

JACK MILROY

With an irrepressible sense of humour and a surrealist interest in the art of transformation, sabotage and chance, Milroy's work is nevertheless marked by a serious formal investigation into big themes. He works with diverse materials; illustrated books, maps, tubes of paint, stamps, sardine tins, and computer-generated imagery with archival inkjet printmaking. He manipulates images, transforming collages and constructions through virtuosic interventions, using a scalpel.

Jackie Wullschlager, chief art critic of the Financial Times put it well in her 'Critic's Choice' column:

Milroy's sculptural collages of printed images on paper and film blend fairy tale and conceptual art, meditations on rhythms and shapes with references to Darwin. Like Jeff Wall, Milroy came of age when beauty was suspect and has found his own subversive way of incorporating sumptuous colour and formal rigour into work that is offbeat and unexpected. He has the gentle wit of a late surrealist, yet the sense of infinite possibilities of mutation, rearrangements of species...is fraught with 21st Century tension about science and nature: a pertinent contemporary vision.

Cloud Nest Water, 2014, is a Milroy masterpiece of cut book pages set within Perspex boxes and presented as a vertically arranged triptych. In a froth of cut paper fish leap from their pages beyond the confines of their book, while in the box above them birds' eggs nestle weightlessly on their shredded paper, escaping the 2-D compression of their pages. On top, with their wings tangling in loops of paper clouds are angels of the exotic, stylized types seen in Russian Orthodox Icon paintings.

Born in Glasgow, Milroy trained at the Scarborough School of Art and the University of London. He has exhibited over a 50-year period and his work is held in museum collections including the Victoria & Albert Museum, the Imperial War Museum, the New British Library and the Government Art Collection. A fully illustrated monograph on his work, *Cut Out*, published by Black Dog is available.

For further information contact Clare Cooper: clare@artfirst.co.uk and please visit www.artfirst.co.uk to find more about Milroy's exhibition history and publications.





