

ON THE HORIZON



The English landscape, and in particular the coastline, has become an obsession for **Lawrence Coulson**, and his passion for the

subject shines through in his latest collection of paintings. As the artist himself acknowledges, his pictures of vast empty beaches have become a central theme in his work, as the spectacular beauty of the British coastline provides him with a never-ending source of inspiration. We caught up with Lawrence to discover exactly what he feels about his latest collection, simply called 'Coast' which launched in galleries this autumn.

← Searching

Giclée edition of 150
Image 24" x 24"
Framed £465



I find the seashore such a romantic place. The dramatic changes of light in a painting like 'Where We Begin' undoubtedly becomes the central focus of the picture. I know that people identify with the solitary figures on the beach but the title is deliberately ambiguous, and left open to the viewer's own interpretation.

I've suddenly changed the way I paint, after ten years. Having always followed the same process I've stopped painting on canvas and started paintings on panels. This gives me much greater freedom to create different surfaces for different subject matter, and allows me to paint in a very individual style for each painting.

This collection has reignited a new-found passion for painting. I feel that my work is now coming from deeper

within myself, and I am enjoying painting more than ever.

The coast and all that it provides in terms of light, drama and power, gives me an endless source of subject matter. It allows me to vary the pictures I can create. For instance 'Fairground Attraction' reminds me of my childhood. The fairground always held a special allure for me, not only because of the excitement on the rides, but because of the sheer energy and lively atmosphere of the place, which I found understandably attractive. At night times the tawdry gaudiness is totally transformed into something quite magical, which I hope I've captured on canvas.

In my opinion the greatest painter of all time is Turner. 'Searching', one of the new paintings in my new collection, is my

↑ **Freedom Is A Place**
Giclée edition of 150
Image 9¾" x 34"
Framed £375

↙ **Dreamland**
Giclée edition of 150
Image 9¾" x 34"
Framed £375

homage to this great artist. The power, light, drama and beauty in his work are all the inspiration I will ever need.

My new way of working allows me more individuality in each painting.

I've also discovered a way to give these paintings a much richer, more luminous appearance, by underpainting in warm tones and building up many fine layers of oil glazes just as the Old Masters used to do.

As an artist the ultimate aim is to make the painting come to life for the viewer.

I really had fun creating 'Dreamland' as the pier is a timeless icon of the British seaside. I wanted to capture the distant lights of the pier reflected in the wet sand, and let the atmospheric sounds and smells transport you to another place altogether.



To see this collection
in full please visit
www.washingtongreen.co.uk