

# Philip Blacker

— Bronzes | Paintings | Drawings —



**18<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER - 13<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2021**

ROWLES  
FINE ART



# A True Thoroughbred of the Art World

Since his retirement in 1983 from a successful horse racing career, Philip Blacker has become one of the world's leading equestrian artists.

Producing many pieces of work on a small scale to great effect, Blacker is perhaps best known for his life-size or oversized bronze horses, many of which grace the grounds of countless racecourses worldwide today.

For the first 14 years of his adult life, Blacker rode as a professional steeplechase jockey; a long and fruitful career which saw him riding 350 winners. In 1973, he finished fourth on Spanish Steps in the first Grand National won by Red Rum, and then finished third to Aldanti in 1981 on Royal Mail.

"1982 was my one big chance to win the Grand National," he later mused. But an arm-breaking fall at Ludlow Racecourse the day before the race meant his horse, Royal Mail, was ridden by another jockey and fell at Becher's Brook: "The horse needed a rider who knew him, and on that day, he didn't have one."

It's an event that Blacker still refers to as one of the greatest

regrets of his life, but it was during this time that he developed a passion for sculpture. Under the guidance of Margot Dent, a former pupil of John Skeaping, Blacker honed his craft and subsequently hung up the saddle to focus on sculpting full time.

Since then, he's taken on numerous large and small-scale commissions for clients around the world, starting with a sculpture of Red Rum which was installed at Aintree Racecourse in 1988. Today, seemingly forgiving of the region in which he took his fateful fall, Blacker is represented in the UK by Ludlow-based Rowles Fine Art.

# Bronze Sculpture

"The centre piece of my collection is the half life-size mare and foal. I love the scale of this piece as it seems to fit in practically anywhere but is ideally suited to going outside. Most of my time in lockdown was spent perfecting studies of my favourite subject; the horse and of course dogs".

**FRONT COVER:**  
**IRISH THOROUGHBRED 2**

Bronze Sculpture | Edition of 9 | Signed & Numbered  
55 x 10 x 40cm

All measurements are in cm. Length x Width x Height.



## MARE AND FOAL

Bronze Sculpture - Half Life-Size  
Edition of 6 | Signed & Numbered

*The mare and foal is one of my  
favourite equine subjects.*







**MARE & FOAL AT THE WATER**

Bronze Sculpture | Edition of 9

Signed & Numbered

40 x 30 x 23cm

*Another study of a favourite subject.  
Drinking from a lake was a scene  
I witnessed near my home.*



### **IRISH THOROUGHBRED 1**

Bronze Sculpture | Edition of 9

Signed & Numbered

61 x 10 x 41cm







**STARTLED FOAL**

Bronze Sculpture | Edition of 9

Signed & Numbered

28 x 13 x 28cm

## **SETTING SAIL FOR HOME**

Bronze Sculpture | Edition of 9

Signed & Numbered

70 x 24 x 32cm



## ARION

Bronze Sculpture | Edition of 9  
Signed & Numbered  
57 x 11 x 29cm

*The name Arion comes from Greek mythology.  
The horse was renowned for  
his speed and endurance*



## **FREEDOM**

Bronze Sculpture | Edition of 9

Signed & Numbered

39 x 14 x 38cm

*I finished this work just as we came out of lockdown in 2021, so I called it Freedom. The horse is also celebrating his freedom on being turned out.*

