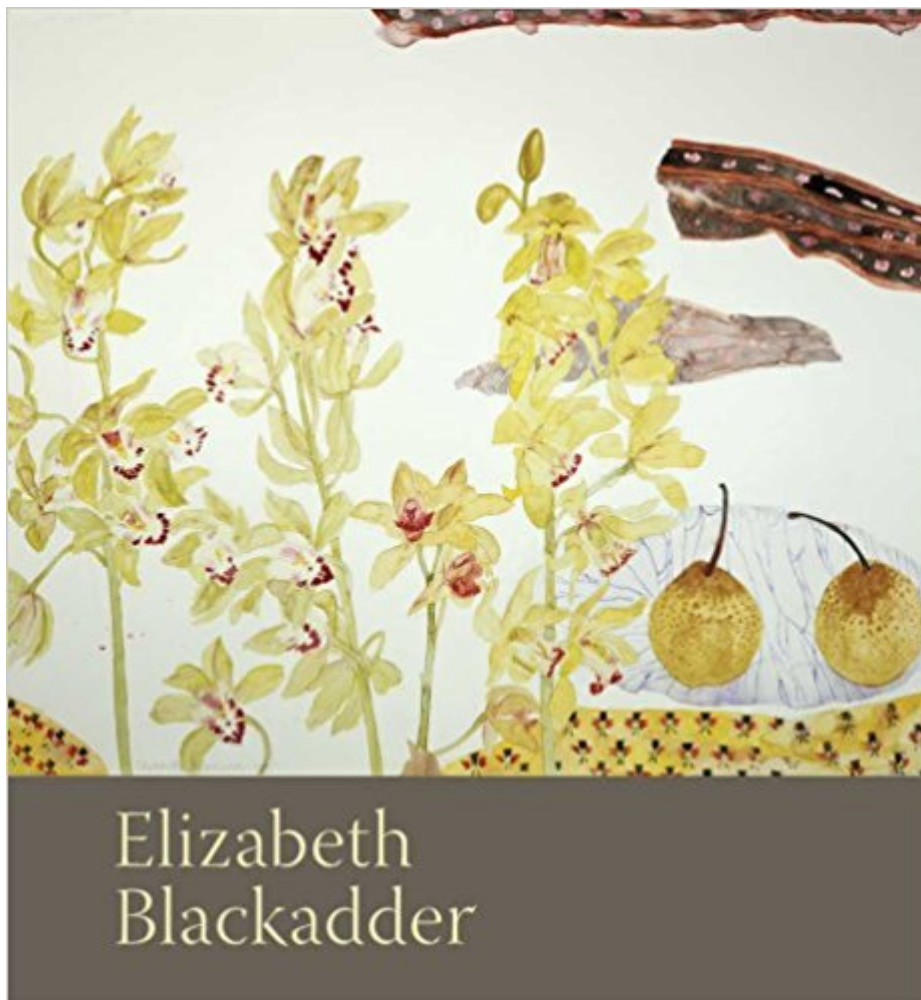


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Elizabeth Blackadder



Synopsis

Elizabeth Blackadder (b. 1931) has a gift for observing the world around her and re-creating it in her own particular style. Her intriguing paintings of plants, animals, landscapes, and still lifes have captivated viewers well beyond her native Scotland. The first woman artist to be elected to both the Royal Academy of Arts and the Royal Scottish Academy, Blackadder has explored a variety of artistic media, including drawing, oil painting, watercolors, and printmaking. Her subjects are drawn from close observation of her surroundings, such as the details of a domestic interior, the bright-hued petals of a tulip, or a view captured from her travels abroad. She sees the underlying structure, design, and color harmony in both the exotic and the everyday. Blackadder's works spring to life on the pages of this catalogue, which tells the fascinating story of her career across the past sixty years, from her early days as a student at Edinburgh College of Art, to her friendships with Scottish painters William George Gillies, William MacTaggart, and Anne Redpath, to her most recent work.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Philip Long is senior curator at the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art in Edinburgh.

Excellent overview of Scottish artist's lifetime of work in painting in oils and watercolors. And includes many examples of her printmaking. Landscapes, still lifes, animal portraits and studies of plants and flowers with interesting observations of her methods.

A very comprehensive visual and narrative view of Elizabeth Blackadder's stunning involvement through a number of stages as a creative much respected and admired painter.

This volume is a celebration of the Scottish artist Elizabeth Blackadder and provides an excellent survey of her full range of work - drawings, pastel, printmaking, watercolour and oils. There are 95+ colour illustrations of her artwork, all of good size, and many are full-page; the reproduction quality is excellent. Her subject matter includes landscapes, portraits, studies of her cats, flowers and still-life. Work from all stages of her career is represented. Her still-life work most often takes the form of a raised table-top, presented parallel to the picture plane with objects arranged to form an almost abstract design - a difficult approach to pull off, and revealing her intuitive sense of composition. Many regard her primarily as a watercolourist, but her oils have a sensitive, subtle quality and they are represented to good effect here. The text consists of essays by Philip Long and John Leighton, providing a brief biography, some background on her work and a chronology; the bulk of the book, however, consists of the illustrations. Blackadder was a much respected painting tutor at Edinburgh College of Art and is a considerable influence on Scottish mainstream painting; I've known a number of her former students over the years - she is a greatly revered figure on the UK art scene. This is a very pleasing book which will be of interest to a wide range of art enthusiasts, beautifully laid out and well illustrated, very recommendable.

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