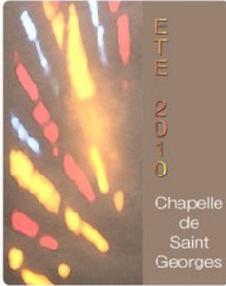


Art Exhibition at St Georges - more details

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It was unfortunate that the weather was windy and rather cool on Sunday when we paid a visit to La Chapelle de St Georges near Hesdin.

Entering the show by way of a well-restored private roadside chapel adjoining a house which provided a splendid venue, we were greeted warmly and colourfully by **David Maiden's** oil paintings.

Jeannete Todd's Raku wall plaques

The wind made for rather uncomfortable viewing of the outdoor exhibits, and ceramic wall plaques by Jeanette Todd had to be removed from their hanging places and displayed, instead, lying flat on the concrete floor of an outbuilding, in case they blew down and shattered. There was no doubt we lost the opportunity to see this exhibit at its best.



Nik Meergan's large garden sculptures, on the other hand, lost nothing of their monumental quality in the rather dramatic weather. His swirling organic creations stood firm while the wind howled through their metal branches. The delicate ceramic petals of his roses contrasted graphically with their steely stems - flowers that demanded to be touched. If it hadn't been so windy you might have imagined their perfume.

I enjoyed **Hilary Garner's** "Paintings Sent Home" watercolours. Each of these compact works had more than one story to tell. The first about the faraway place where it was painted and the second about its journey from there back to the artist's home. Each painting is inspired by, and painted at, a location on Hilary's travels and then addressed and stamped on the back and sent home by ordinary mail. They are framed cleverly to reveal the address and post marks on the back and some carry the wear and tear of the journey on them.

Sally Elizabeth's jewellery included some delightful and inexpensive copper bowls, and silver pendants.

It was fascinating to see a number of paintings in a style that was certainly something new to me. These were in a grey monochrome, like rather faded enlarged soft-focus black and white photographs. Although the subjects of the paintings did not appeal to me personally, I admired the vision and technique displayed. I'm afraid I forgot to note the name of the artist (**David Maiden**)



The sculpture/garden ornament entitled "Norman" by Nik Meergans was my personal favourite piece in the exhibition. This apparently simple form with its scaly surface somehow evoked images of soldiers from the Bayeux tapestry, church architecture and old houses in the Calvados region. It begged to be touched, and was certainly the object I would most enjoy living with.

If you haven't already seen it you only have until September 5 to visit the exhibition of the work of these 5 British artists in St Georges. Fortunately the weather forecast is much better for the rest of the week.

The venue is 75 rue Principale, Saint Georges, 62770. Open every day until September 5 from 10h à 13h, 15h à 19h.