

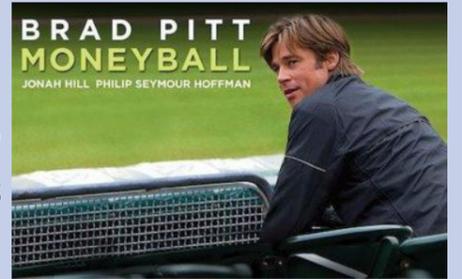


arts & entertainment



Moneyball – one of the great sports biopics

Netflix film & TV – 45



News & reviews – 41-45 Highlights from the museum – 4 Elliotts & the war effort – 43 Demise of the GCSE drama students – 45



Isobel Pigott

Oxford Artweeks virtual festival

ISOBEL Pigott and fellow Aldworth artist Mandy Monkcom were to exhibit from Isobel's studio as part of Oxfordshire Artweeks in May.

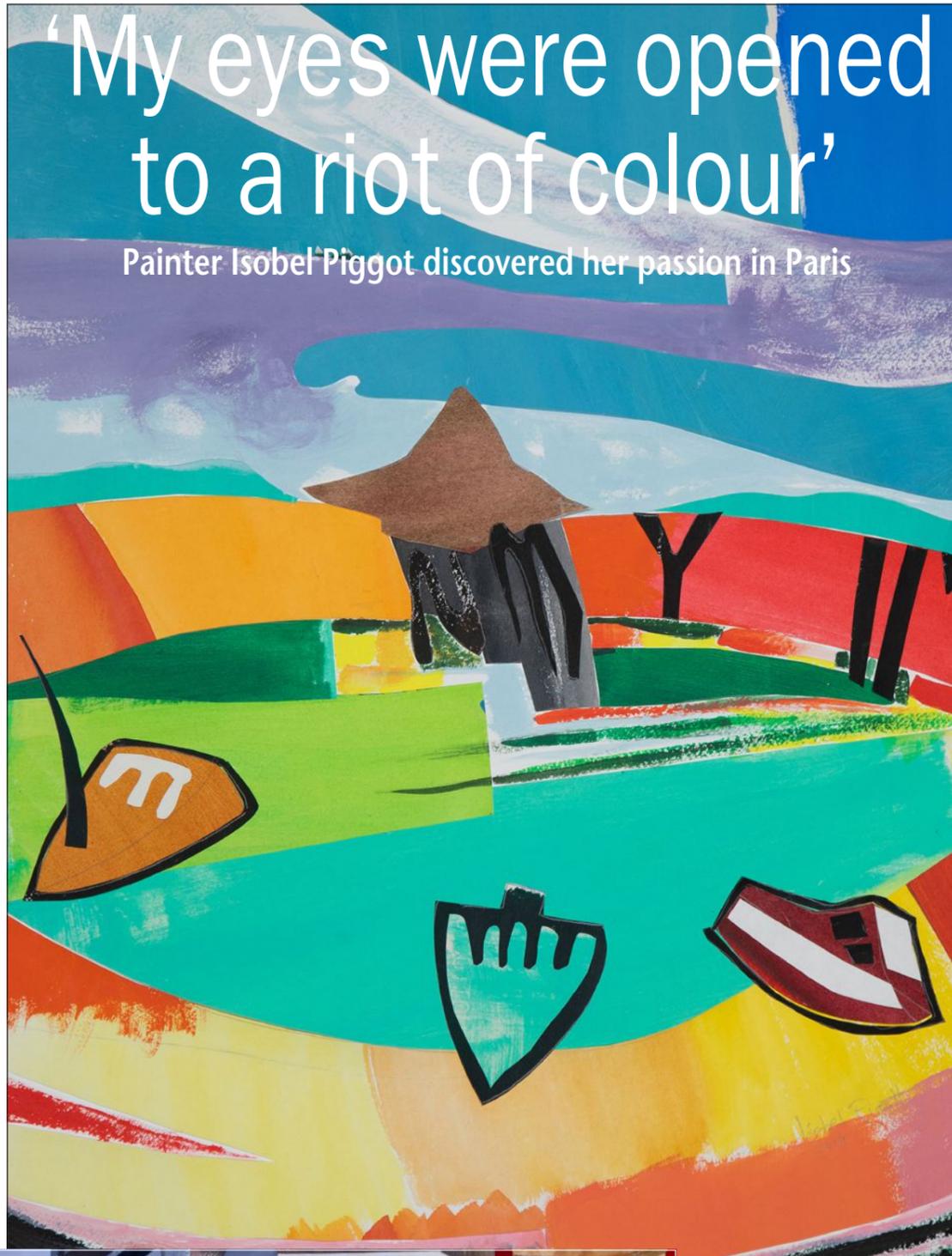
This has now become a virtual festival and will be running from May 2-25.

More details can be found at www.artweeks.org

Isobel hopes to open her studio later in the year instead. More details and examples of their work can be found at www.isobelpigott.co.uk and www.mandymonkcom.co.uk



Mandy Monkcom



That love for colour, pattern, shape and the relationship between them has remained in my work ever since

ALDWORTH artist Isobel Pigott returned to painting several years ago after a long break bringing up a family and running her garden design and landscaping business.

She originally studied fine art at Reading University and was lucky enough to be there when Sir Terry Frost was Professor of Art.

His work and that of a number of other St Ives artists were a big influence.

"However, the most exciting and motivating moment came in the third year when we were sent to Paris for a few weeks to study the contents of galleries and museums.

"My eyes were opened to a riot of colour by such artists as Bonnard, Kandinsky, Chagall and, most importantly, Matisse. I returned in my final year with sketch books overflowing, my mind in overdrive and a new-found enthusiasm.

"That love for colour, pattern, shape and the relationship between them has remained in my work ever since," says Isobel.

It was a visit to the Bibliotheque Nationale that had introduced her to the drawings of Henri Matisse and inspired a lifelong passion for his work. "In his drawings it was the accomplished, simplicity of line, in his paintings the richness of colour and energy of pattern, all laid down with such ease. When I returned to my painting, I began to experiment with all of these elements."

Returning to her art so many years later, Isobel had to start again, constantly experimenting and investigating, but Matisse's influence is still clearly visible. In fact his use of paper cut-outs has been the catalyst for Isobel's latest body of work.

Her inspiration also comes from the local Downland landscape. "I spend so much of my time walking in the beautiful countryside around me, taking in the soft curves of the hills etched with crops and tracks. I see this as a feast of pattern, colour and shape to be applied later to paper or canvas."

Isobel has also spent a lot of time painting in Cornwall, inspired by the shapes made by boats in harbours. Everyday household items and interiors also feature regularly in her work and more recently she has revisited the curves and folds of the human form.

p To see more of Isobel's work, visit our online gallery at www.newburytoday.co.uk

Contact us

p . If you have Arts news, diary dates and pictures, send her an email at: trish.lee@newburynews.co.uk

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Clockwise from top: *Shapes & Patterns 2*, *Mousehole*, *Harbour Walls Porthleven* and *The Artist's Kitchen 2*