Image: Carl Chapel at his studio in Wales.

Originally from Dartmoor in the southwest of England (b.1968), after studying painting at St Martin's School of Art, London, Carl lived and worked abroad for a number of years, including time in Greece, Turkey, the Czech Republic and Italy, where he drew a great deal and developed further his interest in Classical and Renaissance painting and sculpture.

Returning to the UK in the mid-90s, Carl joined several South London life drawing groups, and began working almost exclusively from the figure. Since moving to South Wales in 2003 he has continued to work from life, initially from the nude, though from around 2012 focusing more on portraiture - working with musicians, actors, comedians and other stage performers. In 2016 Carl began collaborating with dancers, drawing on his background in both portraiture and figure painting, and for the first time concerning himself with movement.

As artist in residence with Ballet Cymru, Carl has been working with dancers in theatres, rehearsal studios and in his painting studio since 2017.

frontofbicycle Gallery

Images:frontofbicycle Gallery - Exhibition - Rheinsprung 1, Basel CH-4051 - 2019.

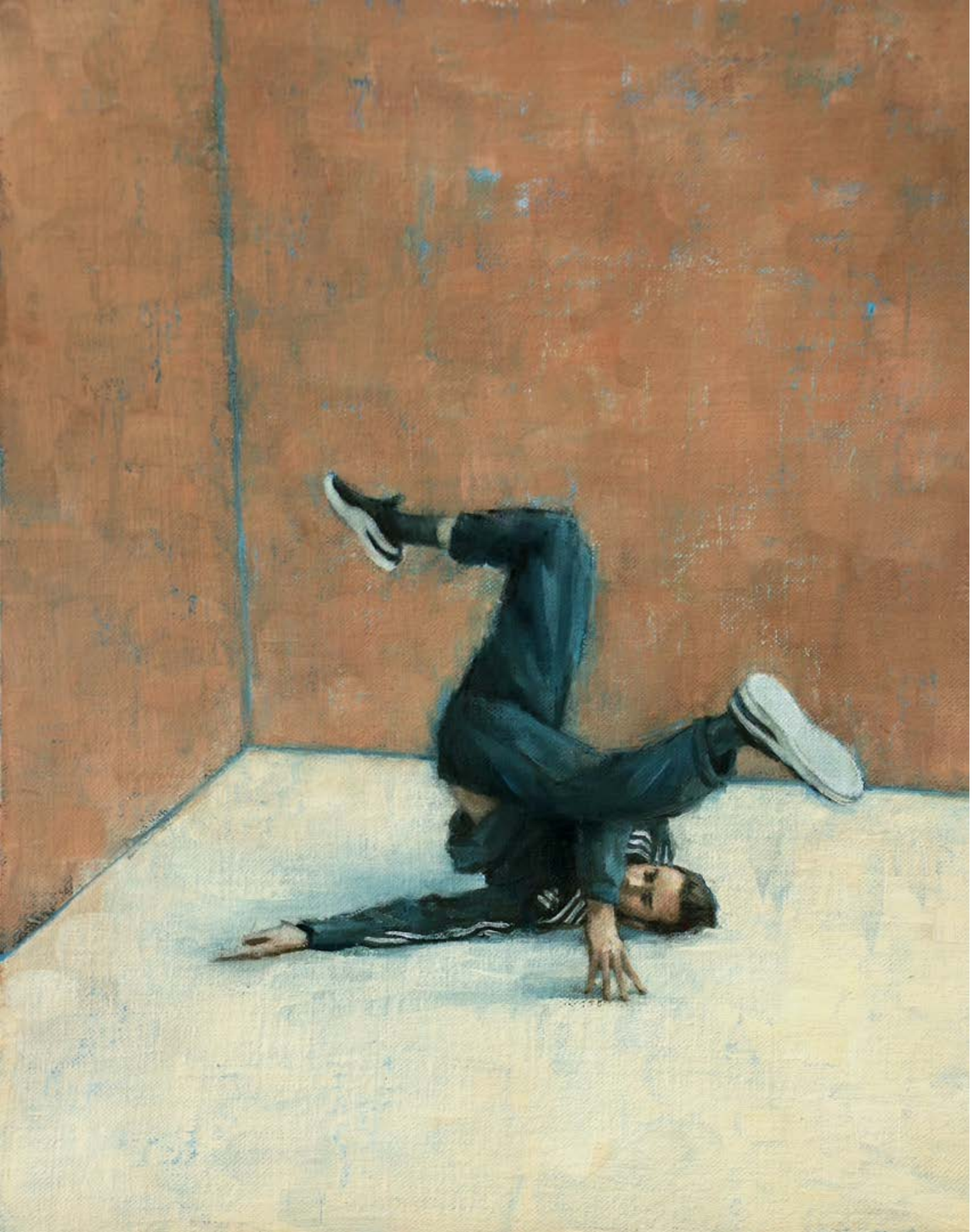
Romy Adair, Ballet Cymru©.