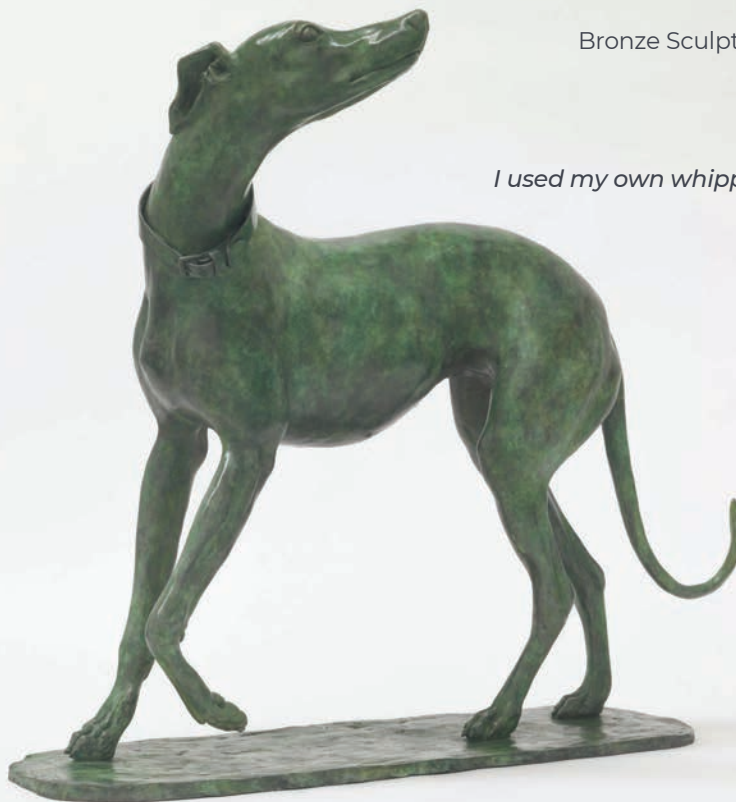




## WHIPPET

Bronze Sculpture - Life-Size | Edition of 9  
Signed & Numbered  
70 x 39 x 65cm

*I used my own whippet as a model for this piece.*



## **WAITING FOR TREATMENT**

Bronze Sculpture | Artist's Copy | 47 x 14 x 32cm

*This is the artist's copy of a piece I donated to the Brooke Hospital in Cairo to celebrate it's 75th anniversary.*



*I have always admired the jockey Tony McCoy.  
This is my tribute to him.*



### **OVER THE LAST!**

Bronze Sculpture | Edition of 9  
Signed & Numbered  
52 x 12 x 36cm



### **FOAL AND GOOSE**

Bronze Sculpture | Edition of 9  
Signed & Numbered  
50 x 13 x 26cm



### **ROLLING HORSE**

Bronze Sculpture | Edition of 9  
Signed & Numbered  
24.5 x 17 x 17cm



### **YEATS**

Bronze Sculpture | Edition of 9  
Signed & Numbered  
59 x 12 x 41cm

*I made a small edition of 4 times Ascot Gold Cup winner Yeats. This is the last in the edition.*



*The mould for this piece  
was destroyed in a fire at  
the foundry, so this is a  
one off cast.*



**MANDARIN DUCK**

Bronze Sculpture | Unique  
Signed & Numbered  
18 x 18 x 34cm



**GREYHOUND**

Bronze Sculpture | Edition of 9  
Signed & Numbered  
62 x 13 x 38cm

*This is the only cast left. The edition is complete.*



**YOUNG GIRAFFE DRINKING**

Bronze Sculpture | Edition of 9  
Signed & Numbered  
34 x 28 x 25cm

*This is a one off piece that I have had at home for some time. I decided to make it available.*



**FOAL LYING DOWN**

Bronze Sculpture | Unique  
20 x 20 x 10cm



**BULL**

Bronze Sculpture | Edition of 9  
Signed & Numbered  
34 x 19 x 19cm



**SERENADE**

Bronze Sculpture  
Edition of 4  
Signed & Numbered  
13 x 13 x 35cm



**FLANDERS MUD**

Bronze Resin | One Available  
Signed & Numbered  
46 x 15 x 36cm



**PONY MARE & FOAL**

Bronze Resin | One Available  
Signed & Numbered  
24 x 21 x 33cm





### **YOUNG DEER**

Bronze Resin | One Available  
Signed & Numbered  
25 x 10 x 40cm

*This was the maquette or scale model for a 2nd World War Memorial. The soldier is looking reflective and tired at the end of a momentous day.*



### **SOLDIER AFTER D-DAY**

Bronze Sculpture | Edition of 9  
Signed & Numbered  
20 x 21 x 30cm

# Paintings & Drawings

"The ideas for my paintings and drawings come from all areas of my life, many of them relate directly with my sculpture, starting out as preparatory sketches, others come from life at home like the 'The Avenue' and 'Stand Off'. Some just jump into my head such as 'Fugitive' which was inspired after a visit to a Frank Auerbach exhibition. My past life in racing also sometimes finds its way into a painting too, like 'Loose One on the Beach.'"

All measurements are in cm - width x height, and include the frame.



