

art

Peter lifts the lid on Bath in all weathers

Ninety-three new paintings, drawings and pastels celebrating the streets and hills of Bath captured in all weathers will be on display at Bath's Victoria Art Gallery from Saturday April 9 until Sunday June 2.

Created by Bath-based artist Peter Brown, probably more commonly known as 'Pete the Street' due to his habit of working outdoors come rain, sleet or shine, the works of art include views of George Street, Royal Victoria Park, Milsom Street experiencing sunshine and showers, and the Kennet and Avon Canal. There are even some night scenes.

This is the fifth exhibition by Peter Brown to be shown at the Victoria Art Gallery, but by far the largest to date for it will fill the Bridge Street venue's large ground floor gallery.

The exhibition is called Bath *Between the Snows* because most of the work was undertaken between the two heavy snowfalls that occurred at the beginning and end of 2010.

Bath is not a large city yet Pete Brown never ceases to discover parts he has not previously painted, or alternatively familiar views seen in unfamiliar lighting conditions. For those with an eye to see, it is a

city of constant surprises, and nobody is more receptive to these fleeting moments than 'Pete the Street'.

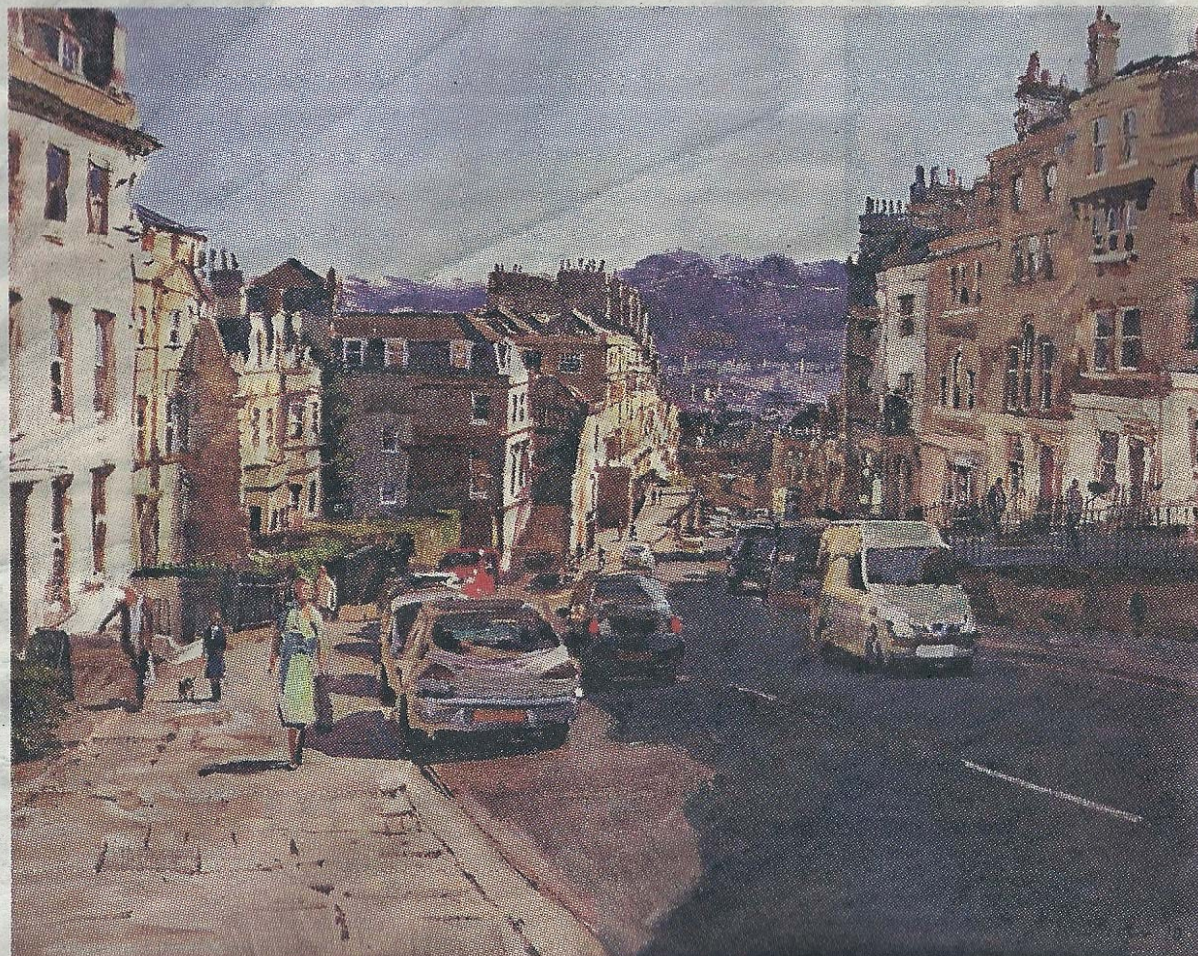
Jon Benington, manager of the Victoria Art Gallery, said: "The pictures are anything but static scenes, recording as they do places that are populated, alive, throbbing with movement, constantly changing in response to different light and weather conditions."

Peter Brown says of his work: "The thread in all my paintings is an interest in light. I relish the variety of our British climate and dramatic changes in the weather."

Although Peter now enjoys a national reputation and has completed a stint as Painter in Residence at the Savoy Hotel in London, he can still be glimpsed painting 'en plein air' around the city that is his home.

Peter Brown came to Bath in 1986 to study a foundation course in art. He then continued his training in Manchester and Greenwich before returning to the city in 1993.

He is a member of the New English Art Club, the Royal Institute of Oil Painters and The Pastel Society. He regularly wins awards for his work and is



SUN TRAP: Bright Afternoon from Belvedere goes on show in Bath in April

represented in collections across Europe, the USA, Australia and Saudi Arabia.

The Victoria Art Gallery, near Pulteney Bridge in Bath, is open Tuesday to Saturday

10am to 5pm, Sunday 1.30pm to 5pm. The Gallery is closed on Monday. Admission is free.