Carl Chapple

30 x 23 cm

Oil on Panel

CHF 1,200



Aiden Shiels©.

Carl Chapple

30 x 23 cm

Oil on Panel

CHF 1,200

Oliver Roberson, James Wilton Dance©.

Carl Chapple

30 x 23 cm

Oil on Panel

CHF 1,200

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2020 - Albany Gallery, Cardiff
2019 - Painting Dance, Wales Millennium Centre, Cardiff (supported by Arts Council of Wales)
2019 - Painting Dance, Ffin y Parc Gallery, Conwy (supported by Arts Council of Wales)
2018 - A Thousand Words, Waterstones, Bloomsbury, London
2018 - Ffin y Parc Gallery, Conwy
2017 - Well Thumbed (Edinburgh Fringe), Whitespace Gallery, Edinburgh
2017 - Ffin y Parc Gallery, Conwy
2015 - Sŵn Festival, Abacus, Cardiff
2015 - Portraits, Waterloo Gardens, Penarth and Cardiff
2014 - Portraits of Performers, Riverfront Arts Centre, Newport
2014 - Portraits of Performers, Penarth Pier Pavilion, Penarth (supported by the Arts Council of Wales and Machynlleth Comedy Festival)
2014 - Portraits of Performers, Museum of Modern Art Cymru, Machynlleth
2014 - Green Man Performers, Hwyl, Cecil Sharpe House, London
2012 - Portraits of Musicians, locations across Cardiff, Sŵn Festival Fringe
2011 - Portraits and Nudes, Waterloo Gardens Teahouse, Cardiff
2011 - Recent Portraits, Oriel Celfi, Swansea
2010 - Paintings from Life, Wales Millennium Centre, Cardiff
2008 - Denise Yapp Contemporary Art, Monmouth
2007 - Museum of Modern Art Cymru, Machynlleth
2007 - Twelve Paintings, The Senedd, Cardiff

Selected Group Exhibitions

2017-21 Ffin y Parc Gallery, Conwy
2020 Discerning Eye, Mall Galleries, London (winner of Chair's Purchase Prize)
2017-21 Royal Cambrian Academy, Conwy
2018/19 - frontofbicycle Gallery, Basel, Switzerland
2017/18 - Kooywood Gallery, Cardiff
2017 - Museum of Modern Art Cymru, Machynlleth
2016 - FreeHaus, Llandudno (residency exhibition)
2009/10/16 - Denise Yapp Contemporary Art, Monmouthshire
2014/15 - Abacus Gallery, Cardiff
2015 - Royal Society of Portrait Painters, Mall Galleries, London
2006/11/12/13 - Welsh Artist of the Year exhibition, St David's Hall, Cardiff
2007/10/11 - The Albany Gallery, Cardiff
2011 - BigLittleCity, The Old Library, Cardiff
2010 - Attic Gallery, Swansea
2010 - The Dairy, Cardiff
2006 - Oriel Tri, Penarth
2003 - Llewellyn Alexander Gallery, London
2002 - Discerning Eye, Mall Galleries, London
2000 - Blenheim Studios, London
1992 - Art Parcels, Frost and Reed Gallery, London

Residencies & Representation

Member of the Royal Cambrian Academy Represented by Ffin y Parc Gallery, Conwy

2018 - present - International Guest Artist in Residence, frontofbicycle Gallery, Basel
2017 - present - Artist in residence, Ballet Cymru
2016 - Associate, Culture Action Llandudno - FreeHaus project, Llandudno

contact@frontofbicycle.com