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Patrick Collins HRHA (1910-1994)

THE PENITENT THIEF, 1988

oil on canvas

signed and dated lower centre; with inscribed Caldwell Galleries label on reverse

30 by 25in. (76.20 by 63.50cm)

Provenance:

Caldwell Galleries;

Whence purchased by Vincent Ferguson;

Private collection

Exhibited:

'Patrick Collins', Caldwell Galleries, Dublin, until 30 November 1989, no. 6; 'Patrick Collins', Clifford Street Fine Art, London, 6 February to 3 March 1990 (illustrated on front cover of exhibition catalogue & backcover of private viewing invite); 'Patrick Collins HRHA, Last Daylight, the late cut-out paintings of Patrick Collins', RHA, Dublin, 14 January – 27 March 2011 (illustrated p.22 of exhibition catalogue)

The recent RHA exhibition of Collins' 'cut outs' in 2011 brought into focus this controversial series from the mid-eighties. While these works show the artist employing a new technique, the brutal cutting of canvas with a scissors, they tie in with his earlier preoccupation of relating the painted image to the edge of the picture plane. For earlier works by the artist see lots 6 and 9.

"Someone once asked me why didn't I teach – pass on my experience to somebody else? In reply, I said I would have to start by saying, I can teach you nothing because I know nothing and that's after a lifetime of working for artistic completion, reading, writing, researching, discussing and observing. I broke all the rules in an effort to get at the truth of something and landed back on my own two feet with the conclusion that nobody else knows anything either. So there are no teachers, no pundits, only yourself.

I started by trying to wed the thing and some hidden meaning of it and instinctively demanding a shape that overall accommodated both. Now I've arrived at a logical development of this idea with the blanks substituting or suggesting what I didn't know."

Patrick Collins, from the exhibition catalogue to his solo show at the Caldwell Galleries, Dublin, November, 1989

€3,000-€4,000 (£2,459-£3,278 approx).



38

Barrie Cooke HRHA (b.1931)

DIDYMO, N.Z.I., 2006

oil on canvas

signed, titled, dated and with artist's archival number [BC28506] on reverse; with typed Kerlin Gallery exhibition label also on reverse 27.50 by 33.50in. (69.85 by 85.09cm)

Provenance:

Kerlin Gallery, Dublin;

Private collection

Exhibited:

'Barrie Cooke', Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, 5 May - 3 June 2006

The Kerlin exhibition in 2006 marked the artist's 75th birthday and featured several reoccurring themes in his oeuvre. The present work represent his preoccupation with water pollution and an algae called Didymosphenia geminata discovered in New Zealand in 2004.

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