

Outside In: Bethlem

bethlem
gallery

Outside In: Bethlem
An exhibition by Daniel and Rodney
19 August– 11 Sept 2015

Outside In: Bethlem showcases two refined yet differing perspectives on geometric form by artists Daniel and Rodney, selected for the exhibition by Simon Martin, Artistic Director at Pallant House Gallery. This is the second collaboration where the Bethlem Gallery has invited Outside In to select work from within the pool of artists working with both organisations.

When making a selection, Simon was drawn to the idea of two artists using geometric form within their work, but to different ends. Both Daniel and Rodney use linear marks to create sophisticated images, but whilst Daniel builds up complex mandala-like structures, Rodney pares back all detail to the simplest of forms.

Daniel's Metatron works form a series of drawings that all use geometric shapes, pattern, line and vivid colour. With a tightly developed methodology for constructing structures and composing forms, Daniel has created a strong visual identity for his work. *"It takes me a couple of months to do one piece, as I do it bit by bit in my own time and space,"* Daniel says. *"You can always find a face in my drawings that for me represents Archangel Metatron, accompanied by the third eye."*

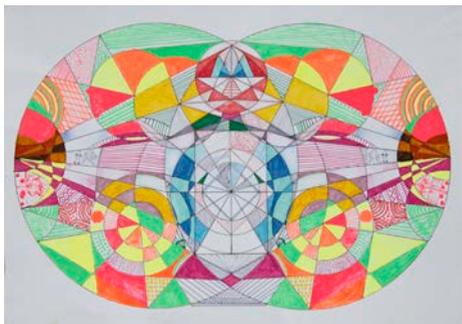
Simon says of Daniel's work: *"It has a remarkable precision and control, and yet it seems imaginatively free. The abstract forms and colours in his drawings and paintings seem to exist without reference to the physical world and they remind us that the artist can be like a shaman to the unconscious and a deeper spirituality."*

In contrast, the beautifully precise and simple forms of Rodney's monotone works come from his studies of the world around him and

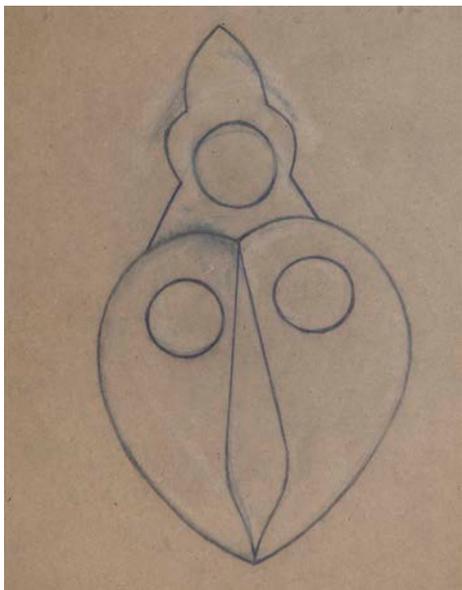
include people, interiors, guns, stereos, boxes and locks. His sophisticated process of distilling complex forms down to something more refined and elegant is carried out quietly and without any formal training. *"Rodney's drawings have a powerful simplicity,"* says Simon. *"He seems to distil the physical world down to the simplest scaffold of linear forms."*

Outside In and Bethlem Gallery have been working together for many years. Both organisations strive to develop alternative spaces and professional opportunities beyond the formal, and sometimes limited, structures within the broader art world. This exhibition combines these efforts for the second time, showing the work of two artists whose skill has much to tell us about interpreting and imagining form through line.

**Foreword by Simon Martin, Artistic Director,
Pallant House Gallery, Chichester.**



Daniel's extraordinary drawing reimagines the classical form of the Vitruvius Man, so memorably depicted in Leonardo da Vinci's image of the human body overlaid with the Golden Section. But whilst Leonardo seems to seek an ordering of form, Daniel presents the overwhelming complexity of the cosmic realm that is perhaps not immediately apparent to human eye. The discs, radiating arcs and crystalline shapes provide a structure within his drawings for pattern, bold colour and line, creating a psychic form that is both abstract and, on one level, figurative.



Within the collection at Pallant House Gallery is a etching of abstract curved lines by the modern artist Jean Arp. The simplicity of form in Rodney's drawings has something of the Arp's clarity of expression, but what is remarkable is that he has reached this without reference to the traditions of art, to Surrealism or abstraction. Instead these drawings have more of an intuitive quality - reminding me of tribal art, or undefinable objects. There is both a sophisticated paring down to the essence of form, and a primitive totemic power.

