

## **A MESSAGE FROM ROBERT:**

At home my new 'country home' studio here is having a refit and new organisation in anticipation of the coming months ahead. We finally did it - we moved out of the great metropolis of Leeds and bought our dream home in the quiet conservation village of Nunnington, North of York early in March.

The beautiful landscape all around us here in North Yorkshire (North York Moors and East Yorkshire Coast not that far away) is totally inspirational but rest assured, the mountains and Lakeland landscape always will be massively important to my painting and drawing, especially the landscape in easy reach of Higham Hall such as Buttermere, Honister Pass, Borrowdale Valley and St Bega's church, to name but a few.

Settling into a new home takes a bit of time but bit by bit its coming together to make my paintings in flow even more efficient and exciting. Sketchbooks have pride of place now and reference for painting is in the top draw.

Memory more than anything is important (plenty of great experiences and locations teaching students at Higham Hall at inspirational locations to utilise), and the necessary restrictions in place by the government due to the Corona virus for going outdoors, provides the opportunity to complete all those unfinished expressive paintings I'm just itching to get at!

In August at Higham Hall Lionel Playford and I will be having a great joint exhibition of our joint paintings and drawings sharing the wonderful exhibition spaces around Higham Hall. Lionel's work I admire greatly so it is with much enthusiasm that together we are having this join show together of our exciting paintings. If restrictions are lifted of course come August then the timing of our show could not be better places - a fresh start at Higham Hall with 'back to business' with vigour and energy, not just from our joint paintings!

Wishing all students at Higham Hall the very best in these unprecedented times. I will keep featuring a few 'sneak peaks' of the August exhibition and other creative news, hints and tips to share with you and keep you inspired whilst working from home.

Keep safe and well everyone.