Cloud Nest Water, 2014

Cut book pages triptych, 84 x 61 x 27.5cm, £14,000

ART FIRST

Art First, The Forge, 15 St. Mary's Walk, London, SE11 4UA

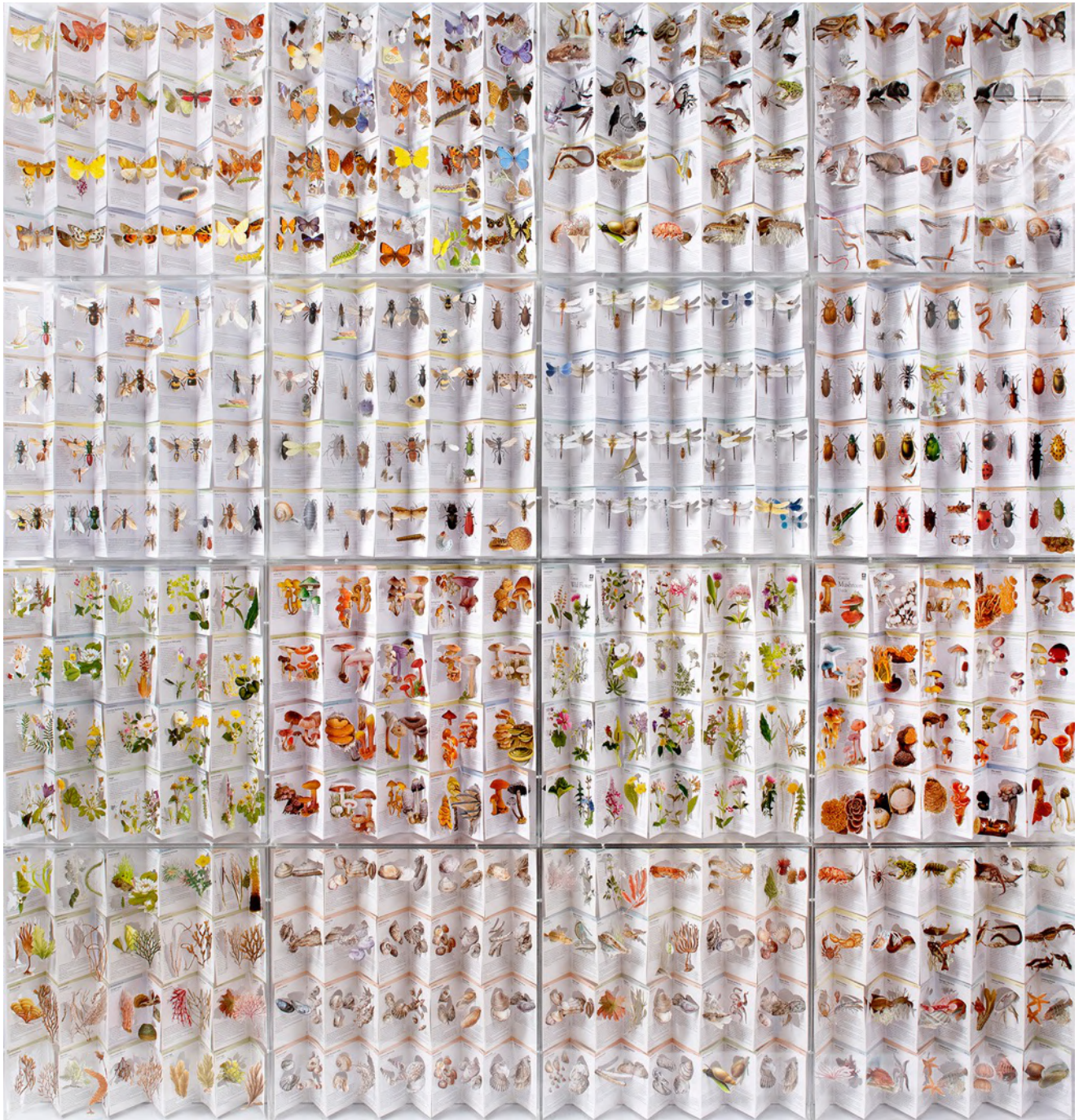
E: clare@artfirst.co.uk | T: +44 (0) 7711 945098 | I: [@artfirstlondon](https://www.instagram.com/artfirstlondon) www.artfirst.co.uk



The Collector, 2012
cut book page construction, 99 x 61 x 13cm, £13,500

ART FIRST

Art First, The Forge, 15 St. Mary's Walk, London, SE11 4UA
E: clare@artfirst.co.uk | T: +44 (0) 7711 945098 | I: [@artfirstlondon](https://www.instagram.com/artfirstlondon) www.artfirst.co.uk



Cabinet of Natural History II, 2021

Cut books made up of 16 pieces each 54 x 51 x 10cm

Arrangement with 1cm between each Perspex box measures 219 x 205 x 10 cm in total, £30,000

ART FIRST

Art First, The Forge, 15 St. Mary's Walk, London, SE11 4UA

E: clare@artfirst.co.uk | T: +44 (0) 7711 945098 | I: [@artfirstlondon](https://www.artfirstlondon.com) www.artfirst.co.uk



Fish and Flowers, 2021

inkjet print on paper 125 x 105 x 25 cm (installed + detail), £20,000

ART FIRST

Art First, The Forge, 15 St. Mary's Walk, London, SE11 4UA

E: clare@artfirst.co.uk | T: +44 (0) 7711 945098 | I: [@artfirstlondon](https://www.instagram.com/artfirstlondon) www.artfirst.co.uk





House of Cards I, 2021 ,
Cut postcard construction, 93 x 101 x 14 cm, £18,000

ART FIRST

Art First, The Forge, 15 St. Mary's Walk, London, SE11 4UA

E: clare@artfirst.co.uk | T: +44 (0) 7711 945098 | I: [@artfirstlondon](https://www.artfirstlondon.com) www.artfirst.co.uk



Dressed to Kill III, 2021

inkjet print on paper, 142 x 109 x 12cm, £24,000

ART FIRST

Art First, The Forge, 15 St. Mary's Walk, London, SE11 4UA

E: clare@artfirst.co.uk | T: +44 (0) 7711 945098 | I: [@artfirstlondon](https://www.instagram.com/artfirstlondon) www.artfirst.co.uk

