BECKY ROSE

ARTIST STATEMENT

Mountains, vast skies and shifting light stir something deep within me. In the mountains, I feel the weight and presence of the land around me, yet somehow my own place within it changes. The scale of the rock and sky can make everyday life fall away, drawing me into the landscape, where I become absorbed by the smallest details: a glint of light on a distant ridge, the heather glowing in the sun, the first chill of approaching rain.

My connection with the mountains began in childhood, through annual visits to North Wales, and grew through years of walking holidays, following familiar paths and discovering new ones. These experiences have left an imprint that stays with me long after I have returned home. In the studio, the changing seasons can bring the mountains close again. The colours and atmosphere around me mingle with those held in memory: the warmth of summer, the fading light of autumn, the cooler hues of approaching winter. Past and present begin to blur, and what I remember is never quite the same as what I first experienced.

Working in oils, I allow these impressions to find their way into the paint. I begin without knowing exactly where a painting will lead, following marks and colours as forms emerge, dissolve and reappear. Layers build slowly, shifting between instinct and intention, certainty and doubt. Sometimes the painting holds on to an image; sometimes it moves beyond it, towards something I cannot entirely name.

Through painting, I try to understand what draws me back to the landscape, and what remains of an experience once the place itself is far away. I am interested in that meeting of the familiar and the elusive, in how land, light and weather become entwined with memory and feeling, and in the moments when a landscape becomes more than the place it describes.

www.beckyrose.co.uk | becky_rose_@hotmail.co.uk