Le Passeur (The Ferry) sets sail for new home at



William Stott of Oldham's Le Passeur (1882) Tate 2016

A sublime naturalist painting by British impressionist William Stott of Oldham has been purchased by Tate with the help of £1.5million National Lottery funding.

Le Passeur will be displayed at Tate Britain in April 2017 and will then tour to three UK partner galleries: Gallery Oldham, Aberdeen Art Gallery & Museums and Southampton City Art Gallery.

Artistic high point

Painted at the international artists' colony of Grez-sur-Loing in the early 1880s, *Le Passeur* is regarded as the pinnacle of Stott's short but prestigious career.

[quote=Stuart Hobley, Head of HLF London]"While Tate Britain will be its permanent home, *Le Passeur* will also visit three other important regional galleries and in so doing share the benefits that come from such a significant investment."[/quote]

Head of HLF London, Stuart Hobley, said: "We've helped Tate acquire *Le Passeur* because it's a beautiful painting which has played an important role in our nation's artistic heritage.

"While Tate Britain will be its permanent home, it will also visit three other important regional galleries and in so doing share the benefits that come from such a significant investment of National Lottery money."

Oldham man

There are 23 paintings in British public collections by Stott, the majority of which are in Gallery Oldham, the artist's home town. This work joins one other in Tate's collection by him, entitled *Girl in a Meadow*.

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