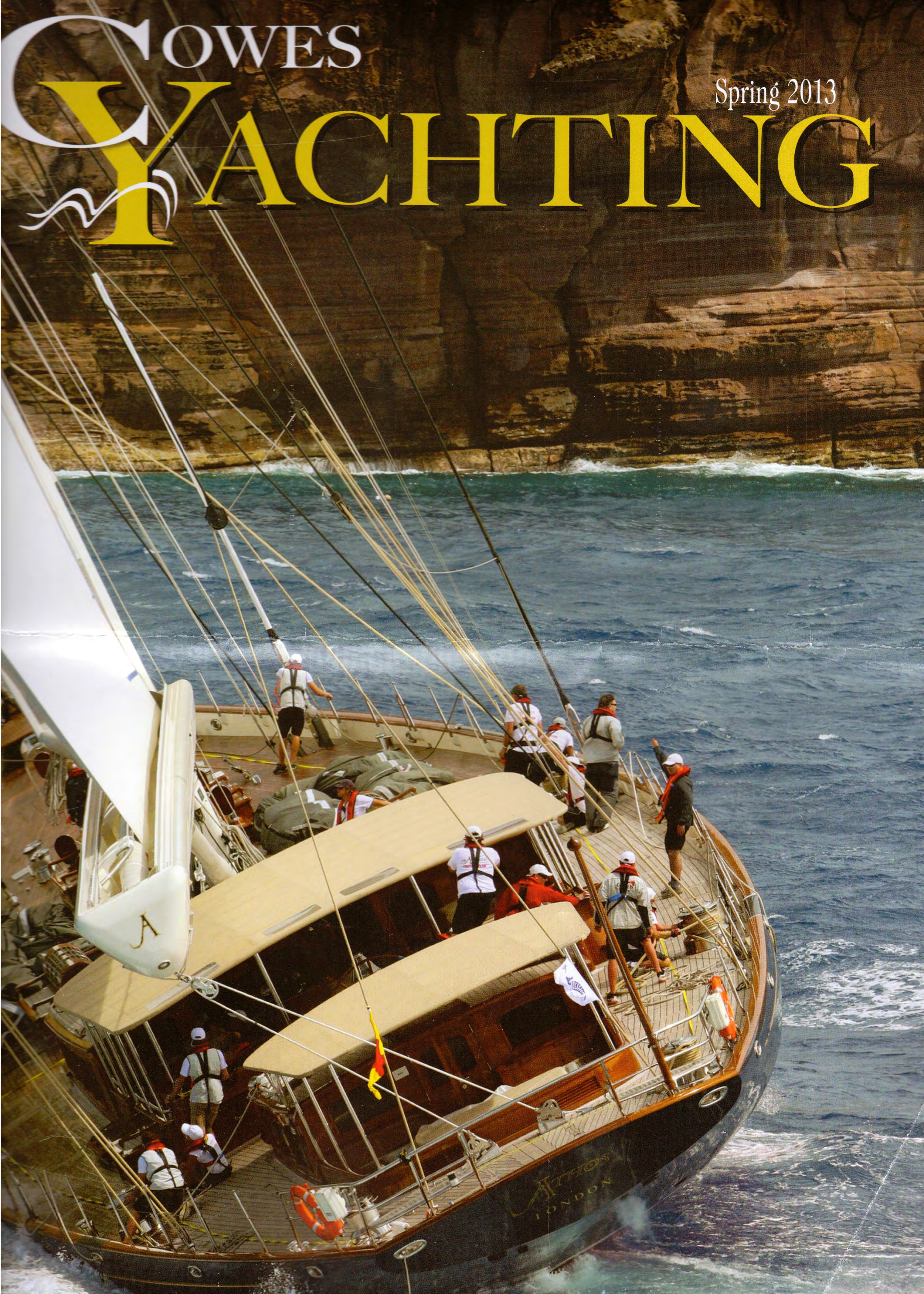




COWES YACHTING

Spring 2013



Fine Art Sails Regatta

It is certain that people have been racing boats since there have been boats, but the first organized yacht racing in this country started on the Thames and the first famous contestants were King Charles II, his brother James and those courtiers who could afford to crew and risk 100-ton yachts at high speeds in the shifting shallows of the great river. It was on the Thames that Prince Henry Frederick, Duke of Cumberland, the most genial if not the most reputable of King George



