

Ian Sidaway RI ASGFA

## Biography

Born in 1951 in Tamworth Staffordshire into a family of miners and clay workers. Ian studied graphic design and went on to work for a short time in advertising. He began to paint in the early 1970s and worked as a carpenter, builder and gardener in order to generate a living. Throughout the 1980s and 90s he painted portraits to commission and began to illustrate books on art technique. He went on to write and produce his own art technique books, with 32 titles written to date. There have been many contributions to various magazines on art technique and consultancy work on several art part works. For several years he taught at summer painting workshops near Arezzo in Italy. Of late work concentrates on the landscape in the UK and abroad. Water colour, oil and ink drawing are the mediums that he now favors. In 2010 he was elected a member of the Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colours and in 2024 elected an Associate member of the Society of Graphic Fine Art

## Exhibitions

The Royal Academy Summer Exhibition	Tenby Museum and Art Gallery
The Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colour	Lloyds Register
The Royal Water colour Society	Rye Art Gallery
The Royal Society of British Artists	Orleans House Gallery
Chelsea Arts society	EDS Gallery Edinburgh
The Sunday Times Water Colour Competition	Discerning Eye
The Forum Gallery Bath	The Pastel Society
West Cornwall Gallery Truro	Iona House Gallery Woodstock
Minster Gallery Winchester	
Bouchard Self Portrait competition	
BP Portrait award	

Chosen Charity The Ancient Tree Forum

I was born and raised near Tamworth in Staffordshire, and led a charmed feral childhood roaming and playing in the surrounding countryside. I climbed trees, built camps beneath them, made bows and arrows and warmed myself and cooked on campfires fueled by fallen wood and learned much about them simply by being with them. My ambition was to join the Nature Conservancy or the Forestry Commission however academic shortcomings

prevented that and I ended up at art college and a path was taken that I have never regretted. I studied design but always wanted to paint which I took up on leaving collage and have continued to make my living from for over fifty years.

And now I find myself in the studio surrounded by paintings of trees. The love affair never went away. Be they wild and growing tall or bent, broken and old. Unkempt and unruly or pampered and pruned. Growing free in the wild or proudly and stubbornly growing in our urban spaces, they remain and always will my primary subject.