

Gracie Fields, Meeting the Mafia, and Breaking a €2,000 Table!

The Amalfi Coast is startlingly beautiful — a chain of small, picturesque villages clinging to sheer limestone cliffs, punctuated by elegant churches, sun-washed quaysides, and as many opportunities to buy a lemon ice cream as anyone could hope for.

When I travel to paint, I rarely dwell on the romance of a destination — I tend to think in terms of logistics and light. But the moment I arrived in Amalfi, I felt a rush of excitement so intense that my hands were literally shaking as I unpacked my brushes. The quayside offered the best chance to work at the scale I wanted; everywhere else was simply too crowded, and I didn't want to get in anyone's way.

A group of local men in white shirts and blue jeans began appearing behind me each day, quietly leaning on the wall as I worked. Later, a restaurant owner brought me a perfect espresso and laughed, "Ah, I see you have met the Gentlemen!" Encounters like that are the magic of plein air painting — it draws people in, opening conversations that would never happen if I were just another passer-by.

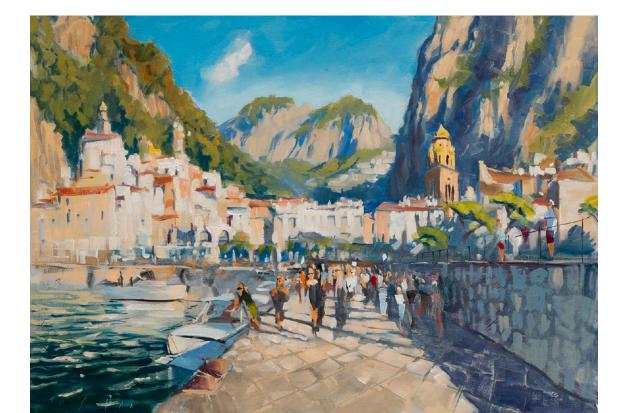
I stayed in Atrani, in an apartment seemingly glued to the mountainside. One morning, while trying to rearrange the balcony furniture to catch the first light on the church below, I managed to drop a hand-painted slate tabletop — shattering it and opening a gash in my ankle. My horrified landlady patched me up, but I never did paint that particular view (and yes, I did pay for the table).

Midweek, I took the ferry to Positano. From the obvious vantage point overlooking the cliffs and cathedral dome, I was deep into a painting when a local artist informed me that this was his spot — and that I had twenty minutes to finish up! As I wandered along the promenade, I saw others setting up to paint over prints of The Girl with the Pearl Earring or large, bright scenes of Positano. I opted for a sun-lounger on the beach for my next piece — less prestigious perhaps, but blessedly free from territorial disputes.

The trip ended on the island of Capri, where I stayed just above the former home of Gracie Fields — a wartime star who also founded an orphanage in my own hometown of Peacehaven. It felt like an odd but touching link between two coastlines. From her garden, I painted the iconic rock stacks at sunset, the light dissolving into rose and gold — a fitting close to one of the most inspiring trips I've ever taken.



'Postiano' 60 x 42cm Oil on canvas £3,000



'Blood Slate and Tears' 60 x 42cm Oil on canvas

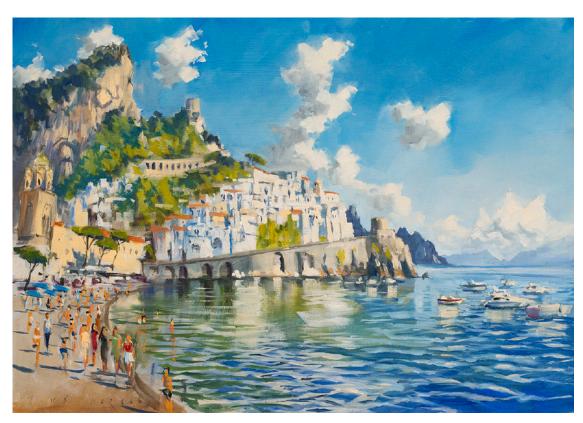
£3,000



'Amalfi Cliffs Sunset' 42 x 30cm Oil on canvas £1,100



'Atrani' 42 x 30cm Oil on canvas £1,100



'Amalfi Vista' 60 x 42cm Oil on canvas £3,000



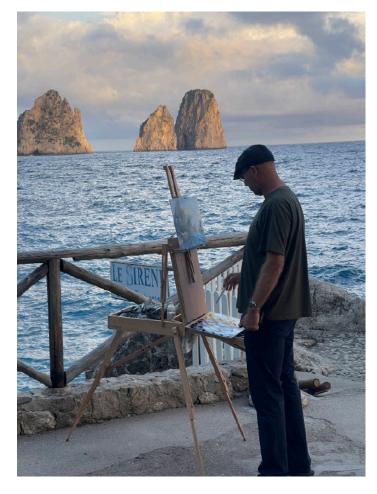
'Capri Arch' 42 x 30cm Oil on canvas £1,200