III's siblings, inaugurated the Cumberland Fleet, which became the Royal Thames Yacht Club. And so it was only fitting that, when Peter Bonham-Christie, a Royal Thames member, developed the idea of combining a celebration of the successes of the Olympic sailors of Team GBR, raising money for various good causes (the Sea Cadets and RYA Sailability) and creating a mobile and ever-changing art gallery in the unlikely venue of Docklands.

In fact, the idea of fine art on sails came from the event's sponsor and owner, Michael Ross, chairman of CNM Estates, who looked out of a Manhattan office window to see artists painting the hoods of Jaguar cars and thought how well that idea would translate onto sails. He knew Peter B-C from the Gumball Rallies (another story) and together they approached Rear Commodore Peter Bainbridge and the idea began to become reality.

And what better time to hold such an event than during the Tullett Prebon London Boat Show?

The event was held under the flag of the RTYC, who provided the race officials and umpire (Alexis Dogilewski, Peter Schroeder and Peter Jennings).

Together

The event brought together ten Star class yachts, each equipped with beautifully painted "Fine Art Sails", each sail the creation of a well-known contemporary artist, and 20 Olympic class sailors, together with a large contingent of Sea Cadets who provided much practical support. Heavy snow, freezing temperatures and fickle winds completed the picture. The races were held at the Royal Victoria Docks, close by the Boat Show. This unique mix led to an amazing three-day regatta.

Day one gave a fair easterly breeze, allowing a good box course. After three races Rohart and Pulfer were leading ahead of Luke Patience and Stu Bithel.

Day two saw a wind shift to the North East, but juggling the windward marks gave a fair course. It also saw the first appearance of Iain Percy and the girls' team of Pippa Wilson and Annie Lush. In the first race Iain demonstrated his great boat speed, being first to cross the finishing line. Sadly he had been OCS at the start. Rohart and Pulfer maintained their overall lead at the end of day two with the Irish team of Treacy and Shanks in second place.

Sunday brought heavier snow and an even more northerly wind, making for very tricky sailing conditions. Some light relief was provided by inter-



boat snowball fights and the ROs are still debating which rule is infringed by throwing snowballs at the committee boat! The two Sunday races were "double points". But with two seconds Rohart and Pulfer maintained a clear lead to take the championship.

Xavier Rohart of France with Serge Pulfer of Switzerland took first place with 17 points. The team of Max Treacy and Anthony Shanks were second with 35 points, with Iain Percy and Andrew Simpson were third with 37 points.

The winners were presented with the RTYC "Fine Art Sails Regatta" trophy by the First Sea Lord Admiral Sir Mark Stanhope at a prizegiving held in the Boat Show.

Michael Ross, concept founder and CNM Estates principal commented: "It was not the most conducive weather for sailing but it was a great regatta for racing and for fine art too. I can't wait for the next event."

"I've never umpired before with an inch of snow in and around the umpire boat," says Peter Jennings. "I had to put my boots into the water in order to warm them up. My feet got distinctly chilly; the water in the lock was four or five degrees and the outside temperature was a good deal colder than that. But the sailing was good and I think everyone enjoyed it."

"We were very professional about the drafting of the sailing instructions, because we were dealing with very serious sailors. When they're on the water, these folks tend to be competitive because they don't know any other way, but there was a tremendous amount of banter and snowball-throwing and what have you going on at the same time."

