

ROBERT SADLER ART

NEWSLETTER No. 10 - February, 2025

Dear Art Patron,

Once again this tenth Robert Sadler Art Newsletter is appearing almost twelve months after the last one, and it will appear annually in future.

You are receiving this newsletter because you have acquired or admired Robert Sadler's paintings in the past, or because you are related to him, or because you have requested it. Please email me if you no longer wish to receive it.

In each Newsletter we now aim to cover four main areas:

1. The latest developments at Robert Sadler Art, particularly around our website - www.robertsadlerart.co.uk - around activities at our Art Store, and sales at galleries nationwide (where we know these).
2. Developments over the past year, especially sales to visitors to our Art Store, sales at auctions, and direct sales via our website.
3. Activities planned for the current year, including planned auctions and the paintings we will be consigning.
4. In each Newsletter we will also include an account of part of Robert's life. In this issue we begin with his childhood at Newmarket, and his early education at prep school and Eastbourne College. Later issues will cover his days in the RAF, and the second half of his life as full-time artist.

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS AT ROBERT SADLER ART

During 2024 we saw an increase in enquiries via our website (www.robertsadlerart.co.uk) because we had expanded this in March/April 2024 to show all of the 1,000 or so paintings by Robert Sadler which we were then offering for sale. The website illustrates salient details of each painting, including its price. Where paintings have now been sold, or consigned to auction, this is also shown in as close to "real time" as we can get: i.e. we aim to update the website just as soon as anything changes (unlike some websites which may be years out of date!).

More recently, in January 2025, we have also made it easier for people visiting our website to request this Newsletter, or a free USB flashdrive of all Robert's works for sale, plus

biographies, reviews etc., which we do not have room for on the website.

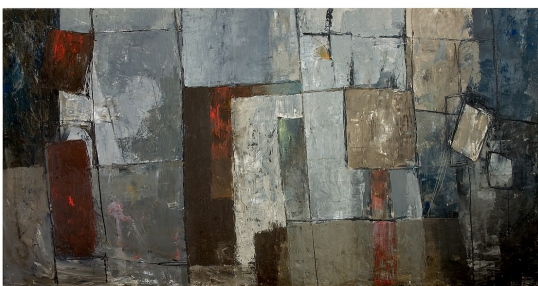
We also continue to frame Robert's paintings for buyers who want paintings framed just like Robert himself used to frame them, and we still use his own tools to help us do this.

From the returns we receive from DACS (Design and Artists Copyright Society) we also get an idea of where Robert's paintings are selling at Galleries and Auctions (apart from the ones we have used). These DACS returns show us that some of Robert's paintings are now selling at around four times the price we sold them for a few years ago. This is pretty normal in the art world, as paintings move through dealers and galleries over time, but it also shows the advantage of buying direct from us, or at auction.

PRIVATE SALES IN 2024

Throughout 2024 we continued to welcome personal visits to our Art Store in Suffolk, where the 1,000 or so Robert Sadlers we still have for sale are stored. Visitors can then see paintings "in the flesh", and discuss how they would like them framed. We usually ask visitors to shortlist in advance up to 30 paintings from the photographs on the website (or flashdrive), as this makes it much easier for us to extract them from the store for viewing. In 2024 we sold some 30 paintings in this way. Most were sold to private buyers, but we also had some gallery owners requesting paintings.

We now have only a few of Robert's really large Abstract Expressionist works painted in the 1950s and 1960s, and we are now retaining these for the moment. But some of his medium-sized and smaller abstract works have continued to sell well. Some of the abstract paintings sold in 2024 are illustrated below:



Painting 538, 774x1550mm, 1950s Abstract
Sold to a private buyer for £1950 in 2024



Painting 075, 1959/1960
abstract, 1550x1220mm
Sold to a private buyer for
£3260 in 2024.



Painting 439, 405x509mm,
1981 abstract, sold to a private
buyer for £640 in 2024

A smaller painting (Inventory Number 325) which was bought by a London gallery for £327 is shown on the right. This was painted by Robert Sadler in 1993, is 223x276mm, and is acrylic on board, framed, signed and dated.



AUCTION SALES IN 2024

In 2024 we sold 21 paintings through auction houses like Reeman Dansie (in Colchester), Sworders (at Stansted Mountfitchett) and Bishop and Miller (at Stowmarket and Holt in Norfolk). A few of these sales are shown below:



Painting 827: Reserve £150, sold for £340 by Reeman Dansie, May



Painting 174: Reserve £300. Sold for £440 at Bishop and Miller, Sept. 2024



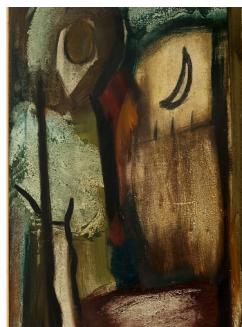
Painting 646: Reserve £200. Sold for £300 at Reeman Dansie. Oct. 2024

