

summerhill news



1921–2021

CELEBRATING A CENTURY

A.S. NEILL'S
SUMMERHILL SCHOOL

Centenary Special Bulletin!!

No.32 April 2023

Dear Friends of Summerhill,

What a busy few years Summerhill has had with its very long and drawn-out 100th birthday celebrations. First it was more or less cancelled by the pandemic, though we did manage to have a small and lovely birthday party at school in July, complete with a cake shaped like a 100.



So, the reunion which should have been in 2021 had to be postponed until 2022. It was a huge and happy affair with many people pushing the boat out to make the effort to come, even though travel was still not easy and costs were rising at an alarming rate.

After the reunion there was the Summerhill Festival of Childhood which was very well attended with people from over 47 countries and a total of over a thousand. This was held in a field near to the

school. I was personally touched by the number of people who took the bus trips to the school even though it was holiday time – just to go there and get a feel of the place. The team of volunteers worked so hard to make it all run smoothly and, although exhausting, it was just wonderful.

After that there was an art exhibition in London at the Institute of Education with Summerhill old pupil's work. It was really well presented and there was some fantastic work on view.

And now the final part of the celebrations is to be an auction of some of the work from the exhibition. I do hope that many of you will go online and have a look and that perhaps you will feel like buying something or able to share the information with others. It will be an online auction as well and so available all over the world. Funds raised will help the A.S.Neill Summerhill Trust to assist more pupils with bursaries.

Although things are tight and our numbers have been fluctuating more than usual, we are already looking forward to the Summer term – those wonderful days in Never-Never-Land....

Wishing you all a good 2023 and your own wonderful summer.

Love,

Zoë

SALE OF VALUABLE MODERN ART **IN AID OF A.S.NEILL'S** **SUMMERHILL SCHOOL**

At Mander Auctioneers
Sudbury, Suffolk.

10am Friday, April 21st, 2023 & online.

Valuable artworks donated by nine former students at A S Neill's Summerhill School, who went on to have successful careers in the arts across half a century, are up for auction on Friday, April 21, 2023.

The students were at the world-famous Summerhill School between the 1930s and the 1990s and they or their families said it was their education at Summerhill which helped them in their later successful careers in the arts. This charity fundraiser is the last in a series of the school's centenary celebrations (1921-2021) and will raise money for school bursaries.

Work by the iconic rock album cover designer Storm Thorgerson (he did the Pink Floyd's cover for 'Dark Side of the Moon'); by John Burningham the much-loved children's author and illustrator; and by the important British figurative artist Evelyn Williams are among the Lots going under the hammer at Mander Auctioneers in Sudbury, Suffolk. The sale of these 11 Lots is expected to raise well over £5,000.

The other former Summerhillians giving work are: Peter Chadwick, artist and photographer; Keith Critchlow, artist, lecturer and Professor of Architecture; Mikey Cuddihy, artist and author; Roger Dwek, ceramic artist; Ishbel McWhirter, artist, and Nao Matsunaga, artist.

If you want to bid (in advance or on the day) for any of the artworks, you must first register on the Mander website - simply follow their instructions.

See Lots 50-60 in the Mander Auctioneers Catalogue for 10am, Fri. April 21 at:

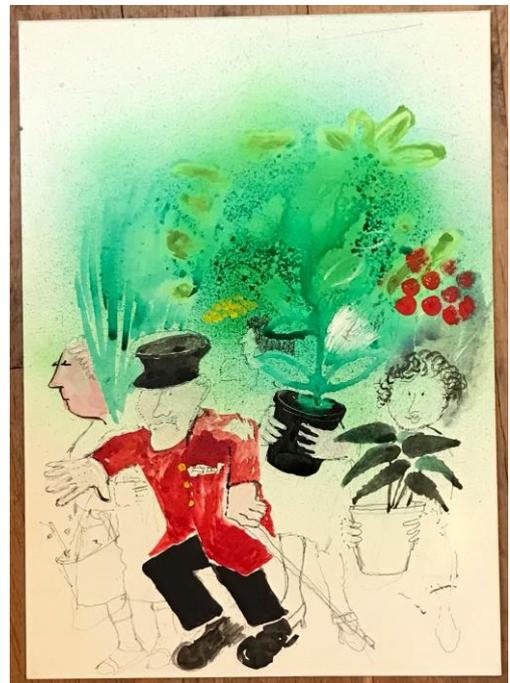
<https://bid.manderauctions.co.uk/auction/details/0029-two-day-fine-art-and-interiors/?au=31&pn=2&g=1>

See below for full list of artworks.

1. John Burningham 1936-2019 - author and illustrator

‘Study for Chelsea Pensioners, Chelsea Flower Show’, 1990, for 1992 book ‘England’

Mixed media on board, 36cm x 26cm, unframed and unsigned.

