

SAGA

The curated Art collection

The art collection on Spirit of Adventure and Spirit of Discovery has been specially curated for Saga Cruises by SMC Art with each ship featuring the work of 45 of the best British artists creating today. The exhibited art comprises of paintings, sculpture and textiles and focuses on craft techniques, executed in a thoroughly modern way.

Curated in line with Spirit of Adventure's contemporary, quality design and use of bold colours, the pieces are sure to drive interest and conversation.

EXAMPLE PIECES INCLUDE:

Petr Weigl was originally a graphic designer before turning his hand to creating large-scale fine artworks in ceramic concrete and metals. His design 'Tractuum Inventa' takes pride of place in Spirit of Adventure's atrium stairs and is an interpretation of water moving through its varying currents along a given stretch. Weigl says: "The curved layers visually represent currents flowing, turning, twisting, darting under and over, performing a gentle dance with momentum. The tightening and widening of the curves, a suggestion to the pace and speed, drawing on paradigms to life itself. In parallel to this, some of Britain's most noteworthy figures are commemorated. Explorers, inventors, creators: all have lived a life of adventure, leaving their mark on the world just as the flow of water has."

Ariadna Dane's diptychs take pride of place in the Living Room, greeting guests as they board. Dane creates forms and textures using ink and collage techniques. Inspired by organic cells, celestial structures, coral reefs and woodland, she aims to create visual elements that have a natural aesthetic and quality. Dane said: "This first diptych was influenced by the coastline, a naturally shifting boundary between the land and the sea. The UK has one of the longest coastlines in Europe, a home to many habitats, with cliffs, rocky shores, sand and shingle beaches, dunes and wetlands."



Petr Weigl's 'Tractuum Inventa'



Ariadna Dane's 'Mare Postiu'



Dragica Carlin creates gestural large-scale paintings in oil and was commissioned by Saga Cruises to create work for the Grand Dining Room on Spirit of Adventure. The resulting piece explores her interest in the physicality of paint and uses combinations of textures, colours, light, shade and shape. "In this commission I explore swirls: their energy and light created as they unfold. Swirls hold a symbolic connotation - there is a universal quality to them and as such, they are a timeless and formless motif. Swirls capture the movement through the moment, the energy of life. The combination of colours, light, shades and shapes add layers to the visual meaning in my work, and movement of my brush becomes a phenomenon which guides our perception to the very energetic frequency that is driving my thoughts, and subsequently the actual art making."

Rochelle Dalphinis' 'Botanical Bliss Series' grace the Living Room on Spirit of Adventure. She says: "Inspired by the botanical interior, I wanted to create a series of artworks focusing on different palm species. Concentrating on capturing the array of beautiful, unique forms that each palm displays. The individual pieces are hand painted and placed in front of a dappled background of fresh neutral tones, pushing forward the deep emerald greens. They each provide their own distinct features that bouquet together to create a botanical bliss. To enhance some of the lighter areas in each print I have applied gold leaf. As the ship passes through from day to night, the highlighted and reflected gold textures will bring each piece to life."

Corinne Natal's works can be found throughout Spirit of Adventure, including within balcony and deluxe cabins and have been inspired by the changing seasons in London. Created using acrylic, enamel and ink on white canvas 'The Woodland Dance' collection represents beauty, luxury and opulence to reflect the sumptuous aspects of the cruise ship through the use of metallics, silvers, greys, purples, browns and reds. The paintings are abstract, fluid and free flowing to capture the essence of the Spirit of Adventure and highlight the experience of cruising.



Dragica Carlin's Swirls of constant movement



Rochelle Dalphinis' Botanical Bliss Series



Corinne Natal's Eddy



Rogan Brown's paper cutting work features within Spirit of Adventure's spa. They are calming and incredibly intricate, created with the aim to transform an ordinary material into something mesmerising. The layers of hand or laser-cut paper are painstakingly built up over up to five months. The attention to detail is breath-taking. Brown says of the pieces: "These five sculptures are inspired by microscopic images of some of the tiniest creatures that teem in the ocean depths, namely diatoms, a form of algae, and radiolaria, a type of plankton. Take a sample of the water currently lapping against this ship's hull, place it under a microscope and you'll discover thousands of these creatures. Both species secrete silica in order to create hard, glass-like protective shells in a vast variety of geometric and organic shapes. They are the hidden jewels of the oceans and seas. I have presented them in compositions of reef-like colonies so that you can contemplate and wonder at the exquisite and intricate beauty of the world that surrounds you but which is hidden from your eyes."