"The standard of sailing was very high given the conditions. Sailing in Docklands is always very tricky; on the first day the wind blew straight down the lock, which made it very easy for us to set a course, with a beat right up the lock, a little cross leg at the top and then back. The second day the wind went into the north, so we had to twist the course around as far as we could, which was great for the spectators because the top cross-leg was straight down the wall outside the Boat Show."

Michael Ross and Peter Bonham-Christie have plans to transport the Fine Art Sails event to other city venues, including Moscow and San Francisco. Watch this space or go to fineartsails.com.

The Artists

Goldie

Goldie earned his name as a graffiti artist in the West Midlands in the early eighties. His artwork around Birmingham and Wolverhampton was featured heavily in Afrikaa Bambaataa's 1985 feature film documentary *Bombing* (which was broadcast on Channel 4 in the UK).

Goldie has produced artistic works with 3D (Massive Attack) and Sarah Gregory, whilst being commissioned to produce pieces for Neneh Cherry, Noel Gallagher, Bjork, James Lavelle, Nellee Hooper, Ed Sheeran, The Sex Pistols, Snow Patrol, Pete Tong, Jason Statham to name but a few.



EINE

Born 1970, Ben Flynn, aka EINE is one of London's most prolific and original street artists who specialises in the central element of all graffiti – the form of letters. Originally a 'writer' he started his career over twenty five years ago as a vandal leaving his first tag all over London before eventually developing a distinct typographic style.

EINE shot to international fame when David Cameron presented one of his works to President Obama as a gift on his first official state visit, but is arguably more famous for 'Alphabet Street' – the shutters and murals he painted in his trademark colours and typography in Middlesex Street, London – described by The Times as "a street now internationally recognized as a living piece of art with direct links to The White House."



INSA

INSA's world is one where art, product, graffiti, fetishism, and desire collide. Throughout his career, INSA has allowed himself to explore different approaches and outlets for his artistic agenda, including designing signature collections for brands such as Kangol, Kid Robot and Oki-Ni, as well as starting his own heel company 'INSA HEELS'. He has undertaken many private commissions for clients such as Sony and Nike and was recently invited out to Sweden as one of only two British artists to help curate and sculpt the 2008/2009 ICE hotel.



