



Exploring Beauty

WATERCOLOUR DIARIES FROM THE WILD

In *Exploring Beauty*, Tony Foster advocates for the return of beauty to art. In 2007, he began asking leading scientists, explorers, writers, environmentalists, artists, and mountaineers to nominate the world's most beautiful wild places. The responses of these “luminaries”—ranging from high deserts to deep coral reefs—inspired the resulting paintings. *Exploring Beauty* documents the artist's experiences working on site at majestic wilderness areas throughout the globe—from the remote jungles of Borneo and desert sands of Chile, to the frosty altitudes of Everest and Machapuchare and the far-away icebergs of Greenland. Each luminary provided a statement on why the location speaks to him/her. Their words reinforce the need to find beauty in a fast-paced world through the quiet of such remote places. Coupled with Foster's art, they provide a powerful argument for the preservation of wilderness throughout the world.

JOURNEY DETAILS

Nine years: 2007 to 2016

51 paintings and 1 drawing from 16 locations:

Denali, Alaska

Dr. Winslow Briggs, Director Emeritus, Carnegie Institution for Science, Stanford University

Grand Canyon, United States

Tony Foster in memory of Bill Brace, Chairman Emeritus, Dept. of Earth and Planetary Sciences, MIT

Coral Reefs, Cayman Islands

Sir David Attenborough, Naturalist and Broadcaster

The Arctic, Greenland

Kari Herbert, Author and Arctic Traveler

Parinacota, Chile

Dr. Stephen Sparks, Vulcanologist, Professor of Geology, University of Bristol

Atacama Desert, Chile

Dr. María Teresa Ruiz, Professor of Astronomy, Universidad de Chile

Mulu Caves, Borneo

Robin Hanbury-Tenison, Explorer

Mount Blanc, France

Lionel Wibault, Senior Mountain Guide, Chamonix, FR

Rainforest, Borneo

Professor Sir Ghilleen Prance, Former Director, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew; Former Dir. of Science, NY Botanical Garden

The Kama Valley, Tibet

Stephen Venables, Mountaineer and first Briton to summit Everest without oxygen

Cornwall, United Kingdom

Tony Foster, Artist

Wistman's Wood, Devon, UK

John Halkes, Former Chairman, Friends of the Earth UK

Machupuchare, Nepal

Annie and Bill Vanderbilt, Wilderness Educators and Adventurers

Autumn Leaves, New England

Peggy Brace, Environmental Activist and J. Parker Huber, Author and Philosopher

Sunsets, Maldives

Ann Foster, Companion and Artist

EXHIBITION DETAILS

Minimum space: 350 linear feet

Venue fee: Free*

Shipping and Insurance: Hosting venues are responsible for one-way shipping and wall-to-wall insurance. The exhibition is packed in 5 crates and will be available to ship on air-ride freight.

Content: 51 framed watercolor paintings and 1 drawing, sizes variable (see attached checklist).

Supplemental: 10 softbound catalogs with additional catalogs available at cost for resale at venues.

Optional content: Audio tour of exhibition narrated by the artist.

Availability: March 2020 – December 2023. Please contact us to discuss available dates.

**The Foster Art & Wilderness Foundation does not charge venue fees for the traveling exhibitions it organizes.*

ABOUT TONY FOSTER

Born in Lincolnshire, England, Tony Foster finds inspiration in the wild places of the world, which he paints en plein air. Since 1982, he has undertaken a variety of watercolor “journeys”—painting projects based on a wilderness theme—that often involve multiple expeditions and take years to complete. His subjects range from mountains, rivers, rainforests, deserts, coral reefs and Arctic icebergs to such iconic natural areas as the Grand Canyon and Mount Everest.

Hiking, rafting, kayaking or canoeing to find the perfect painting site, then camping outdoors for weeks at a time to make his paintings, Foster frequently faces challenging weather and difficult conditions. His paintings, complete with diary excerpts and “souvenirs” found, made, or inspired by objects on site, document his experiences in wilderness and his commitment to its preservation. Though he combines the English traditions of watercolor and exploration, Foster’s unique working method allies him with other contemporary artists, such as Richard Long and Hamish Fulton, whose work speaks to the land.

ABOUT THE FOSTER ART & WILDERNESS FOUNDATION

The Foster Art & Wilderness Foundation was established in 2013 as a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization. Our mission is to share artist-explorer Tony Foster’s powerful exhibitions of watercolor journeys to inspire reflection, discussion, and education about art, wilderness, and the natural world. The foundation’s headquarters is a staging place for leaders of public art venues from around the world to view exhibitions of full journeys in the hope that they are inspired to borrow the paintings to exhibit at their own institutions.