandine float into tendrils and trails;

A frieze of lustring, lissom and light, with merino and organza

Is a pashmina encarfing the horizon in a tippet of tulle.

Ruffling, knitting together the fabrics of sea, sand, rock and sky

Into a Joseph garment, a musical synaesthesia of nap and weave.

We enfold ourselves in an orchestra of sensation.



Enchanted Evening
Acrylic Paint & Mixed Media on Board
21"x17"



Lingering Evening
Gold Leaf, Acrylic Paint & Mixed Media on Board
21"x17"

June

With June comes the warm idea of endless possibilities – more time outdoors, more pleasure, and more days of sunlight and summer colour. We revel in the exotica of the natural world and are mesmerised by its beauty.



Summer's Arrival
Gold Leaf, Acrylic Paint & Mixed Media on Canvas
62"x30"

June

Rosebud pink sizzles into honeyed orange and
A rainbow of lambent warmth bubbles into fulsomeness;
Sweetness scents the sun-filled air and an ozone tang exhilarates.

Shafts of shimmering diamond froth the horizon, juxtaposed
With sky-dove streaks and shadows of deepest blue;
A chiaroscuro of perception and definition.

The sea-light basks, bathing in a languorous haze of ripples,
Undulations and waves which twinkle, wink and sparkle;
And the serene, soothing rhythm laps and enfolds,

The great lung of the ocean, unbounded and eternal,
Respires in sustained, sustaining susurrating breaths.



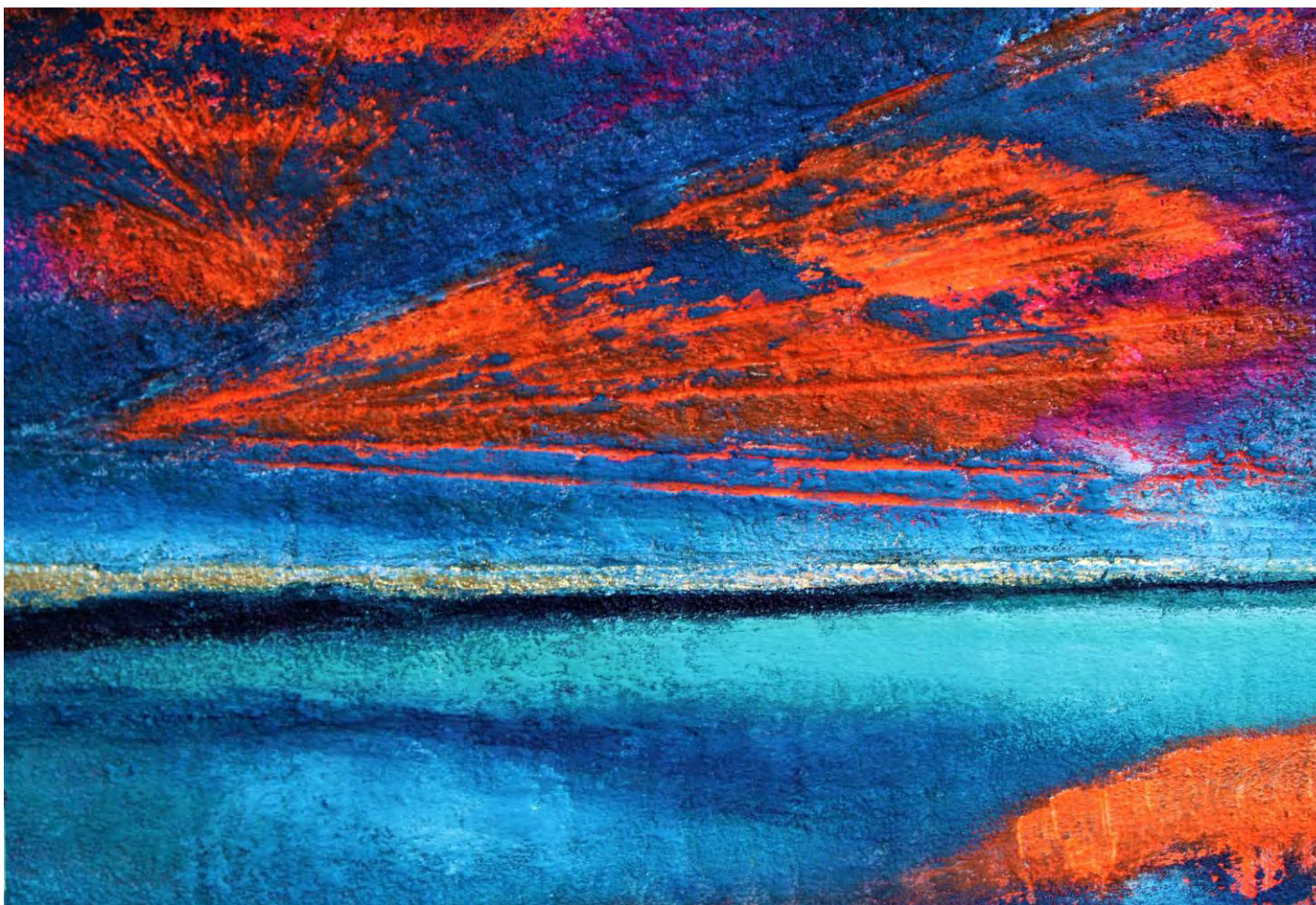
Bedazzled
Gold Leaf, Acrylic Paint & Mixed Media on Canvas
62"x30"