Jamie Gill

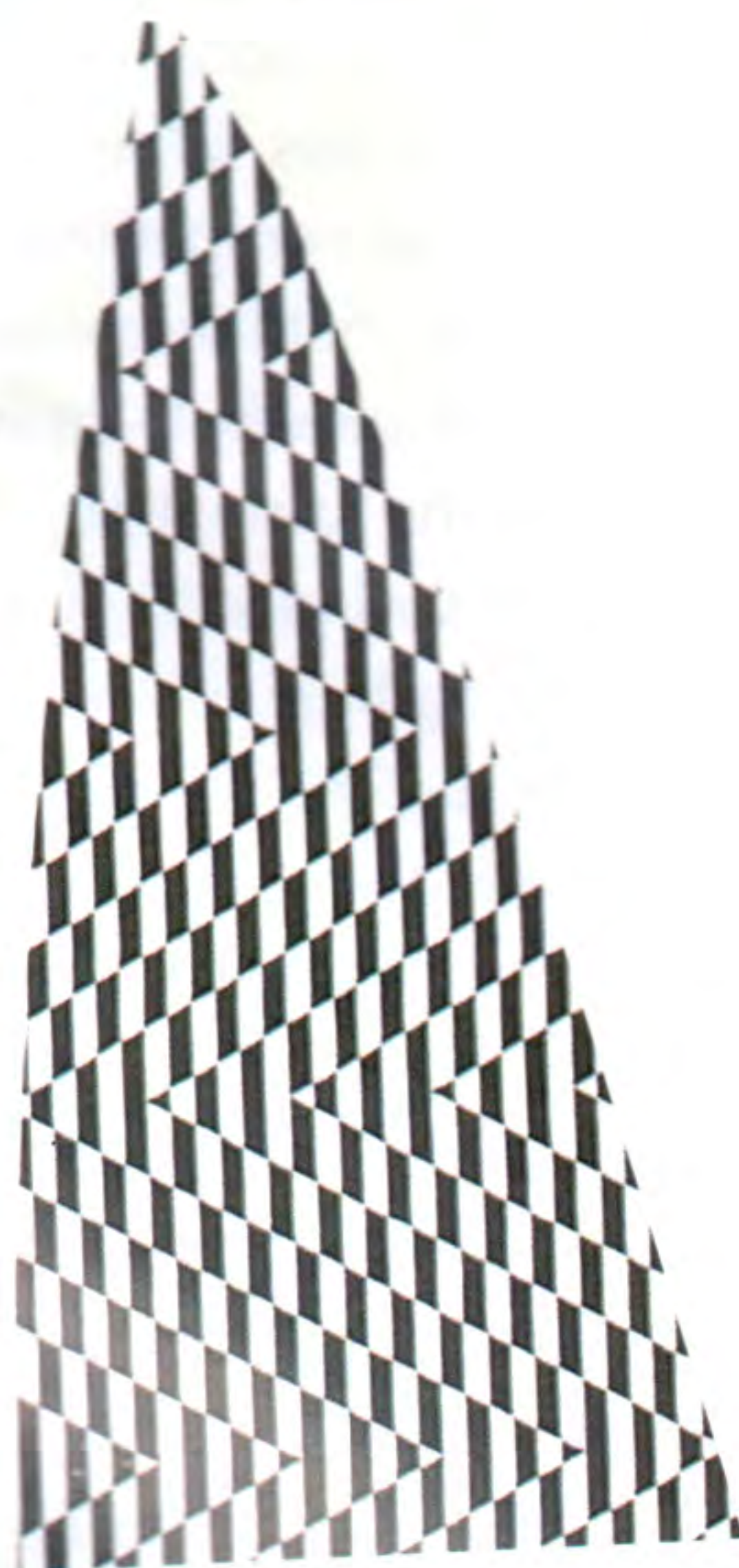
Jaime Gill's paintings combine the austerity of geometric design with the confidence and authenticity of painterly gesture. Presented in a cluster, his paintings are often not hung, but leant against the wall, creating a temporal architecture that suggests the transience and development of urban space. Executed in vibrant colours, Gili's large-scale canvases capitalise on their visual power to motivate and allure.

Bold splinters of pitch black, copper metallic, or tainted pink pierce through grounds animated with drips, smudges, and impassioned swipes. His paintings are fields of raw, potent energy. For "Fine Art on Sails" the artist describes his design as "having two sides to it".



Eley Kishimoto

Eley Kishimoto are the shape-shifters of the print world Mark Eley and Wakako Kishimoto who were artistic directors for Paris based fashion house Cacharel between 2008 and 2009 – then did Japanese art for Laura Ashley London. They have done collaborative works with BMW motorbikes, Eastpak bags, Duvel beer, Incase (macbook, iPhone, iPad accessories). though initially earned as a result of these vibrant fashion collections, the company's renown has always been very much associated with their freedom to decorate anything and everything.



David Begbie

The image used for the sail is derived from 'EVE' 2008, a limited edition flat steel-panel sculpture.

For this artwork sculptor David Begbie has created an image produced from a unique steel-mesh sculpture and a photographic portrait of his subject. He then translates this into a drawing so as to produce the flat stainless steel panel version. The result epitomises sculptural economy and visual succinctness and is as bold and convincing as his unique, three-dimensional steel-mesh sculpture for which he is renowned. The detail from 'EVE' which he has used for 'AN EYE FOR THE BUOYS' is both humorous and striking and successfully translates into an image for the ARTSAILS concept.



Julian Opie

Julian Opie was born in London and graduated from Goldsmith's School of Art in 1983. Recognised for his contemporary art, Opie has exhibited his work nationally and internationally throughout galleries including Sakshi Gallery, Mumbai, City Hall Park, New York and the Lisson Gallery Millan to list just a few.

