

Bob Coe - Artist's Statement

Graham Sutherland once said that "landscape was not necessarily scenic". It was when I recognised the truth in this statement that I began to explore what landscape means and how it is used rather than how it looks.

My current work looks at landscape views today, how they relate to the people using them and what threatens them. I am also fascinated by what I can learn from the artists of the past, how they approached portraying landscapes, and the ways in which I can apply this to my photography.

My series, *After the Norwich School*, takes as its starting point locations in the City of Norwich that were painted by members of the Norwich School of Artists in the early 1800's. These artists began painting what they saw rather than an idealised view of the landscape. My work takes the same approach, portraying the same locations, but how they are used today, portraying the City of Norwich 'as it is' for its residents and visitors.