Golden Evening
Gold Leaf, Inks & Mixed Media on Board
25"x13"

July

In the hot midst of summer, we forget everything, as we bask in this season of completeness. This is a time to sit in the sun and dream, to picnic and party, to live in a holiday of aqua-blue time which sparkles with the gold of opportunity – long days, warm nights and sunsets of wonder to behold.



Epiphany 2
Gold Leaf, Acrylic Paint & Mixed Media on Board
21"x17"

July

The exuberance of summer is luscious, wild and untamed,
Blousy, extrovert and exultant in exotica of colour.

Summer en fête is a jamboree, a gala of festivity
Where lambent dreams wash into hues of reality.

As the warm-hearted mellowness of a perfect July day
Percolates into its evening carnival,
Banners of fire and spangles re-energise

The festivities. Nature is aglow, lionized in a life-burst of
Ebullience, shooting-stars of vigour and vibrancy.

A never-never land of luxuriant fantasy;
A jubilant party of riches,
Sublime. A cynosure for every eye.



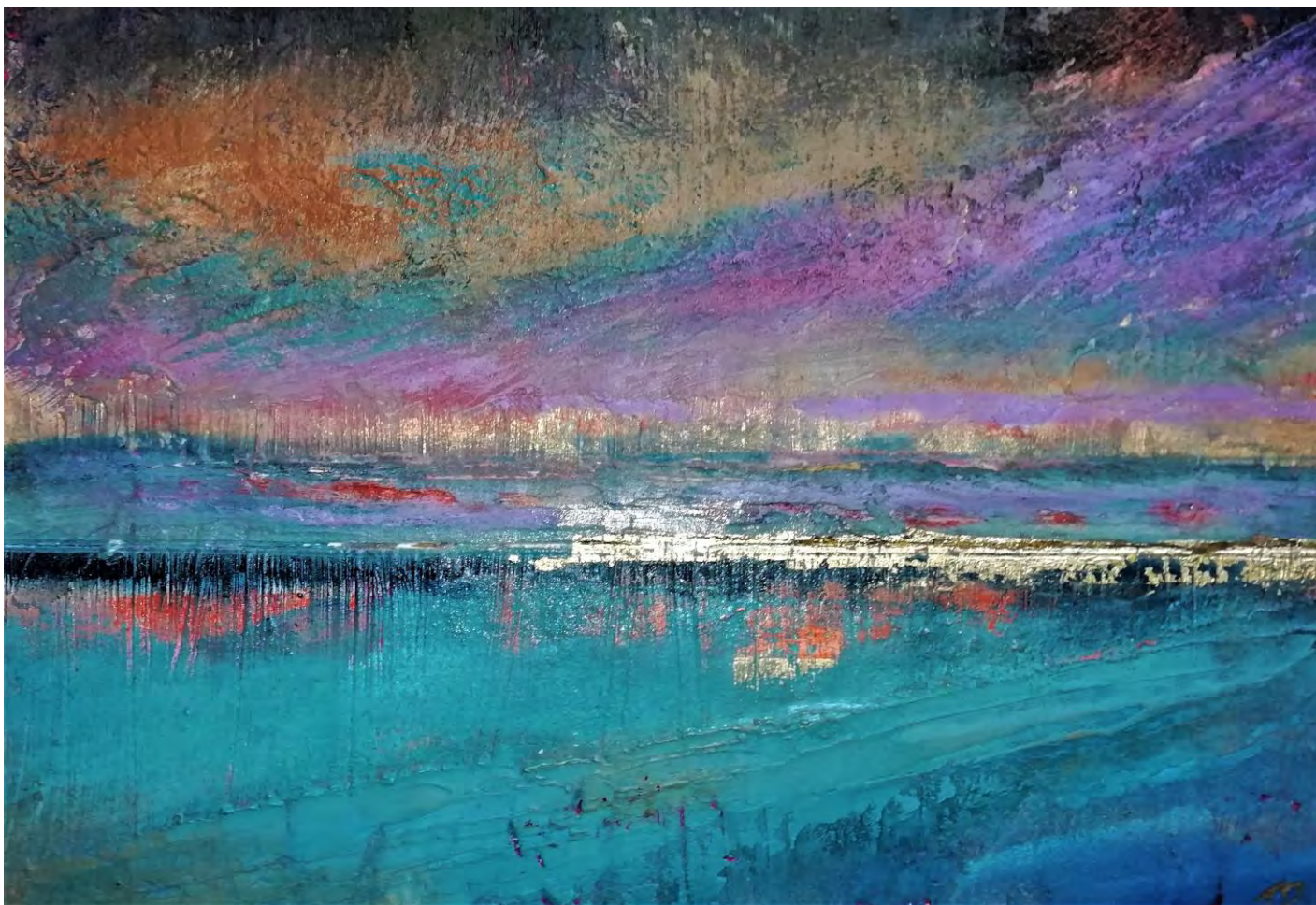
Aqua Golden Day
Kiln Sand, Gold Leaf, Acrylic Paint & Mixed Media on Board
21"x17"



Night Horizon
Gold Leaf, Acrylic Paint & Mixed Media on Board
21"x17"

August

Time seems to slow to an infinitesimal stop in the rose-gold glory of August. From the mauve beauty of morning, through the glistening afternoon, the incandescent glow of sunset and the velvet of the night, the bay revels in its late-summer majesty. And we bar from our thoughts the possibility that this can ever end.



