

*'I love looking at paintings, all sorts of paintings, and it's a compulsion, something that drives me. The way I feel about looking at people's paintings, I hope people feel the same way looking at mine. It's not about reality, it's trying to make the experience of the person looking at the painting meaningful. It's an individual dialogue which you can manipulate and control by the way you compose, the way you use the material, the colour, the shapes - all those ingredients go together to create something that has relevance or meaning. It's a magical thing really and when you see it happen it's wonderful.'*

David Inshaw 2009

An in-depth full colour book on the artist David Inshaw has long been overdue. He is a distinguished painter of landscape and the figure, and his work includes some of the most immediately recognisable images of the last forty years.

David Inshaw was born in 1943 in Staffordshire, on the edge of the Black Country. The family moved to Kent when David was seven, a crucial re-location which placed him in what was then a magical valley in rural Biggin Hill. From the start he felt a kinship with the romantic vision of Samuel Palmer, who so famously painted the Shoreham valley nearby. Palmer was soon joined by Stanley Spencer as formative influences on the young Inshaw, who was already showing decided artistic talent. He went to art school locally at Beckenham and then graduated to the Royal Academy Schools where his work was strongly influenced by Pop Art.



*Chestnut Tree* 1994