

3 December 2021

TRP Press Contact – Chris Baker (chris.baker@theatroyal.com)

For Immediate Release

TRP Gallery presents ‘Richard Allman – Plymouth Exposed’



Theatre Royal Plymouth has begun hosting an exhibition by Plymouth-based artist Richard Allman.

‘Plymouth Exposed’ is on display in the TRP Gallery, on the first floor of the theatre until 2 April 2022.

Richard has been painting for more than 50 years. At art school in London, he worked on 7ft square abstract colour field paintings.

Richard is now an artist and illustrator, based in Plymouth and has two main areas of work. The first is all about his interest in regeneration projects.

He explains: *“I’m fascinated by the process of change to buildings all around us. Much of this work is large scale drawing projects concerned with demolition and reconstruction – buildings partially there, the machinery being used and the superb new vistas opened up, often only temporarily. I am most interested in the process. When the building is completed, my fascination seems to disappear!”*

The first of Richard’s many regeneration paintings around Plymouth was of the Theatre Royal being constructed in 1982.

All sorts of other themes around Plymouth have grabbed Richard’s attention over the years, from rotting hulks at Hooe Lake to allotments, and the Palace Theatre.

A recent series was of TRP's Messenger statue being assembled in the South Yard and then installed outside the theatre.

The second area of Richard's work involves subjects which fascinate him.

He continues: *"From boats, bridges, reflections and shadows to yellow road markings, allotments, gates, topiary and interesting buildings which aren't going to be demolished but which just speak to us in a unique way."*

In addition to Richard's exhibition at TRP, there is a chance for you to propose your own idea, to inspire his next piece of work. It is called 'YOUR Plymouth Exposed', and Richard is looking for a place or building in Plymouth, that you either love or hate, which he will paint.

Proposals can be dropped in to the theatre or by emailing viewfinder@theatreroyal.com along with an explanation as to why you chose it.

On 14 January, TRP will select a quirky suggestion with a special back story to energise Richard to start work on the painting. It will then be added to the exhibition on 1 February 2022, before TRP and Richard present the work to the winner at the end of the exhibition.

For more information on Richard's work, visit richardallman.co.uk and for enquiries about sales, contact Artmill Gallery on 01752 255020 or Richard directly on 07855 347469.

ENDS

For further information please contact the Media and Communications team on mediaandcommunications@theatreroyal.com / 01752 230439

Theatre Royal Plymouth (TRP) is a registered charity providing art, education and community engagement in Plymouth and across the region. It engages and inspires with the aim of touching lives as the South West's principal centre for performing arts. Theatre Royal Plymouth presents a year-round programme of world class productions on all scales.

Theatre Royal Plymouth works with partners to understand the challenges people face accessing the arts, especially vulnerable and disadvantaged people. It creates pathways that are genuinely accessible to those who might otherwise never get to engage with the arts and collaborates to co-create and co-author work that represents the community, creating the space needed for people to tell their story in their own way.

Theatre Royal Plymouth is the UK's largest regional producing theatre with a focus on embracing the vitality of new talent and supporting emerging and established artists. It collaborates with a range of partners to provide dynamic cultural leadership for the city of Plymouth.



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Plymouth
Britain's Ocean City