Light Between the Ocean
Gold Leaf, Acrylic Paint & Mixed Media on Board
21"x17"

August

Endless hazy August days,
when mellow hours stretch
Into infinitesimal droplets of apricot time ...

Honeyed golden rays glitter
Upon the languid pool of cool turquoise
Which drifts and splashes, drifts and splashes, aimlessly ...

Its jewelled surface sparkling
In the still benign evening light,
As a tangerine sunset fizzes and sparks,
Steeping the world in a warm marmalade light ...

And winter is an impossible myth.



Night of Fire
Inks, Gold Leaf, Acrylic Paint & Mixed Media on Board
21"x17"



Cerise Night
Inks, Gold Leaf, Acrylic Paint & Mixed Media on Board
21"x17"

September

We are moving through the soft gauze of time. As we hold on to the Indian warmth of gilded September days, we know in our hearts that the long summer is slipping away, the days are now shortening and the soft rains of early autumn begin to wash away our complacent joy. We know we must treasure each moment



Souls of the Evening
Gold Leaf, Acrylic Paint & Mixed Media on Board
21"x17"

September

The effervescent orange of summer is fading into coral pink,
Lit up by golden flickers, the blessed unction of the sun.

Still warm, the iridescent sea shimmers in teal and sapphire.
The sky's kindness refreshes, quenching with its balm of reviving showers.

