

Osbourne, James

James Osborne 1907 – 1979

Born in Sussex, the son of a Scots farmer who had moved South. He spent much of his early life in the countryside of his parents' farm, watching and sketching wildlife of every kind. Osborne studied at Hastings School of Art, from which he won a scholarship to the Sculpture School of the Royal College of Art. In the last term of his final year he switched to the Print School, then under the direction of Malcolm Osborne, and showed such talent that he won the Prix de Rome in engraving.

From 1932 he worked as a teacher in the Art department at Regent Street Polytechnic. He produced many early pencil sketches of farmyard scenes and horses at work and play. These were later used in his engravings and other print work. Until 1986 they had never been seen in public and yet are amongst his most creative works. Osborne was elected an ARE in 1946 and a Fellow in 1957. A founder member of the Society of Wildlife Artists.

Exhibitions Include: Royal Academy