Paintings, drawings and watercolours from the studio of the late Colin Middleton - on Friday 4 October 1985.

- - Colin Middleton, Surrealist Painter: Biography, Paintings



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Art UK

Above all the painting is about pattern, the artist using design as a tool to break down form and to unite the flat picture surface by creating a rhythm across it that is independent to the image. Colin Middleton RHA MBE 1910-1983 The highly respected Irish landscape artist, and Surrealist Colin Middleton was born in in 1910. He was no longer represented by Victor Waddignton Galleries, with whom he had succeeded in the post-war years, and he also moved to Portrush, , on the north coast.

Colin Middleton, Surrealist Painter: Biography, Paintings

The Westerness Series has arguably remained relatively neglected and has been seen as an extension of the Wilderness series, but in many ways it can be seen as one of Middletons major achievements in its own right, dealing with, and in some ways perhaps resolving, spiritual and pictorial concerns that continued through his career. Middleton wrote in 1951 that an Expressionist should take the same pains as Cézanne in the slow production of his pictures 2.

Colin Middleton

They demonstrate the direct application of pigment in patches of flat colour alongside areas where it is worked into more complex descriptive passages. Colin Middleton, Surrealist Painter: Biography, Paintings Colin Middleton Irish Surrealist Painter. The formal simplification and abstraction of the subject allows Middleton to bring together various ideas within this single image.

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The central form in Matter and Kind suggests the female archetype that was central to these late works, as it had been throughout his career. He regarded himself as the only working in Ireland in the 1930s. There is a clear reference to the series of paintings from this period of his wife, Kathleen, at the piano, as well as suggestions of landscape, which Middleton always saw as visually and symbolically interconnected with the female form.

Colin Middleton

The Westerness Series was one of the three significant bodies of work that occupied Colin Middleton throughout the 1970s, alongside the Wilderness and Barcelona series of paintings.

Colin Middleton Paintings for Sale

The loose folds of fabric that seem to suggest a precariously balanced figure recur throughout these paintings, indicating Middletons re-engagement in his later career with his own early training and work as a damask designer. One might read many of the changes in Colin Middletons work across his career as a continuing shifting between two particular aspects of his creative identity, as both designer and painter.

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