But within the mild embrace, a tinge of regret is emerging.
A trace of sadness washed amongst the ripening fruitfulness of the autumn sky.

The smug, self-satisfaction of summer is waning. Elastic days are shortening.
Heat's luxuriant bounty is less reality, more memory.

The transience of time rolls on. And we guard these moments of beauty.



Rolling Mist
Acrylic Paint & Mixed Media on Canvas
40"x30"



Of Mist and Golden Light
Gold Leaf, Acrylic Paint & Mixed Media on Board
21"x17"

October

Before the sorrow of winter dares reach us, nature suddenly gives its all in a blaze of might and beauty. Sennen holds tinges of its summer brilliance yet, though days may be cloudier and frosted nights finger their way towards us. The unfathomable mystery of the bay with its depths of ocean and sky is a magnet to our wonder.



Storm at Sea
Acrylic Paint & Mixed Media on Board
21"x17"

October

Tints of refulgent, celestial fire blaze and starbursts flame
into paler, shadowed versions in the brimming ocean.
An ephemeral diadem crowns the sovereign sky,

Still gorgeous with the generosity of autumn beauty,
Brimful. A banquet for the senses of coruscating light,
Kaleidoscopic colour

And waning warmth,
Which will surely fade away too fast.

For the moment, though, we feast on glory
Sated and swathed in this serene sumptuosity.



Storms Never Last
Gold Leaf, Acrylic Paint & Mixed Media on Board
21"x17"



Golden Horizon
Gold Leaf, Acrylic Paint & Mixed Media on Board
21"x17"

November

As the year ebbs towards a close, light and colour are colder in hue and tone. It seems that there is less to see as we look to choppy seas and greyer skies. There is a more sombre timbre to Sennen now as warmth draws away. Yet, if we look closer, the myriad layers of the bay hold a promise of the future in their dark blue depths



The Blue Chill
Oil Pastels, Gold Leaf, Acrylic Paint & Mixed Media on Board
21"x17"

November

Now our senses begin to starve

As colour drains away too quickly.

Light fades

And we must seek subtler nuances of beauty ...

Tints of peach subtly illuminate an opalescent sky

As pearls of dove-soft grey merge,

Hardening to anthracite.

The ink of darkness encroaches

Steeling and stealing warm-light away.

Declining. Departing. Not moribund.

For winter will be dormancy, not death.



Darkness is Coming
Gold Leaf, Acrylic Paint & Mixed Media on Board
21"x17"



Sennen Storm
Kiln Sand, Gold Leaf, Acrylic Paint & Mixed Media on Board
21"x17"

December

A bleakness imbues December's darkened days as we busy ourselves in shops and festive stores. Bundled in hot houses and cars, we withdraw indoors. Sennen waits patiently for our return: its empty beach, rolling waves, and ash-blue sky. The lone visitor will see that beneath its layers sparkles the eternity of silvered hope.



Winter Draws On
Pastels, Acrylic Paint & Mixed Media on Board
25"x13"

December

Quiddity of midwinter gloom, a leaden sky and murky waters.

Squalls of restless, whipping wind bring storm-tossed skies etched with bitterness.

This world is a barer, bleaker, darker place which we huddle and hunch up against.

There is a mournful hush, a mood of anticipation as we watch the old year

Dwindle and slip faintly into its grave. Regret and remorse are mingled with relief

As the perpetuity of time rolls us ever onwards.

Scanning the chilled horizon, a new birth is pendant, glistening in the frosted air.

And the mystic unknown, the numinous awe, flickers into truth.



Winter Strife
Gold Leaf, Acrylic Paint & Mixed Media on Board
21"x17"



Cold Hope

Inks, Gold Leaf, Acrylic Paint & Mixed Media on Board

21"x17"



Tony Davie

Coming from a family background in which art was a major theme, it was inevitable that Tony would become an Artist.

The vibrancy of his artistic style has been developed through travel, experimentation, and a fascination with light, colour and shape.

He works from a studio in Cheltenham and welcomes visitors by appointment. All pictures in this book can be purchased as a limited addition print.