



Lyme rocks with new M.A.D label!

We're delighted to introduce the latest artist to join the Modern Art Distillery fold - Hugh Dunford Wood, from Dorset, who has devised a stunning linoprint of Lyme Regis for our M.A.D bottle labels - called *The Spirit of Lyme Regis*.



Hugh's design recreates The Cobb, made famous the world over for its inclusion in Jane Austen's book of 1818, *Persuasion*, and later in John Fowles's *The French Lieutenant's Woman*, made into a blockbuster movie starring Meryl Streep.

The eye-catching artwork appears on our Blueberry & Bergamot Gin, Strawberry & Honey Spiced Rum and London Dry Gin bottle labels.

It's also available on our mini bottles of Watermelon & Thyme Vodka.

And you can buy Hugh's beautiful artwork - a limited edition, individually signed, numbered and hand-finished linoprint of *The Spirit of Lyme Regis* is available from our Art Shop.

Hugh is a multi-talented artist who as well as making linoprints, also paints landscapes and portraits, designs crockery, jewellery, furnishing fabrics and wallpaper, and shares his skills through running workshops.

His wife Candida is leading an initiative to establish a community food hub called Nourish in their home town of Bridport, and recently organised a fund-raising dinner - which saw the launch of Hugh's label artwork on our London Dry Gin bottle, with a special cocktail produced by the couple's son Jesse.



Classic gin sour

Hugh's son Jesse (above) is a well known London chef and restaurateur - he owns Parlour in Kensal Green and Six Portland Road in Holland Park.

His sommelier Lorenzo created an original cocktail based on local apple juice and M.A.D's London Dry Gin - see the recipe.

Make your own

The recipe is a classic sour on the rocks - each serving has:

- 25ml Elderflower syrup
- 50ml of M.A.D London Dry Gin
- 15ml lemon Juice
- 50ml of freshly pressed apple juice

Garnish with an orange slice and lemon verbena.

A bottle for all seasons



It only seems five minutes since we were out and about at Christmas fairs and festivals, but already we're planning ahead for a packed year of events in 2025 - here's where we'll be this spring:

April 13: [The Shaftesbury Market](#)

April 19: [Langport Artisan Market](#)

April 20: Poundbury Easter Market

April 26: [Langport Artisan Market](#)

April 27: [Dorchester Artisan Market](#)

May 8-11: [RHS Malvern Spring Fair](#)

May 15-18: [Pub in the Park \(Marlow\)](#)

May 24-26: [Blenheim Palace Food Festival](#)

May 30- June 1: [Pub in the Park \(Gunnersbury\)](#)

Look out for us if you're nearby - and keep an eye on Instagram [@modernartdistillery](#) for updates on additional events.

And don't forget you can also buy our bottles from our [website](#) - they make the perfect Mother's Day (March 30) or Easter (April 20) gift - or simply a treat for yourself!

Rachel's winter wonder



Back in October we sponsored a prize in the the South West Academy of Fine and Applied Arts (SWAc) Open Exhibition.

It was a tough choice, but we eventually selected Rachel Byles, from Somerset, as the winner for her watercolour painting *Beyond Winter Blackthorns* (above). We were struck by the vibrancy, colours and composition of her painting.



We love our links with the art world and we're hoping our partnership with SWAc will be the first of many collaborations with creative organisations.

Artist Rachel said: "Modern Art Distillery's recognition is a great encouragement and it's wonderful to know that they will continue to support the arts through this prize and their unique business."

She received her award from TV star John Nettles, President of SWAc.

M.A.D hall of fame



Over the festive season we were featured in Grazia magazine's article [Best Christmas Gifts for Mums](#) - they tried our London Dry Gin and were particularly impressed with its flavour and its use of sumac, together with Lu Cornish's *Call of the Sea* artwork.

In January we were thrilled to see M.A.D spirits reviewed in a YouTube video from @the_ginfluencers_uk with a focus on our Strawberry & Honey Spiced Rum (click on the photo to view the video).

Spoiler alert ... they loved it!

And in November M.A.D was named in Lux Life Magazine's [Distillery & Brewing Awards](#) as the Most Creative Spirit Distillery 2024 (England) and Most Innovative Gin Branding 2024 (England) - we'll drink to that!

Artist news: Alice Bulmer



Alice Bulmer, the Devon-based artist behind the beautiful botanical label *Hibiscus Kiss*, featured on our [Watermelon & Thyme Vodka](#), has produced a new series of work based around underwater figures.

Each work explores a different aspect of a woman's emotions and the feelings they become free of or escape from while in this underwater world. Says Alice: "There's a weightlessness that is physically achieved and allows for the emotions to not hang so heavy on us."



Her drawing *This Woman's Work*, representing the daily mental load women become entangled with, has recently been on display at [The Gallery at Green and Stone](#), Chelsea.

"The fabric represents the mass of otherwise heavy load that takes over our lives and we carry round with us. Once underwater we are free from what ties us down," says Alice.

See more of Alice's work on Instagram [@alicebulmer_artist](#) or at [Saatchi Art](#).

Artist news: Chris Pompa



It's been a busy time for Chris Pompa whose *Secret Garden* artwork for The Secret Garden Cafe in Bute Park, Cardiff, is now on display. The park is the green heart of the city centre, with an extensive arboretum, and Chris's colourful design hangs alongside two other artists' work in the walled garden.

Says Chris: "It's somewhere I walk nearly every day, so it's a blessing to have my work as part of the park's landscape."

In another project, Chris's artwork for The Carers Trust, in conjunction with the Short Breaks Scheme, was launched in the Senedd in Cardiff in early February.

Chris, whose abstract mosaic *Simpatico* appears on M.A.D's [Blueberry & Bergamot Gin](#), comments: "It was a privilege to be involved in the scheme, which provides funds for respite and breaks for carers, and to draw attention to the amazing selfless work that they do."



Chris's piece was originally unveiled last November by Princess Anne.

Then, on February 4, it was presented to the Welsh Senedd's Minister for Children & Social Care, Dawn Bowden MS, by the Chairman of Carers Trust Wales, Mark Llewellyn.

You can see more of Chris's work on his [website](#) or find him on Instagram [@chrispompaart](#).

Artist news:
Emma Taylor



Emma Taylor, one half of Jet Pictures who designed our 'City' London Dry Gin artwork *Separation & Amalgamation*, has been doing some charming pet portrait commissions recently - we love her drawing of Wombat!

She has also been busy on the mural front, creating an amazing 29 murals in the space of two days for Hotel Indigo in Newcastle.

Contact Emma via her [website](#), on Instagram [@emmataylorbathartist](#), or visit her [Etsy shop](#).

Artist news:

John Goldsworthy



A shout-out for one of our most prolific artists - John Goldsworthy - whose paintings always bring a smile to our face!

His artwork *Rhythm of the Rum* appears on our [Strawberry & Honey Spiced Rum](#) bottle label.



John's inspiration comes from his love of music and people's connection with it - he describes it as a "beautiful language of the universe".

His intricate and intriguing watercolours always allude to music.



You can find out more about John's work at his [website](#) and on his Instagram page [@johngoldsworthyart](#).

His paintings are also available from [Saatchi Art](#).



Where in the world?

Spot the Bristol Suspension Bridge in our London Dry Gin 'City' label ... right in front of the real bridge!

We'd love to hear where in the world your bottle ends up - follow us on Instagram [@modernartdistillery](#) and tag us in a photo of your M.A.D spirits bottle.

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