

The sea is one of **Donald Teskey's** principal subjects. Presented here is a group of breath-taking paintings of two different aspects of the Atlantic Ocean. His familiar scenes of the cold Atlantic crashing onto the granite rocks along Ireland's West Coast, especially in County Mayo, contrast with those that emerged from his Western Cape Residency in South Africa in February 2019. In these Teskey explores a south facing Atlantic and its meeting point with the Indian Ocean on the southern-most tip of Africa at Cape Agulhas. Looking south from this position, there is nothing between the Cape and Antarctica other than 3,800 miles of sea. False Bay, Cape Point, and other sections of coast closer to Cape Town, are rendered as luminous, assured studies, capturing a different light from that of the Irish coastline. Fresh from his Dublin studio are canvases of the sea at Achill, a beautiful island with a special position in the history of Irish art.

Teskey acknowledges a debt to the New York abstract expressionists alongside the raw first-hand experience provided by his time spent on significant residencies. His painting is richly physical with layers of paint built up and manipulated with a palette knife, brushes, or brush ends to capture an immediacy of place, of the restless elemental forces re-captured in his studio from memory and sketches. He is a superb draughtsman, working on large scale charcoal drawings, and his urban scenes of architectural areas at the edge of town – Dublin, Paris – prepare him for the structured edges of his granite shorelines, which can occupy half the canvas as they take on the crashing sea.

A magnificent survey exhibition, *Decade*, is currently at the Royal Hibernian Academy in Dublin till 23 October, accompanied by a fully illustrated catalogue.

Teskey trained at the Limerick College of Art & Design and has been awarded Residencies in Ireland, especially at the Ballinglen Arts Foundation Co. Mayo, in Paris at the Centre Culturel Irlandais and in the USA at the Vermont Studio Centre, the Josef Albers Foundation, CT; and Swarthmore College, CT. His work is held in collections including the National Gallery of Ireland, Dublin; The Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin; The Limerick City Art Gallery; The National Drawing Collection; The Arts Council of Ireland; The Royal Hibernian Academy, Dublin; The British Museum, London; Yale University Art Gallery, USA; Swarthmore College, Pennsylvania, USA.



Cape VII (Cape Point), 2019
Acrylic on paper, 19 x 23.7 cm, £4,000

DONALD TESKEY

ART FIRST



Cape Agulhas, 2019
Acrylic on paper, 76 x 105 cm, £16,500

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Kalk Bay, 2019
Acrylic on paper, 76 x 105 cm, £15,000



False Bay I, 2019
Acrylic on paper, 20.5 x 25.5 cm, £4,200



Cape V (VDG), 2019 ,
Acrylic on paper, 19 x 23.7 cm, £4,000



Achill I, 2022

Acrylic on paper, 50 x 50 cm, £12,670



Achill II, 2022

Acrylic on paper, 50 x 50 cm, £12,670



Not Returning II, 2018
Acrylic on paper, 21.5 x 25.5 cm, £4,250

For further enquiries please contact Clare Cooper, as below:
To find more about Teskey's exhibition history please visit the Art First website.

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