**LOOSE ONE ON THE BEACH**

Oil on Canvas | 97 x 74cm (including frame) | Signed

**SUNRISE OVER THE DOWNS**

Oil on Canvas

72 x 92cm (including frame)

Signed







**DOWN AT THE  
START FOR THE 1901  
GRAND NATIONAL**

*The only Grand  
National ever to be  
run in the snow.*

Oil on Canvas  
69 x 53cm  
(including frame)  
Signed

**THE AVENUE**

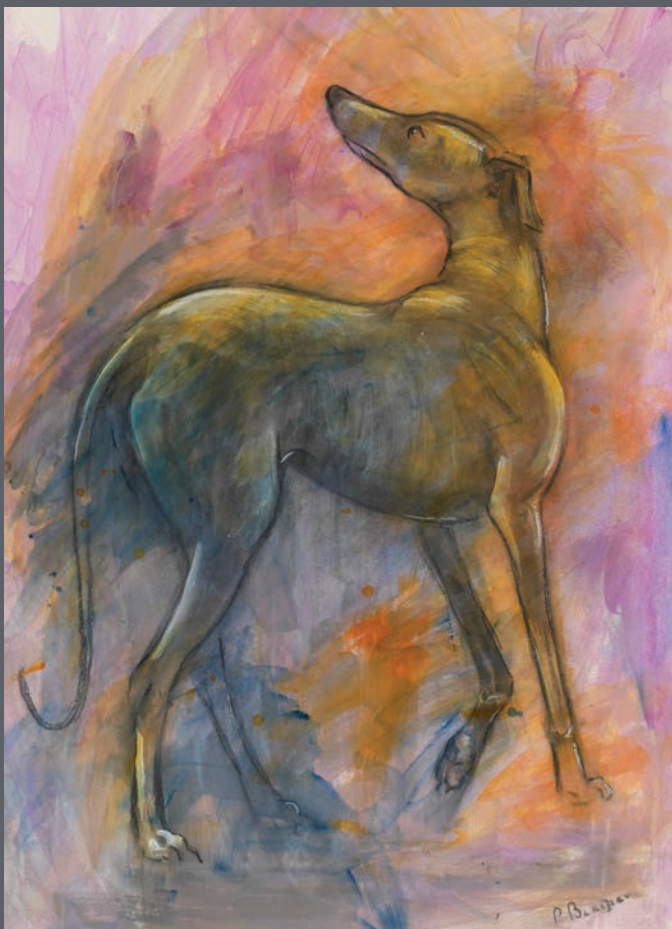
Oil on Canvas

76 x 65cm

(including frame)

Signed





**INQUISITIVE WHIPPET**

Acrylic on Paper

100 x 75cm (including frame)

Signed



**THE STAND OFF**

Mixed Media

90 x 70cm

(including frame)

Signed





**NORTH WALES**

Oil on Wooden Board  
38 x 33cm  
(including frame)  
Signed

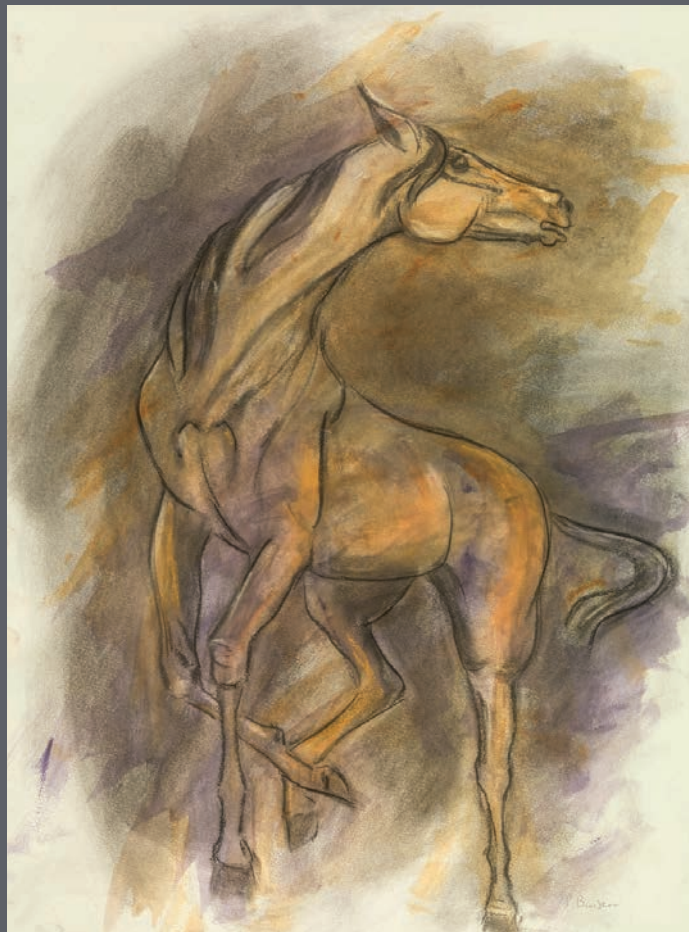


**DANCING IN THE MOONLIGHT**

Acrylic on Paper

69 x 88cm (including frame)