Rogan Brown

Adam Binder has created the most subtle and surprising art on both Spirit of Adventure and Spirit of Discovery, through his hand cast bronze bird which is 'hidden' in different areas on each ship. On Discovery it peeps from the chandelier in the Grand Dining, and on Adventure the bird joins guests as they relax in the Britannia Lounge. Wherever possible, Binder studies his subjects in their natural habitat, using a fluid style of simple lines and flowing forms to depict both movement and emotion. "For me, nature and sculpture are the perfect marriage. I see repetition in form, line, mass and detail throughout the natural world, sculpted over time but in perfect harmony. Conscious of these patterns, the concept for a sculpture becomes active in my mind and only when the composition, balance and emotion is clear do I begin to sculpt."



Adam Binder

Thurle Wright's incredible contemporary craft artworks, which appropriately feature in Spirit of Adventure's library, are created entirely through the intricate cutting, folding, stitching and weaving of paper from old books and maps. The works stem from Wright's interest in the systems and structures of language, the ordering of knowledge and the collecting of stories. "Being asked to make artworks for a library was a perfect brief for me! Always inspired by books, maps and text, the thought of journeying both literally, on the ship, and metaphorically, through reading, meant a rich conceptual starting point. As passengers and as readers we all collect as we go; whether that be words, experiences or objects. Each work is made with a 'Spirit of Adventure' in mind and it is hoped that time spent exploring in the ship's library will lead passengers on to new and unexpected journeys."



Thurle Wright

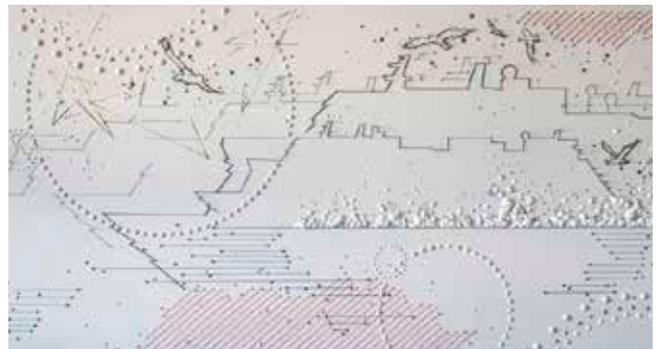


Melissa North's hand pulled screen prints feature in the cabin corridors of Deck 10 on Spirit of Adventure. Inspired by travel, pattern and architecture, Melissa collages together hand drawn and photographic elements to create playful illustrations that span both digital and print mediums. Fittingly, given Spirit of Adventure's inaugural cruise is around the UK, Melissa says: "My inspiration for the artworks came from the ship's title, 'Spirit Of Adventure'. The prints take the viewer on a journey around the British Isles from our capital city, through ancient parkland and along our extensive and varied coastline. Native wildlife such as London's plane trees, the Lake District's red squirrels and the Norfolk Broads' returning cranes are all celebrated throughout the series. Architectural triumphs like Canterbury Cathedral or Cornwall's Minack Theatre, carved into the cliffs above the Atlantic Ocean, also feature. This celebration of Britain's cultural and natural heritage ultimately captures the many adventures that there are to be had within our own Isles



Melissa North

Debbie Smyth's work in the Britannia Lounge is integral to the collection and is specific to Spirit of Adventure as her pin-mounted thread work features the profile of the ship itself. Each piece is created by stretching a network of threads between accurately plotted pins. What at first looks like a random configuration, reveals on closer inspection complex patterns woven together to create intelligent, considered compositions. Smyth said: "The Adrift Series is a new body of work created to harmoniously sit in the Britannia Lounge onboard Spirit of Adventure. It is a journey of discovery designed to guide you through Saga's rich heritage, embracing its flotilla of ships, navigation charts, shipping forecasts, and the British Isles; a cartography of abstracted lines and pattern depicted in thread, pins and tacks."



Debbie Smyth

