Art of the Book

BOOK ILLUSTRATION ART ~ SIGNED & RARE BOOKS

John Huddy,
Founder
Kensington
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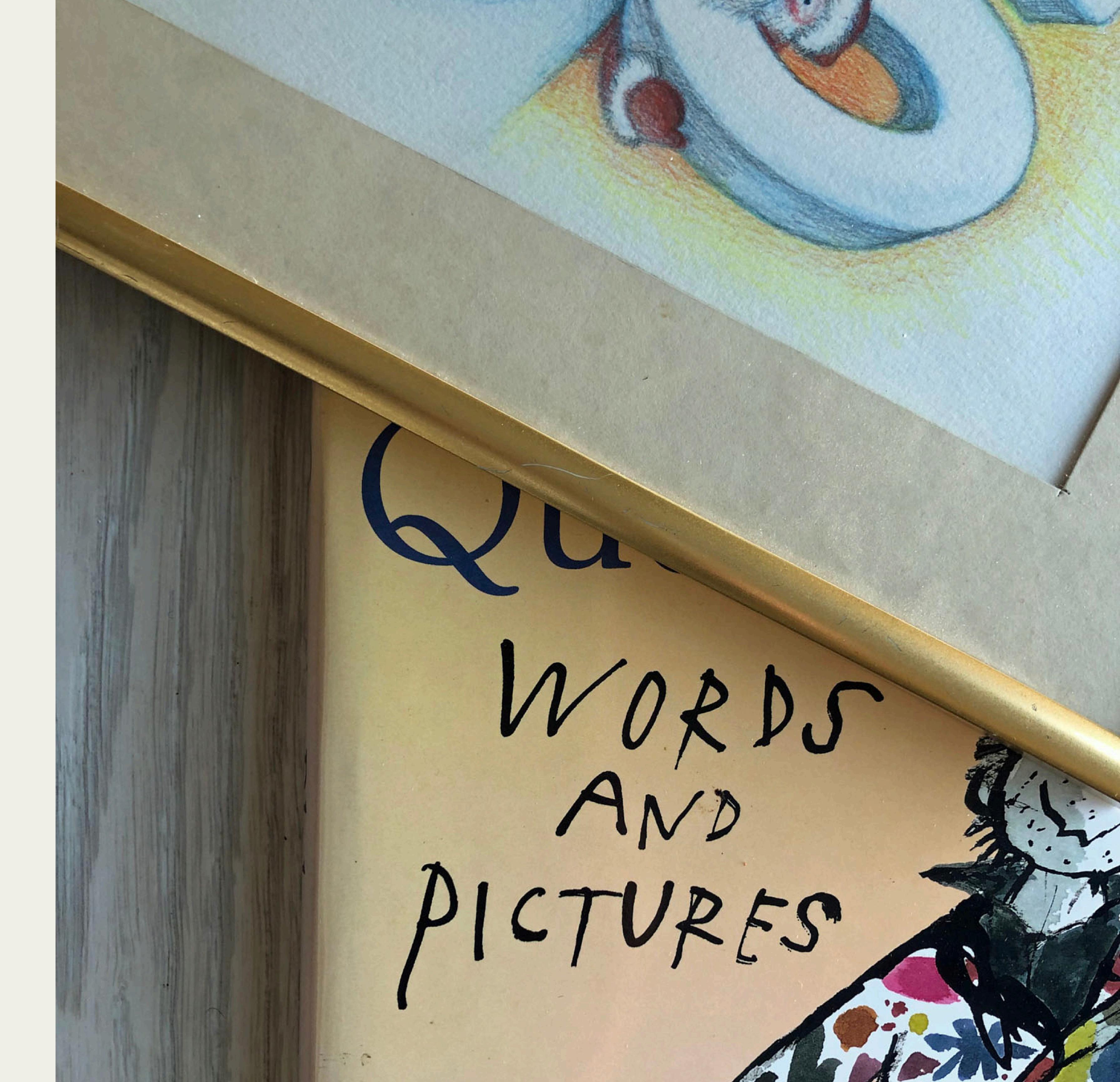
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Bringing an exciting field of art appreciation to the world

Art Of The Book is a leading specialist in the field of modern and contemporary book illustration. With thirty years of experience founder, John Huddy, has been instrumental in bringing this hitherto under-rated area of art appreciation to the fore, casting light on the achievements of established as well as emerging talent, in this most exciting and creative field of artistic endeavour.