Signed





**HARE IN SPRING**

Acrylic on Paper

88 x 69cm

(including frame)

Signed

**LEAPING HORSE 2**

Acrylic on Paper

69 x 88cm (including frame)

Signed







**FUGITIVE**

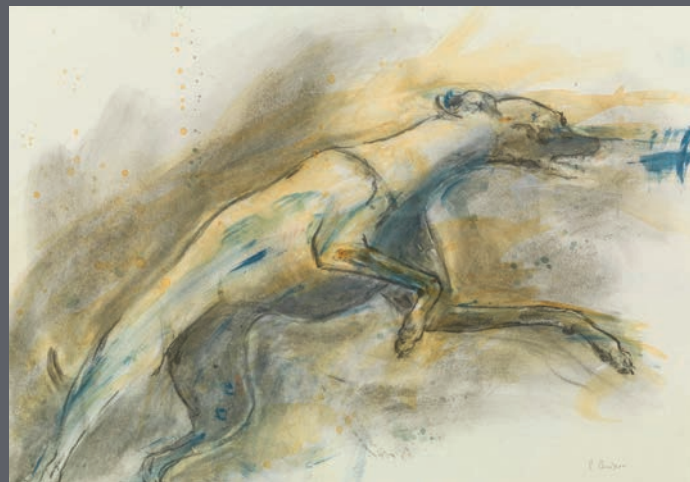
Mixed Media | 150 x 100cm Unframed | Signed



### **WHIPPET ON BLUE**

Acrylic on Wooden Panel

62 x 55cm (including frame) | Signed



### **HUNTING GREYHOUND**

Acrylic on Paper

100 x 77cm (including frame) | Signed

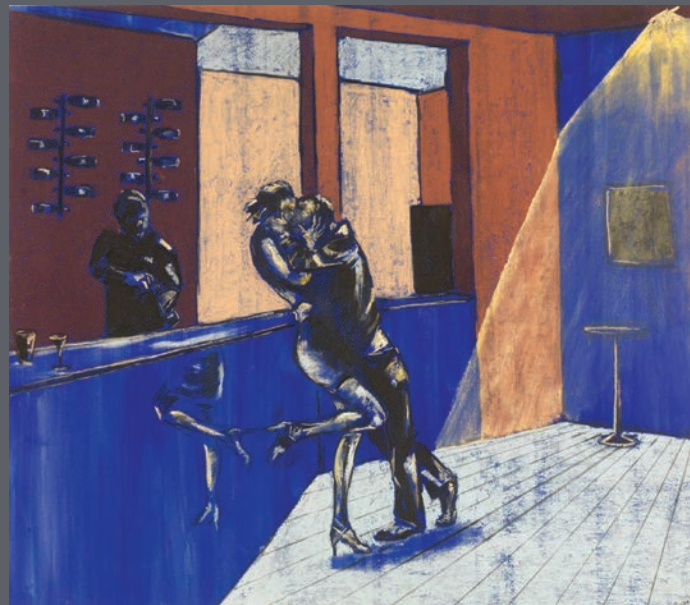




### **HUNTING LURCHER**

Mixed Media

101 x 80cm (including frame) | Signed



### **CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Acrylic on Paper

82 x 77cm (including frame) | Signed



### **STARTLED HORSE**

Charcoal on Paper  
69 x 93cm (including frame) | Signed



### **HORSE RELIEF PANEL**

Acrylic Paste on Wooden Board  
48 x 66cm (including frame) | Signed



### **WHIPPET IN CHARCOAL**

Charcoal on Paper  
75 x 100cm (including frame) | Signed



### **SEA MIST**

Acrylic on Paper  
88 x 70cm (including frame) | Signed



### **SUNDAY MORNING**

Oil on Canvas

39 x 30cm (including frame) | Signed



### **LEAPING HORSE 1**

Charcoal on Paper

75 x 100 cm (including frame) | Signed





### **LIFE IN ABRUZZO**

Oil on Canvas

104 x 104cm (including frame) | Signed



### **WHIPPET AND HORSE BANGLES**

Solid Silver



# ROWLES

FINE ART



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