

George St from Pete's Corner
mid-afternoon in summer

Do you often see familiar faces when you are out painting?

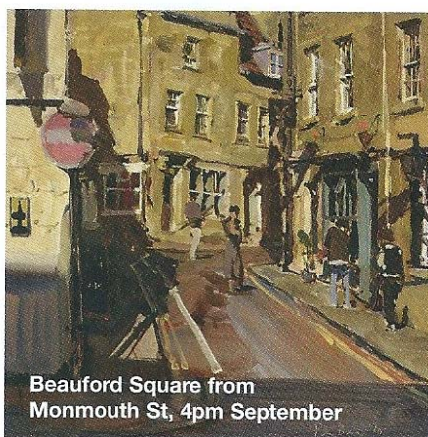
Yes, I am always meeting people from Bath on London bridges!

Do you have some favourite spots?

As long as it winks at me I paint it and if something winks once it winks again – maybe in a different light or different time of day, but maybe in a similar light but years on. One particular area that springs to mind for this show is George Street in the summer. I love the atmosphere at the top of the centre – beer on the pavement – ahh!

What are the hazards of painting outside?

Weather is fine. Temperature is sorted with lots of layers. When I get in I get the kids to guess how many layers I have on top and on bottom. We count as I strip. Rain is fun – oil paint resists it for a time until you can no longer get the paint to stick to the canvas or indeed pick it up from the palette with



Beauford Square from
Monmouth St, 4pm September



Self portrait
night reflection

your brush. Snow is wonderful and sun is glorious. Changeable can be frustrating but can produce some good surprises. The one I really cannot crack, though, is wind – it's a nightmare!

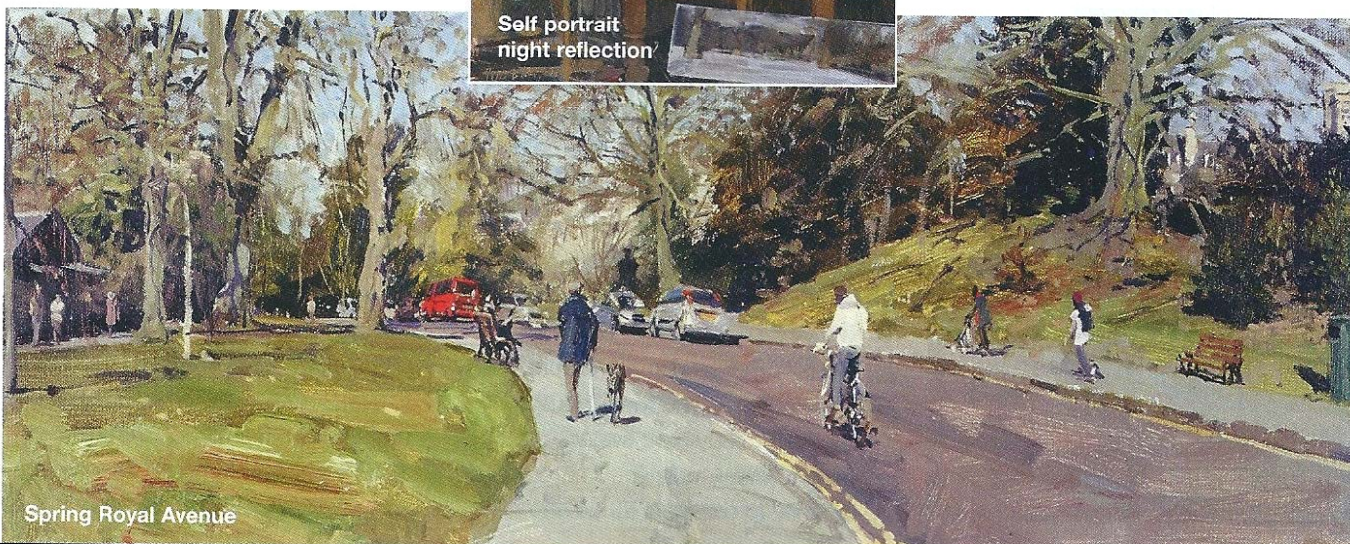
Have you had any memorable moments while painting?

Apart from the fights with officials in Trafalgar Square, Piccadilly Circus and Westminster Bridge, the funniest thing which sticks in my mind is when I was painting the Cross Bath early one summer morning. They were still building the new spa and there were workmen I had not noticed across the open cobbled space. One picked up a traffic cone, pointed it in my direction (they really work as loud hailer) and shouted: "Put down the paint brush and step away from the easel!" I jumped a mile and caught them rolling around in fits as I scabbled to pick up my brushes and palette.

'Bath between the Snows' runs from 9 April to 2 June.

Bath's Victoria Art Gallery, near Pulteney Bridge, is open Tuesday to Saturday, 10am-5pm, and Sundays, 1.30pm-5pm. Admission is free. For further details call 01225 477233 or visit victoriagal.org.uk

For information about Peter Brown visit peterbrownneac.com



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