Alongside many other projects Opie was commissioned by the National Portrait Gallery in 2011 to create a portrait of the well-known engineer and inventor Sir James Dyson.



Christian Furr

Born in Heswall, Wirral in 1966, Christian Furr lives in London with his wife Emma and three daughters. He has exhibited around the world and at shows and galleries including the Saatchi Gallery in 2010 when he acted as Judge and curator for the 'Art of Giving', The Royal Society of Portrait Painters, The National Portrait Gallery and the Royal Watercolour Society.

In 1995, he became the youngest artist to have ever officially painted HM Queen Elizabeth II, when, at the age of 28, he was invited by the Queen to paint her portrait at Buckingham Palace. The work was commissioned by and hangs at the Royal Overseas League, St James, London.



Sailors in Fine Art

Pam Glew

Pam Glew, born 1978, is a contemporary British artist who is best known for her unique bleaching technique on vintage fabric and flags. The artist plays with our notion of icons, patriotism and the culture of heritage by using flag iconography. Union jacks are prominent in her work, as she regularly paints directly onto vintage and antique textiles with bleach and dye.

She has exhibited in urban, traditional and site-specific exhibitions alongside such diverse artists as Hirst, Emin and Shepard Fairey to HRH Prince of Wales. Commercial clients include Ralph Lauren, Armani and Mitsubishi Bank.



Stuart Bithell

Bithell was born in Rochdale, England and now lives in Portland. He was introduced to sailing as a seven year old at Hollingworth Lake Sailing Club in Rochdale in a Firefly. Bithell began racing competitively at the age of 12 and became a member of the Skandia Team GBR Development Squad at the age of 18. Recent successes including winning silver at the 2011 World Championships in Perth, Australia and silver at the 2011 European Championships in Helsinki, eventually helping to win a hard fought silver at London 2012.

John Greenwood

John has had notable sailing success throughout his life with his first win in the Mirror class in 1973. He then became encompassed in the RYA Finn Squad in 1981 and in 1983 placed a respectable 9th at the Finn Gold cup. In 1989 he teamed up with Bryn Vaile and had great success winning the Star national championships and the District 12 championships before teaming up with Mark Covell until 1992. John then went back to his roots sailing in the Finn winning the world masters championships in 2000 and 2002. Since then John has enjoyed success in the Quarter Ton Cup 2010 and 2012.

Brian Hammersley

Brian Started sailing Optimists aged four on his local gravel pit until the age of 12. Moved onto various dinghy classes until Uni where he represented England at the 1999 student yachting worlds, coming third overall. In 2000 Brian started sailing Etchells with Ante's brother Nils and had many successes including many wins at UK nationals, Europeans and a top 10 at the worlds.

Andrew Hurst

Andrew's Career has ensured he's kept a finger on the pulse of competitive racing throughout his life. Notable achievements include representing GBR at the Olympics as well as winning the UK star Nats in 1980. His skills set and love for offshore racing led him onto such winning multihull projects as Jet Services IV, Spirit of Apricot and Sony Playstation. Also notable are many Admirals Cup and numerous RORC races. Andrew now works at RORC as Editor of Seahorse sailing magazine.

Nick Harrison

Nick Harrison made his name as a sailor competing in the Laser class and won Laser Masters Worlds, European and National Championships and Albacore World and National Championships. Nick first met Iain Percy and

Wendy Taylor

Wendy Taylor was one of the first artists of her generation to "take art out of the galleries and out onto the streets".

Her impressive range of large-scale, site specific sculptures, such as the well known Timepiece at Tower Bridge now total over seventy - probably more original permanent sculptures on public display than any other living British artist. Examples of her work are represented in public and private collections around the world.



Andrew Simpson 19 years ago and developed a trusted, mutual friendship and respect with the Star boys having worked with them in the run-up to Beijing. He has continued this relationship coaching them up to London 2012.