'Postiano Quay' 42 x 30cm Oil on canvas £1,100



'Gracie's View' 42 x 30cm Oil on canvas £1,000



If one of these originals has caught your eye, I'd love to hear from you. Each painting comes beautifully framed and fitted with a TOAT (Tradable Original Art Token), preserving its provenance and future tradability within my collector network.

I can help with framing, delivery, or flexible payment arrangements to make things easy.

To enquire or reserve a piece, simply email me at artistonthehill@gmail.com



Two Worlds. One Painter. A New Way to Collect.

This collection brings together both sides of Tony Parsons' practice.

The large studio animal paintings are bold, abstracted, and full of physical energy - created from memory, emotion, and instinct.

The plein air landscapes and figures are calmer, painted directly from life, often with the quiet presence of passing strangers woven in.

Each work is a one-off oil original, part of a deliberately limited output. Only a handful of major pieces are released each year.



All eligible works in this catalogue are TOAT-certified - digitally registered, traceable, and prepared for future resale. The TOAT system (Tradable Original Art Token) offers collectors a new way to hold, enjoy, and eventually pass on an original work of art with confidence.

This show marks a turning point. From here, the work becomes rarer, the stories more embedded, and the collector more connected to the journey. Every piece has a story - you'll need to ask Tony about that, he does love to talk!

TOAT Sketches

Limited originals. Collectible. Tradeable. Yours.

These small-format oil paintings are part of a select series of TOAT Sketches - A3-sized works, each created en plein air or directly from life. No duplicates. Just one original, often made on the spot.

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Just 30 TOAT Sketches are released each year.

Whether you keep yours forever or sell it later on, you're holding a rare moment in time - captured, signed, and made to last.



















About the Artist

Tony Parsons is a British painter working in oils across landscape, portraiture, and wildlife.

Formerly a rescue skipper and lifeboatman, his work is shaped by coastlines, community, and a deep love of the outdoors.

Tony honed his craft over the last two decades finding his voice and style in conversationas and adventures offered to him by his clientele. He paints live on the Alpine ski slopes in winter and the beaches of the Channel Islands, Medeteranean and Carribean in summer.

Commissions have long been every artists must to make ends meet but Tony turned this concept on it's head demanding adventures for work, this has seen him work for the diplomatic staff in Cairo, and London Television Centre - try him.

Now working independently and directly with collectors, Tony's work is increasingly seen as investment-grade, blending authenticity with innovation.

Stay in Touch

To enquire about any painting in this catalogue or to register your interest in future shows and releases - visit:

www.artistonthehill.co.uk

Or email: artistonthehill@gmail.com

Join the collector list for first access to new work, exhibitions, and TOAT releases.

Much of Tony's work becomes fine art prints.

www.thegillangallery.com







A Short Note on Value

'When I'm painting I don't think about all this stuff, I just paint what I want. Since my work took off I've had to start behaving like a proper artist. The money means I can persue my art in it's purest form so I'm careful to protect my brand. I don't want to peak early, I just want to explore my freedom with the help and support of my collectors.

In 2019, I sold my first painting over the £2,000 mark. Since then, many exhibitions in the Channel Islands, ski resorts and occasionally the Caribean, lockdowns, and a rising tide of collector confidence have driven me to paint bigger, bolder, and more ambitious work than ever before.

By 2023, I began to limit availability and became more selective about commissions. Not to create scarcity for its own sake - there's a sea of oil sketches behind each painting - but because each piece takes more out of me, and earns its place more carefully.

Every original in this catalogue is authenticated through my TOAT system - designed to offer collectors a verified record of ownership, direct resale options, and a lasting link back to me. With each year, the gap between supply and demand grows a little wider.

I've built my practice for the long game.

If you're reading this, I'd love you to be part of it.'

www.artistonthehill.co.uk artistonthehill@gmail.com

