

Exhibition of sport paintings

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Richard Stuttle danger from heavy sea

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AN exhibition by artist Richard Stuttle opens at the Arts Workshops on Saturday.

Richard, whose father Alan owns a gallery in North Marine Road, had an exhibition in New York in June.

It was at the Agora Gallery, which said: "Richard isolates the intense, fleeting beauty of extreme sports in superbly crisp, spectacular and often-vertiginous oil compositions.

"From pristine slopes in the French alps, where he spends winter painting and snowboarding, to gritty city streets, where he follows skateboarders and parkour practitioners, Stuttle alternates between nearly photographic hyper-realism and a vividly lit and stylised aesthetic evocative of expressionist woodblock prints.

"Both approaches suggest passionate reverence for athletes," said Agora. "When meticulously detailed, his paintings pay tribute to the perfected physical and mental conditioning of contemporary athletes in a manner similar to classical Greek sculpture. In the comparatively more dramatic urban scenes, the silhouetted sportsmen become mysterious creatures more akin to superheroes.

"In both cases, Stuttle foregrounds the sublime rush of sports like skiing and surfing, transferring their surge of adrenaline to gripping tableaux. Figures are perfectly composed yet simultaneously

on the verge of losing control. Stuttle focuses our attention on his sharply rendered athletes,

beacons of poise amidst blurred landscapes tumbling off into the distance."

Richard said: "New York is one of the most iconic cities in the world. The opportunity to exhibit and spend two months exploring the city was amazing. I picked up great vibrance and energy from the city. They have a positive attitude of anything can be done! The way they view art is very different to the UK. The people take great pride in their city. New York has some fantastic art in the city's design, architecture and the galleries boasting some amazing artists. I departed feeling very inspired and looking forward to next year when I plan to return for another exhibition. I really missed the history, culture and art of the UK. Our national galleries play host to some of the greatest works ever painted and I am looking forward to seeing some of my old favourites. I have so many ideas for paintings and can't wait to get started on my next series of large projects."

Richard is now working with his dad in his studio and painting around Scarborough.

He said: "I am inspired to be back and see Scarborough with a fresh eye. I am looking forward to exhibiting some intimate work and smaller locally painted pieces along with my large signature sports paintings."

The exhibition runs until 28 September.

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