AUCTIONS PLANNED FOR 2025

This year we again plan to sell around twenty Robert Sadler paintings at auction. If any of you wish to bid for these paintings, this can easily be done on-line. Simply register (for free) with the auctioneers on their website, then you can watch the auction and bid on your PC. Alternatively take the time to travel to the auction, see the paintings for real, and bid for those you like. Auction houses to which we intend to consign Robert Sadler paintings in 2025 are: Reeman Dansie (in Colchester): auctions in February and April 2025. Sworders (at Stansted Mountfitchett: auction in April, 2025, and Cheffins (in Cambridge): in May, 2025. Some of the paintings we have already decided to consign for auction are shown below:



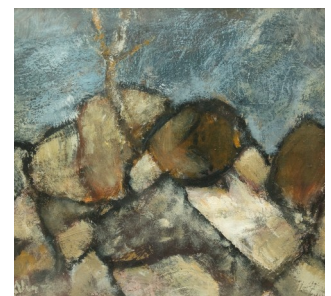
Painting 282. 770x1043mm Abstract, Reeman Dansie, Reserve £900



Painting 484, Abstract 772x518mm, Reeman Dansie Reserve ££550



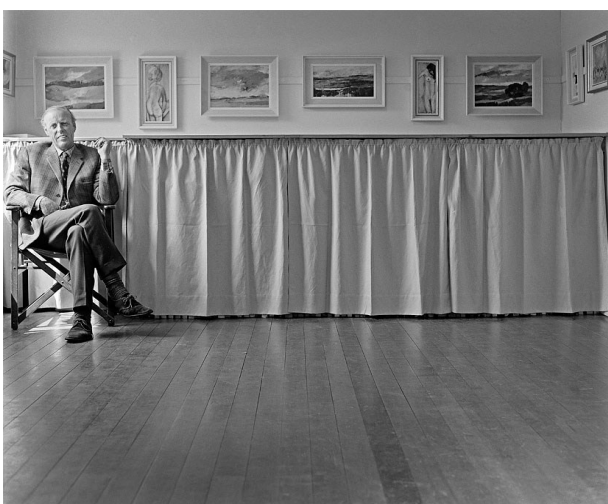
Painting 162, 1985 Abstract, 340x340mm, Sworders, Reserve £375



Painting 1076, Landscape, 200x220mm, Sworders, Reserve £375

ROBERT SADLER'S STUDIO IN ALDEBURGH

Robert Sadler's Studio in Aldeburgh is now a furnished holiday let, managed through our kind agents Best of Suffolk. Robert's actual studio has been retained as one large living room on the first floor with a sea view and large South facing sundeck (but with a bed and shower room at one end). Naturally most of the paintings within are Robert Sadlers, both abstracts and representational work from the 1950s and later, and all are available as prints. The original double garage on the ground floor has been extended and converted into two bedrooms, a kitchen, dining room, bathroom and entrance hall, so it can now accommodate five or six people., and dogs are also welcome (the garden is ideal). We added a summerhouse where many of Robert's paintings were stored for a while, but which now houses a small billiard table. PV panels on the roof contribute to the electricity needs, and to a "B" rating for energy efficiency. Full details can be found at www.bestofsuffolk.co.uk — or just search for *Robert Sadler's Studio, Aldeburgh*.



THEN: c 1976.....



.....and NOW

ROBERT SADLER'S EARLY LIFE

Many people have asked us about Robert Sadler's very eventful life; so in each newsletter we have decided to give a brief account of a portion of his life, giving you a better idea of who he was, where he came from, and why he did what he did. In this newsletter we cover his early life up until he went to Cambridge University in 1927.

Robert was born in Newmarket, Suffolk, in February 1909. His father was a racehorse trainer, Harry Sadler, and his mother Ada (nee Lane) was one of three sisters, one of whom (May) married Harry's brother Alf. Robert had an older brother, Jack, and a younger sister, Mary, and the family lived at Falmouth House on the outskirts of Newmarket. The house and stables had been built for the champion jockey of that era, Fred Archer, who sadly shot himself when he could no longer keep his weight down enough to race.

When The Great War came in 1914, Robert was five, and he recalled his sorrow that prize racehorses were sent to be cavalry remounts on the Western Front, and even the family's pet Dachshund had to be destroyed due to anti-German prejudice (Robert's sister Mary kept Dachshunds throughout her life). Soldiers were billeted in the stables, and the RSM (Regimental Sergeant Major) "drilled" the children on the lawn.

But even as a child Robert became hooked on four things: horses, cars, aeroplanes, and drawing and painting. As a teenager he often rode out with his father's string of horses to the practice gallops on Newmarket Heath. Aeroplanes overhead were an exciting but rare novelty, and his chance to fly only came later at Cambridge, Posh cars eventually became a trainer's delight, although Robert recalled his father being fined one shilling (5p) for whipping a chauffeur whose backfiring car had "frightened the horses" (the ultimate sin in Newmarket!). But drawing and painting were always there—on family picnics to quiet waterside dells outside Newmarket, or on visits to friends and family in the countryside. Only one of his paintings survives from his childhood, and this is shown below alongside photos of his family and their home. But when he was old enough, Robert was sent away from home to a boarding preparatory school—St Winifred's— and later to Eastbourne College where he also developed an interest in all things mechanical, winning a place to read Engineering at Cambridge (where it had only just become a university course).



Pic. 1162 House &
Church, Eastbourne,



Sadler Family at Falmouth House



Picnic at Snailwell Creek, 1915