Working with collectors, publishers and museums worldwide, John has curated hundreds of exhibitions, reaching a diverse global audience. His broad knowledge and contacts in the international art world allows him to offer unrivalled advice on collecting, sales, valuations, representation, estate management and diverse gallery services.





Events and Exhibitions Worldwide

John has worked with many of the world's leading book illustrators and animation film-makers. Drawing on their rich resource of talent, he has curated solo and group shows, both static and touring. His twenty years of art experience owning and managing a three-floor gallery space in St James's, central London, has given him strong entrepreneurial expertise of retail ownership, in one of the most famous art districts on the planet.

Connecting books with original artwork, these exhibitions not only offer collectors an opportunity to acquire rare and valuable artwork, but also provide an educative experience for children and students alike, offering encouragement and knowledge to a younger audience, perpetuating this unique industry, touching the hearts of families worldwide.

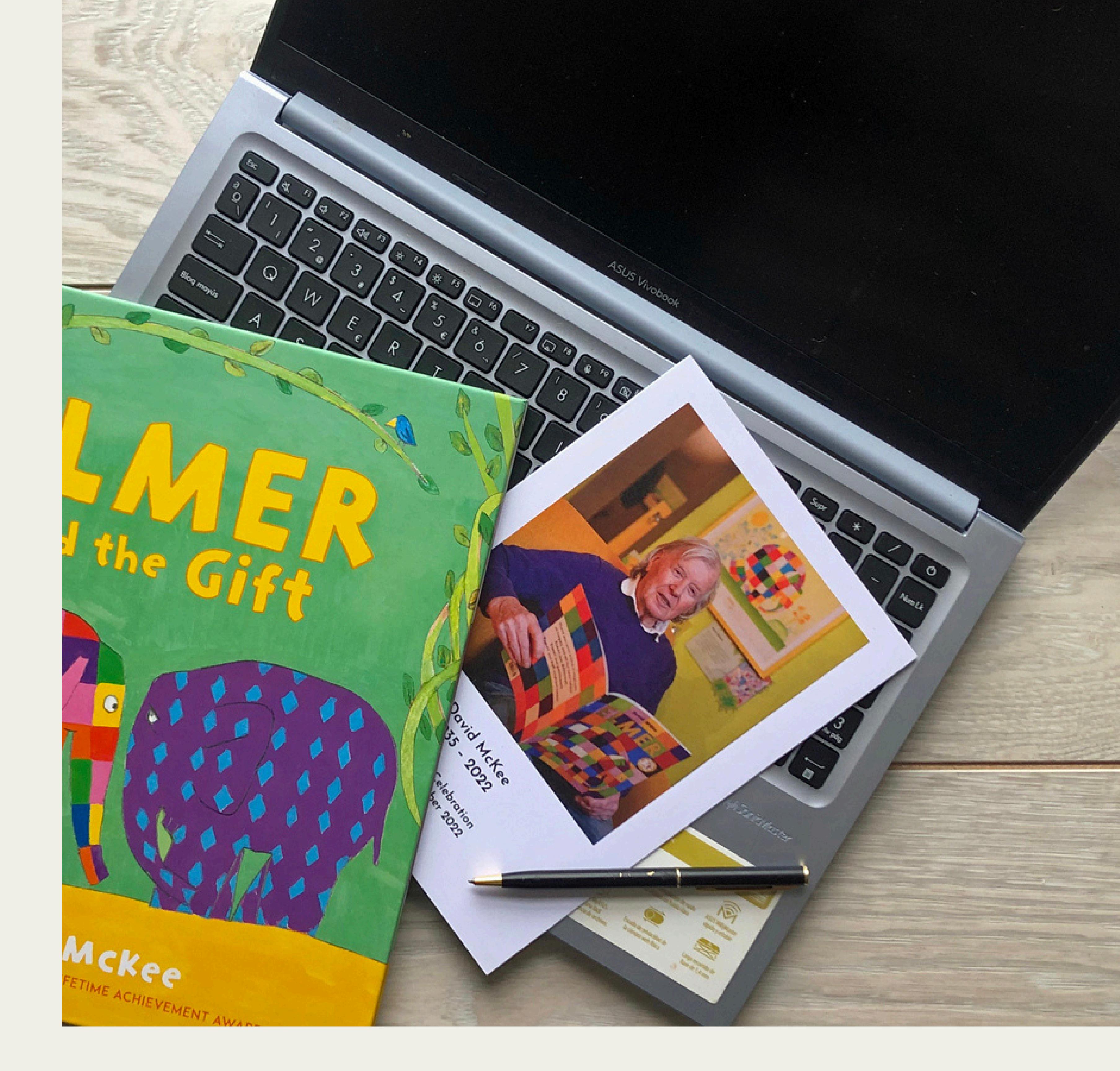




Working with Artists and Estates

With his extensive experience and network of contacts John, over many years, has worked with hundreds of artists worldwide, all of whom have published books in the UK. Representing them with their original artwork, managing expections, discussing and tailoring a coherent plan for presentation, curation, promotion and publicity with a view to raising awareness of their books, artwork and their profile on a world stage.

Working with a wide network of leading industry professionals, John has enabled the aspirations of individual artists, as well as families and estates of artists deceased, to achieve target goals. Assisting well-established names and also supporting younger emerging talent, many of whom have now become household names in their own right.



Advisory

Hand in Hand With Creatives

One of the most enjoyable aspects of John's role with *Art Of The Book* is working with and assisting artists, collectors, institutions and families, who have benefited from inheritance, with an often large corpus of artwork amassed over a lifetime of hard work.

Artists, being busy creatives often in demand, have little time to consider and manage the care and planning of their estates. This is an area in which John has specialised - assisting them in looking to the future, and understanding the great value, financial and cultural, of their *oeuvre*.



Une histoire à quatre voix montre de tels huments silencie les arbres crient en chœur et le journal du afficie reproduction du tableau d'Edvard Munch Le Crient au detresse, quelles qu'en soient les causes, produit des effets communs.

