

In the studio

Simon Pooley

You're as likely to find this artist on the dance floor as in the studio

Age 53 **Paints** Abstracted landscapes **Media** Mixed **Current projects** A solo show at Badcocks Gallery in spring and a show with the Newlyn Society of Artists at the RWA in Bristol in May **Favorite artists** Ken Spooner, Archie Dunbar McInosh

fact
file



Have you always been an artist?

Recently, I have been teaching Argentine Tango and I was a practising architect from 1980 until 1992, but I've always painted and seem to have had a pencil in my hand for most of my life... well, not when I'm dancing!

Where do you get your inspiration?

Almost anything I've seen or experienced that has caught my imagination. It could be an eccentric pose adopted by our cat or a china clay pit caught in the warm, even light of dusk.

How important is being in Cornwall to you as an artist?

The incredible colours in the light are the impulse for my work. Sometimes it feels as though I am borrowing a creative energy that is emerging from the ground.

Describe your studio for us

I designed and built it myself. It's a large insulated, timber-framed building with lots of natural light and panoramic views of the sea. I'm not sure which I enjoyed most - building it or working in it.

What are you most proud of achieving as an artist?

I haven't achieved much yet. But I am proud of the respect generously offered to me by other painters.

What do you do in your spare time?

Tango dancing, making or building things - especially with recycled timber - and acting the fool with our dog, Monty.

Info New paintings by Simon Pooley can be seen at Mid-Cornwall Galleries, St Blazey Gate, Par, this month. Call 01726 812131 or visit www.mid-cornwall-galleries.co.uk for more details.

Painting Crabbers in Blue by Simon Pooley



© Photographs by Simon Cook

