

## DANIELL REVISITED

SUITE OF FOUR PRINTS, EDITION OF 30

THE CLEARANCE, THE DEPARTURE, WAITING, AND THE LAND

Three of the prints created by Will Maclean RSA are available for purchase in the auction: The Departure, The Waiting, and The Land. Of the pieces, Will says:

*'Between 1814 and 1825, the English artist William Daniel undertook his epic series of hand-coloured aquatints published as VOYAGE AROUND THE COAST OF BRITAIN. In 1987, I was part of a group of artists invited to revisit Daniell's work and the sites on the Scottish coasts that he depicted. The invitation was extended by the Peacock Printmakers in Aberdeen and underwritten by the Scottish Arts Council.*

*I chose to work from a print called Pier at Tanera Loch Broom. The island of Tanera on the Summer Isles was a departure point for emigration ships. It was also the island to which my family was cleared from a fertile valley on the opposite mainland during The Clearances. My intention was to create a suite of four prints that would change William Daniell's romantic image of this place to reflect more accurately the social realism of the period.*

*An uncoloured copy of the print was photographed onto high contrast film and then manipulated to allow the image to act as the framework for the four prints which make up the suite Daniell Revisited. The border for each image was formed by greatly enlarging details from my other etchings. This gives the border abstract texture which relates only generally to the text.*

*THE DEPARTURE: In the late 1700s, Highland people sailed on such boats as the Hector to Canada fleeing the overcrowding, starvation and persecution that followed the defeat of the Jacobite army at Culloden. They left the boats at Nova Scotia and fanned out across Canada to settle. The image that was used to form the basis of the prints, THE WAITING, and THE DEPARTURE, was the painting LOCHABER NO MORE, an oil on canvas by J. W. Nicol who died in 1923. Nicol depicts a Highlander and his wife on board an emigrant ship. My version includes the boat and male figure in THE DEPARTURE. The old shepherd holds his hat, hangs his head, and waits for the boat to leave.*

*THE WAITING: This was an adaptation from the Nicol painting of the image of a young woman on the quay with her dog and her possessions waiting to embark on the voyage that will take her from her homeland.*

*THE LAND: Daniel's original image was not greatly altered except by the addition of colour.'*