



Jamie Routley, RP

Born in Newport, South Wales in 1982, Jamie Routley was educated entirely through the Welsh language at Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw. He went on to earn a BA (Hons) in Illustration from Swindon College before moving to Florence, Italy in 2004 to study classical painting under American artist Charles H. Cecil (2004–2008). After a brief period living in Sweden and Wales, he settled in London in 2009, where he currently lives with his wife and two young daughters.

Jamie’s work has been exhibited widely in prestigious group exhibitions, including the National Portrait Gallery’s Portrait Award, the Royal Society of Portrait Painters, Figurativas at MEAM Barcelona, The Columbia Threadneedle Prize, and The Ruth Borchard Self-Portrait Prize.

His accolades include the Young Artist Award from the National Portrait Gallery’s Portrait Award, the De Lazlo Foundation Award for Excellence from the Royal Society of Portrait Painters, an Honourable Mention at Figurativas 17 (MEAM, Barcelona), and an Exceptional Merit Award from the Portrait Society of America. In 2019, his self-portrait was acquired by The Ruth Borchard Collection, the UK’s only public collection dedicated to self-portraiture.

In 2022, Jamie was elected a member of the Royal Society of Portrait Painters.

He also serves as a council member of the Artists’ General Benevolent Institution (AGBI), one of the UK’s oldest charities, supporting professional artists and their dependents across England, Wales, and Northern Ireland in times of financial hardship.

Artist Statement

“Concept is at the forefront of my work. My objective is to understand who I’m painting and develop the ideas before beginning the final piece. The process begins with gathering information—spending time with the sitter in and out of the studio, making studies, and collecting reference material. Through this, the aesthetic and compositional direction begins to take shape until I reach what I consider the true starting point.”

Jamie’s studio is located in West London, but he is always open to working on location if it better serves the sitter—and ultimately, the painting. While working from life remains his default, he integrates tools such as oil studies, mannequins, photographs, and video to streamline the process without compromising the integrity of the final work.

“My intention is always to make a painting in its own right, rather than a portrait. This may sound pedantic, but I think there’s a significant difference. Not to diminish the portrait element, but hopefully to elevate it. I want the work to be able to exist anywhere.”

Selected Exhibitions

2025

The Royal Society of Portrait Painters Exhibition, Mall Galleries, London

2024

Small Is Beautiful, Flowers Gallery, London
Reasorted, Royal Society of Portrait Painters, Mall Galleries, London
The Royal Society of Portrait Painters Exhibition, Mall Galleries, London

2023

Seeing Being Seen – Nicola Hicks and Jamie Routley, AGBI, London
Small Is Beautiful, Flowers Gallery, London
The Royal Society of Portrait Painters Exhibition, Mall Galleries, London

2022

Small Is Beautiful, Flowers Gallery, London
The Royal Society of Portrait Painters Exhibition, Mall Galleries, London

2021

The Royal Society of Portrait Painters Exhibition, Mall Galleries, London

2020

Small Is Beautiful, Flowers Gallery, London
BP Portrait Award, National Portrait Gallery, London
The Royal Society of Portrait Painters Exhibition, Mall Galleries, London

2019

The Ruth Borchard Self Portrait Prize, Piano Nobile Gallery, London
The Royal Society of Portrait Painters Exhibition, Mall Galleries, London
Summer Portraiture Exhibition, Fine Art Commissions, London

2018

Columbia Threadneedle Prize: Figurative Art Today, Mall Galleries, London

2017

The Royal Society of Portrait Painters Exhibition, Mall Galleries, London

2015

Figurativas 15, European Museum of Modern Art (MEAM), Barcelona
Selfie, Fine Art Commissions, Duke Street, London
Contemporary Masters, Fine Art Commissions, St James's, London

2014

Christmas Exhibition, Fine Art Commissions, St James's, London
The Portrait Gala – Mystery Portrait Postcard, National Portrait Gallery, London

2013

The Royal Society of Portrait Painters Exhibition, Mall Galleries, London
BP Portrait Award, National Portrait Gallery, London
BP Portrait Award, Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter

2012

The Royal Society of Portrait Painters Exhibition, Mall Galleries, London
Group Exhibition, GPF Gallery, Newport
BP Portrait Award, National Portrait Gallery, London
BP Portrait Award, Scottish National Portrait Gallery, Edinburgh (2012–13)

2011

Welsh Landscape Exhibition, Barnabas Gallery, Newport
I Know a Place, Flowers East Gallery, London

2010

Changing Faces, Newport Museum and Art Gallery, Newport
Group Exhibition, One Alfred Place, London (2010–11)

2009

Solo Exhibition: Epoch w14, Talgarth Road Studio, London
Ovarian Cancer Action Charity Auction, BAFTA, London
Group Exhibition, GPF Gallery, Newport

2005

Solo Exhibition, GPF Gallery, Newport

Selected commissions and collections

Royal Welsh Engineers
The Joint Services Command and Staff College, Wiltshire
The Hon. Arthur Vestey
Lord Mervyn Davies of Abersoch
Lord Sandy Leitch
Royal Welsh Fusiliers (1st Battalion, The Royal Welsh Fusiliers)
Stonyhurst College
Halkin Investments
Standard Chartered Bank
HH Prince Richard zu Sayn-Wittgenstein-Berleburg
Countess Alice Victoria Trolle-Wachtmeister
Hans Gabriel Trolle-Wachtmeister
Rt Rev.Christopher Foster, Bishop of Portsmouth

Selected Awards

2022

Elected as a member of The Royal Society of Portrait Painters

2019

Judges Commendation & self-portrait acquired for the Ruth Borchard Collection
– Ruth Borchard Self Portrait Prize, Piano Nobile Gallery

2017

The de Laszlo Foundation Award – The Royal Society of Portrait Painters

2015

Honourable Mention – Figurativas 15, MEAM, Barcelona

2012

The Young Artist Award – BP Portrait Award, National Portrait Gallery, London