Annie Lush

Annie started sailing as a child but became heavily involved in rowing whilst at Cambridge University, where she received a Blue for winning the 2001 Woman's Boat Race. Since university she has returned to sailing, competing on the Olympic sailing circuit, as well as racing on the Match Racing World Tour and in many other major sailing events both inshore and offshore. She is a double ISAF Women's World Match Race Champion, three times winner of the Rolex International Women's Keelboat Championship and represented GBR in the Elliot 8 class at London 2012 bowing out in a controversial decision.

Stevie Morrison

Sailing since age 10 and competing at the top level as a member of Skandia Team GBR since June 2002 Stevie has consistently moved up the rankings. Stevie has numerous major National and International sailing titles to his name including 49er European Championships and 49er World Championships with Ben.

Mike McIntyre

Mike started his sailing career aged 11 at Helensburgh Sailing Club in the West of Scotland in a Mirror dinghy. During the next few years he mainly sailed OK Dinghies and 505s, winning multiple senior Scottish Championships. In 1977 he finished his studies at Glasgow University and moved to the South of England to start his Finn sailing career. Over the next seven years he won the British Finn Championship twice and in 1984 won the European Finn Championship and was seventh at the Olympic Games in Los Angeles, finishing the year world ranked number one. In 1986 Mike joined the British America's Cup campaign in Perth and sailed on White Crusader as mainsheet trimmer. In October 1987 he teamed up with Bryn Vaile to compete in the Star Class. They sailed together for less than a year but in that time won the UK

Olympic Trials, placed third in the last European regatta before the Olympics and then won the Olympic Gold medal. At around ten months and only 27 races it was, and still is, the shortest ever campaign to win Olympic Gold.

In 1989 Mike was skipper of Juno 4 in the British team that won the Admiral's Cup and in 1991 he skippered Juno 5 to second in the World 50.

Alex Newton

Alex Newton has been at the forefront of international boat building and played a massive part as project leader in the construction of many of the UK's most successful craft including Iain Percy and Andrew Simpson's Star. An accomplished sailor in his own right, he has accumulated many awards from dinghy sailing to major offshore events.

Luke Patience

Luke Patience, who grew up in Rhu, near Helensburgh, started sailing at the local marina when he was just seven. Encouraged by his father, two years later he was sailing competitively and says that training in often cold and unpredictable Scottish climate helped to toughen him up ready for the challenges ahead. He

partners Stuart Bithell in the 470 class, with their recent successes including winning silver at the 2011 World Championships in Perth, Australia and silver at the 2011 European Championships in Helsinki, eventually helped them to win a hard fought silver at London 2012.

Iain Percy

Percy competed in the 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney, where he won a gold medal in the Finn class. Percy won World Bronze in the Star Class with Andrew Simpson in 2007 and European Championship Gold in 2009. The duo have just won Gold in the same class of boat at the 2010 World Championships which took place in Brazil. With previous partner, Steve Mitchell, Percy won the 2002 Star World Championships in Los Angeles, and medalled in the next 3 world championships, winning the Bronze medal in each of them. At the 2008 Olympics in Beijing he again won a gold medal, this time in the Star class, teaming up with Andrew Simpson.

Ante Rmilovic

Ante is a long time one design keelboat sailor starting with the Soling in the late '80s followed by the Etchells and Star the last decade. Accomplishments include victories in several National and European Championships in the Etchells as well as several podium finishes at World Championships. Ante together with crew Brian Hammersly trained alongside Iain and Andrew in the lead up to the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

Xavier Rohart

Xavier has been at the forefront of French star sailing for the last 24 years. Highlights include winning the French Finn Nationals in 1989, a bronze medal at the 2004 Athens Olympics (Star), wins at the 85th Barcardi cup, Miami and the 2003 star world championships and representing France at China in 2008 and London 2012.