La solitude

"J'imagine que cela a quelque chose à voir avec ma propre expérience d'enfant, bien que j'aie grandi dans un environnement familial chaleureux et que je ne me souvienne pas de m'être senti seul souvent. Je n'ai certainement été seul que très rarement."

Solitude et délaissement affectif

Ag Valuations

Forging A New Market Worldwide

British book publishing is one of our most thriving national industries, respected throughout the world. Although the field of collecting contemporary book illustration is, to some degree, a relatively new area of the international art market, this work is now increasingly sought-after by major institutions, corporate art collections and individual enthusiasts. Establishing realistic and correct market values for artists and collectors alike is an all-important undertaking at *Art Of The Book*.

John has assisted many leading artists, estates and collectors, performing valuations of artwork for sale, insurance, probate and bequests. He has worked with a number of key artists in assisting them with the Acceptance In Lieu scheme, offering their life's work to the nation through donatation to major museums via *The Arts Council*.





Imagine: Illustrating Stories, Vanner Gallery, 2022

Hosted by and a joint venture with *The Vanner Gallery*, a leading contemporary art space, this group exhibition featured thirty of today's best-known and most widely-published authors and illustrators from around the world. In the fifty paintings, drawings and engravings on display there were some of the most distinguished illustrators, including Eric Carle, Anthony Browne, Raymond Briggs, Lauren Child and Quentin Blake.

This exhibition ran for over four months, with regular events including evening lectures, artist and author book signings as well as school visits. Alongside the sale of paintings there was a gallery bookshop, with signed books on sale, of which the original work was on display.



As Exhibitions Europe

Towers and Tales: The Lismore Story Festival, 2024

The beautiful and ancient grounds of Lismore Castle in Ireland has become the home for the wonderful *Towers and Tales - The Lismore Story Festival*.

Founded by *Tir Na Nog* illustrator (Children's Laureate) Niamh Sharkey, Lord Burlington and John Huddy in 2014, this annual festival has become one of Ireland's leading book events, attracting the best authors and illustrators from Ireland, and around the world.

This year saw the 10th anniversary, with record attendance by families from all over the country and beyond, flocking to attend the two-day celebration of children's literature.

