



Blue and White

Date

1963

Primary Maker

William Scott

Medium

Oil on canvas

Dimensions

157 x 170 cm

Description

Informed by the European tradition of painting and the encounter with the great American abstract expressionists, William Scott's work is significant in that it embodies a dialogue between these two practices. In the 1954 exhibition at the Beaux arts gallery London, David Sylvester dubbed Scott and his colleagues Jack Smith, Derrick Greaves, Edward Middleditch and John Bratby, the 'Kitchen Sink group' as they seemed prepared to paint anything... including the kitchen sink. This loose group of very different artists, with very different goals, had exponents throughout central Europe, including Renato Guttuso in Italy and Bernard Buffet in France. The concerns of William Scott's earlier paintings filter through his experiences with the large format, frontier mentality of the American abstract expressionists to produce an extraordinary body of work; the genre of still life painting regaining its former relevance and in the process being completely revolutionised. "Blue and White" is a perfect example of Scott's synthesis of observation and invention, the austerity is palpable, and the flattened out pictorial space gives the abstracted pots and pans an elegiac quality.