Artwork

Daniel

Little Metatron Love

2015

Felt tip and coloured pencil on paper
NFS

Pink Metatronic Circuit

2014

Felt tip, coloured pencil, gouache, water
colour on paper
£777.77

Pink Metatronic Circuit 2

2015

Gouache, coloured pencil and felt tip on paper
NFS

Archangel Metatron "Vitruvius Man"

2014

Felt tip and coloured pencil on paper
NFS

Archangel Metatron 1

Felt tip and coloured pencil on paper
2012
NFS

Archangel Metatron 2

Felt tip and coloured pencil on paper
2013
NFS

Archangel Metatronic Circuit 1

2015

Felt tip, coloured pencil and water colour on
paper
NFS

Rodney

Untitled works 1 - 16, reversible

2014-2015

Pencil on board
NFS

About the Artists

Daniel

The Metatron works form a series of drawings that all use geometric shapes, lines and vivid colour. With a tightly developed methodology for constructing structures and composing forms, Daniel has created a strong visual identity for his work.

"It takes me a couple of months to do one piece as I do it bit by bit in my own time and space. You can always find a face in my drawings that for me represents Archangel Metatron, accompanied by the third eye. Through the drawing process I connect to a higher level of consciousness and channel those energies into the patterns and mandalas that I create.

'Archangel Metatron' is the highest archangel in the angelic realm, Metatron is not as well known as the archangels Gabriel or Michael, but is mentioned in many books, like the books of Enoch, and more recently the film 'Dogma'. 'Archangel Metatron' has been my guardian angel throughout my life.

I have researched into historic texts and artwork and draw inspiration from their knowledge. The seal of Solomon features a lot in my work this hexagram is present in all religions but my interest in it stems from it representing the Merkaba which is a celestial vehicle that everyone possesses. My goal is to bring this great angel to peoples' hearts and minds.

I like the thought that my work can educate people and bring joy to people, and it's important for me to maintain the integrity of my work.

I'd like to thank the Bethlem Gallery and Outside In for helping me in my journey."

Rodney

The beautifully precise and simple forms of Rodney's work come from his studies of the world around him, such as people, rooms, mechanisms, boxes and locks. His sophisticated process of distilling complex forms down to something more refined and elegant is carried out quietly and without any formal training.

Events

27 August

Outside In Surgery Day

10:30am - 4pm

Do you want to create an online gallery for your work? Outside In is running a Surgery Day at the Bethlem Gallery to enable artists to create online galleries with the project, meaning they can showcase their work online, submit to our regional and national exhibitions, make use of our news and events page, and contact the Outside In team for advice on artistic development.

The sessions are one-to-one and last for one hour. During the sessions, you will be able to upload up to five images of your work and your artist statement. You can come along with a carer, support worker or family member if preferable.

To book your place, please RSVP to info@bethlemgallery.com

28 August

Workshop with Daniel

2 - 3pm

Join artist Daniel for this calming and meditative workshop that takes inspiration from his spiritual geometric artworks. You will explore geometric shapes, lines and bright colours to create organic and playful mandalas.

To book your place, please RSVP to info@bethlemgallery.com or visit our [Eventbrite page](#)

29 August

Outside In: Bethlem Discussion

3 - 4pm

Come along for an informal discussion around line, form and colour in artists' work and the importance this has to them and their wellbeing. Joining us will be artists Daniel (whose work is in the exhibition) and John Jennings, whose playful works contain deep meaning.

To book your place, please RSVP to info@bethlemgallery.com or visit our [Eventbrite page](#)

Thanks

With special thanks to Daniel, Rodney, Jennifer Gilbert, Kate Davey, Hannah Whitlock, Marc Steene, Simon Martin, Outside In, and Pallant House Gallery.