EXHIBITION ~ LECTURES ~ WORKSHOPS ~ FREE EVENTS ~ CAFE ~ MERCHANDISING ~ EDUCATION



As Selected Exhibitions in Asia

British Illustration, Touring Exhibition with Books Illustrated, Australia and Tasmania 2010-2012

The Magical Kingdom of Illustrations: Hong Kong, 2012

Permanent Exhibition: GrowHouse, Joint Gallery with Growhouse Education, 2017 - 2019

The Illustrationcupboard Collection, Dongdaemun Design Plaza, Seoul 2017

The Art Of Maurice Sendak, with Kyuryudo Art Publishing, Bunkamura Centre, Tokyo, 2017

The Garden of Anita Jeram, with Kyurudo Art Pubishing, Bunkamura Centre, Tokyo, 2018

The World of Shaun Tan, with Kyuryudo Art Publishing, Chihiro Art Museum, Touring Exhibition, 2019-2021



As Dongdaemun Plaza, Seoul,

Contemporary British Book Illustration, The Illustrationcupboard Gallery Collection

A comprehensive display of the best of original book illustration and film animation artwork from the *Illustrationcupoard Gallery* collection. Assisted by the South Korean museum, *Citizens For Children's Book Art*, the display was part of a unique and inaugural art event at the impressive Dongdaemun Design Plaza.

Thirty artists were represented with an exhibit of over fifty pieces. John was asked to give a number of short lectures about the collection to keen South Korean collectors and enthusiasts.

EXHIBITION ~ BOOKSHOP ~ CAFE ~ EDUCATION ~ LECTURES



As The World of Shaun Tan, Japan

Working in association with Kyuryudo Art Publishing, Tokyo, Art of The Book was delighted to co-present this two-year travelling exhibition, a groundbreaking first for multi-award winner Shaun Tan.

Launched at the prestigious Chihiro Musuem of Illustration, this touring loan exhibition introduced, for the first time, the art and books of Shaun Tan to a Japanese audience.

Hosted by five museums around the country, the exhibition achieved record-breaking attendance, proving to be an event of national interest attracting strong media attention. Shaun Tan has now gone on to become a leading figure in the Japanese contemporary art world.

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As Exhibition for 2025

John Burningham (1936-2019) and Helen Oxenbury A Marriage of Talent and Imagination

"John Burningham, one of the greatest book illustrators of this century - his work is completely original, unlike anything before or since" - Raymond Briggs

John Burningham broke the mould, being one of the first artists to adopt the technological advances of full-page colour printing in the early 1960s.

With unrivalled access to the Burningham estate, an exhibition, never before assembled, of John Burningham's artwork, with that of his wife and commensurate talent, Helen Oxenbury, can be arranged. With artwork, books, personal correspondance and memorabilia, this exhibition would be a fascinating and unique insight into the working lives of two of the greatest names in picture book publishing.



As Exhibition for 2025

The Best of British Book Illustration

Drawing on John's many contacts and experience in the world of British-published book illustration, this exhibition will feature over thirty artists, from some of the most famous names of the modern era to younger emerging talent, breaking new ground. Original artwork exhibited alongside published books will delight and educate a diverse audience of all ages.

MAURICE SENDAK ~ WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE, ERIC CARLE ~ THE HUNGRY CATERPILLAR, QUENTIN BLAKE ~ ROALD DAHL, DICK BRUNA ~ MIFFY, AXEL SCHEFFLER ~ THE GRUFFALO, ANTHONY BROWNE ~ GORILLA, DAVID MCKEE ~ ELMER THE ELEPHANT, ANITA JERAM ~ GUESS HOW MUCH I LOVE YOU, NEIL PACKER ~ THE ODYSSEY, EDWARD ARDIZZONE ~ ANGELA BARRETT ~ SNOW WHITE, THE DRAGON, JILL MURPHY ~ ALL IN ONE PIECE, SHAUN TAN ~ THE ARRIVAL, MAURICE SENDAK ~ WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE, JOHN VERNON LORD ~ ALICE IN WONDERLAND, JOHN LAWRENCE ~ HIS DARK MATERIALS, SHIRLEY HUGHES ~ ALFIE, OLIVER JEFFERS ~ HOW TO CATCH A STAR, BRIAN WILDSMITH ~ THE ARABIAN NIGHTS





Contact Us



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AB Thank you!

We would be delighted to work with you

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