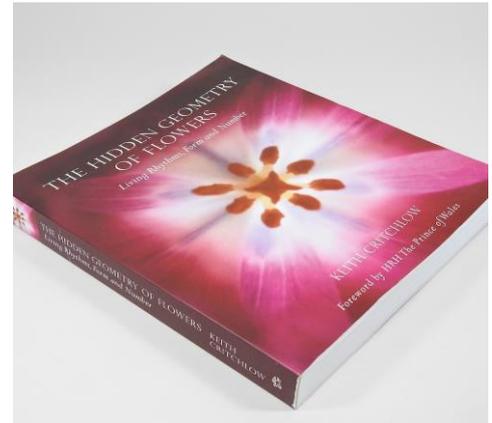


2. Peter Chadwick 1948 - artist and photographer

Framed photo ‘River Blyth at Southwold Harbour’, 2004. 54cm x 44cm.

3. Keith Critchlow 1933-2020 - artist, lecturer, author, Prof of Architecture -

A copy of Keith Critchlow's book, 'Hidden Geometry of Flowers' with personal inscription from Gail Critchlow.



Two limited-edition, A3, framed prints (32cm x 42cm) 2011, from this book;



4. Mikey Cuddihy 1952 - artist and author

Pandemic Pillow, 'America's Bad Soup', 2020. 48cm x 55cm x 7cm newsprint & printed paper, pleated, padded & stapled.





5. Roger Dwek 1962 - ceramic artist

Ceramic installation, 'Fountain of Knowledge'. 2022.

One large bowl (Summerhill) + 100 little bowls (the centenary). 35cm width, 60cm length.

6. Ishbel McWhirter 1927 – artist

Painting, 'Black and Purple Tulips', 2004. 66cm x 48cm.



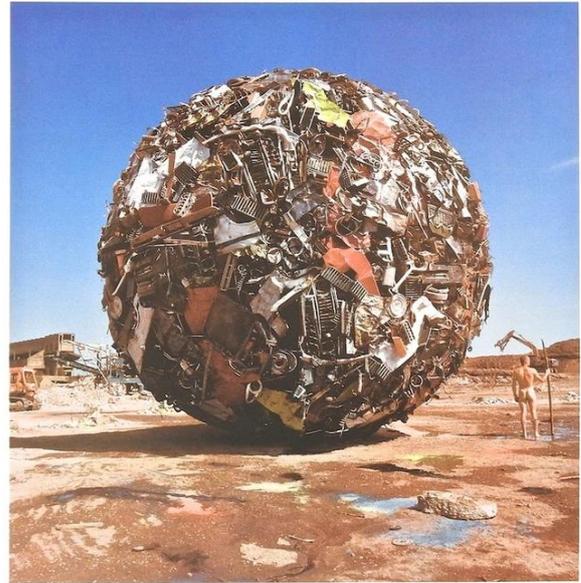
7. Nao Matsunaga 1980 – artist

Acrylic paint, ink and pencil on paper. 'Untitled' 2022. 35x35cm.



8. Storm Thorgerson 1944-2013 - graphic designer and music video director

Signed, silkscreen print, 'Anthrax/Stomp 442', 1995. 65cm x 85cm.



9. Evelyn Williams 1929-2012 – artist

Painting, 'Corridor' 1994. 51cm x 41cm.

We hope you will join us for this exciting event and help us to raise funds for the A.S.Neill Summerhill Trust and to celebrate with us the final part of our centenary celebrations.

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The A.S.Neill Summerhill Trust

The A.S.Neill Summerhill Trust is a registered charity whose purpose is to promote the educational philosophy, ideas, life and writings of A.S.Neill, and to provide bursaries or other forms of financial assistance to school pupils. The Trust also works to promote the re-publication



and translation of existing books, new books, overseas visits by school staff to give talks, school visitor days at Summerhill as well as Summerhill pupils visiting other schools to run workshops on children's rights and democracy. Each year the trustees consider several applications for bursaries towards school fees. Because our funds are limited, we can currently award bursaries only to current pupils. Parents should contact the school office for information on how to apply for a bursary from the A.S.Neill Summerhill Trust.

A very big thank you to all our donors who have so generously supported the spirit of Summerhill. Your donations help kids remain at the School who would otherwise have to leave, and provide extracurricular activities that would be beyond the School's ability to provide.

If you'd like to make a difference to a child's life, you too can make a [donation](#) to the Trust. Whether it is a one off or regular donation, we will spend it wisely.

£25 means a child can join their friends on a school trip.

£50 will pay for two extra-curricular lessons.

£100 will pay for travel costs incurred by the External Affairs Committee during their promotion of Summerhill & the ideas/philosophies of A.S.Neill.

£1,000 will provide assistance over two terms for parents who are struggling to pay their child's school fees.

A regular donation made by standing order will become an important part of our 'bread and butter'.

To make a gift or regular donation, or for more information about the A.S.Neill Summerhill Trust, please contact the School office on 01728 830540 or email:

office@summerhillschool.co.uk.

You can also write to The A.S.Neill Summerhill Trust, c/o Summerhill School, Westward Ho, Leiston, Suffolk, IP16 4HY.

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