To view more of the artists work featured in this exhibition, please visit our websites:

www.bethlemgallery.com

www.outsidein.org.uk

Outside In



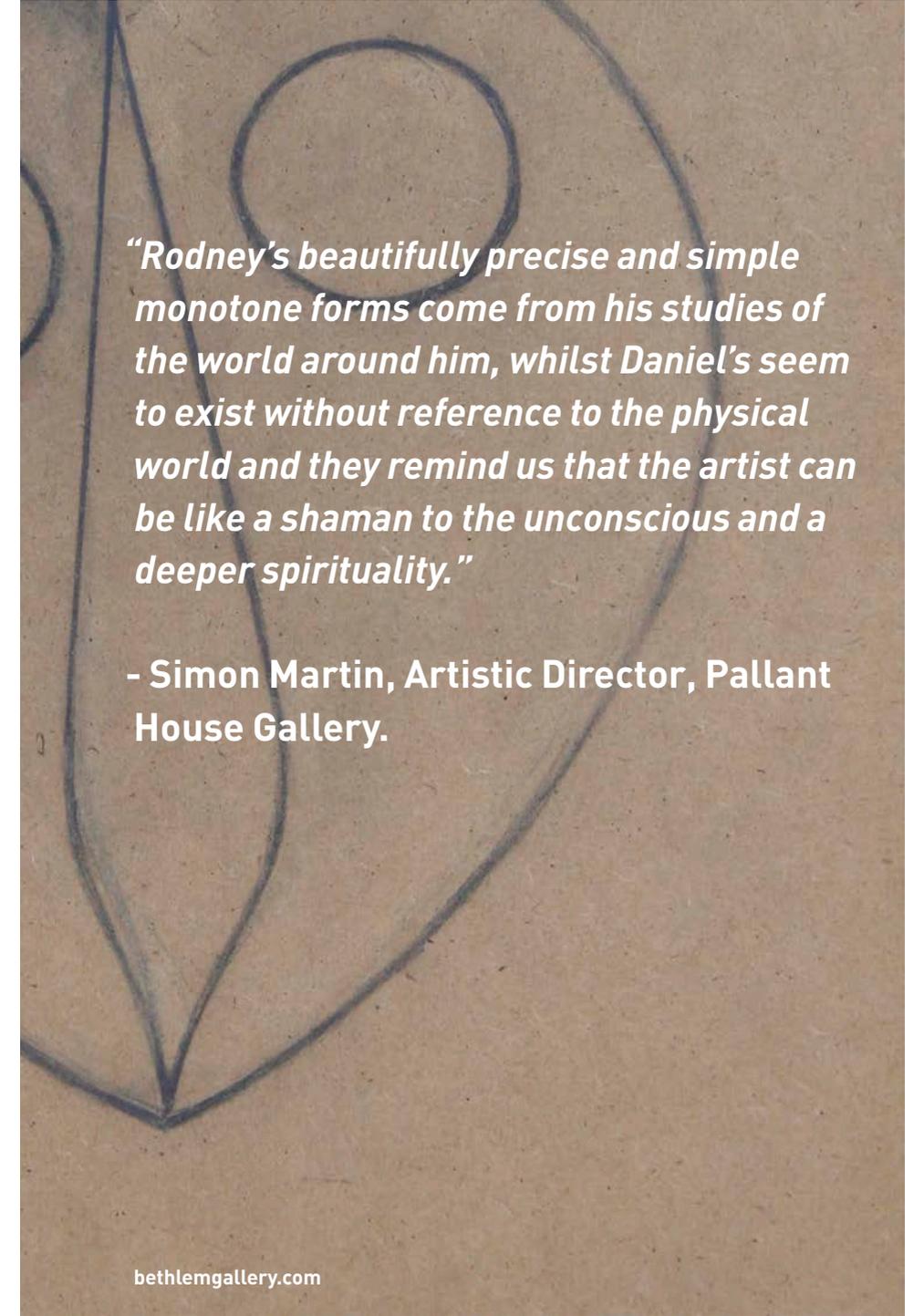
Founded by Pallant House Gallery, Chichester, in 2006, Outside In provides a platform for artists who define themselves as facing barriers to the art world due to health, disability, social circumstance or isolation. The goal of the project is to create a fairer art world which rejects traditional values and institutional judgements about whose work can and should be displayed.

This exhibition is part of a larger series of regional, national and international events organised by Outside In in collaboration with various partner organisations.

**PALLANT
HOUSE
GALLERY**



The Roddick Foundation



“Rodney’s beautifully precise and simple monotone forms come from his studies of the world around him, whilst Daniel’s seem to exist without reference to the physical world and they remind us that the artist can be like a shaman to the unconscious and a deeper spirituality.”

- Simon Martin, Artistic Director, Pallant House Gallery.