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From Scotland to the Moon, by Clive Ramage

Assembly Hall, Wasps Inverness Creative Academy - 10th June to 15th July 2023

This month, we are excited to have Clive Ramage, a self-taught mixed-media painter from Aberdeen, as a visiting artist in the Assembly Hall. His collection showcases stunning paintings inspired by his experiences throughout Scotland, featuring the sea, coastal village, the moon, beaches, and of course, lighthouses.

As I gazed across the Assembly Hall, I was captivated by a series of breathtaking oil paintings depicting majestic structures set against varying sea conditions. Each brushstroke beautifully captured the nature of the water, whether calm or turbulent, while the resilient spirit of the iconic lighthouses stood tall. The paintings effortlessly guide the eyes towards the vibrant skies and fragments of clouds, taking them beyond the frames and out to the grand setting of the Assembly Hall. These artworks would be a perfect fit for contemporary homes with spacious vaulted ceilings, especially those with a view of the sea that they depict so sympathetically. The attention to detail in the sand or grass at the edges is worth noting as they have an evocative touch and showcase the artist's skill in creating natural harmony and balance.

In a quieter corner, Clive presented two intriguing pieces featuring views of Edinburgh. The meticulous attention to detail in these works invites the viewer to examine every line and movement on the substrate. As he says himself, they aim to capture the essence of a million glinting windows. And they do!

As I climbed the marble stairs, I was greeted by three radiant moons printed and crafted with exceptional skill. These are not mere daubs of glitter on a board but carefully executed artworks, where each touch of the paper exudes precision. Displayed behind museum glass, flashes of light captivate the eye, free from any reflections, distractions or even a speck out of place.

The impact of these works is undeniable, and I was lucky to see them during the hanging process. Examining them up close revealed their beauty and the impeccable craftsmanship evident in the varnishing and framing. Any of these pieces would be a splendid addition to any property, and given their popularity, they would likely prove to be an excellent investment too.

Inverness Creative Academy has become a hub of artistic inspiration within the city, bringing even more creativity and enthusiasm each month. It's wonderful to see so many visitors here, knowing they have no obligation other than just to just look at the work and enjoy the remarkable talents on display.