

MALCOLM CROFT  
*Spirit of Place*



FRONT COVER

**Study for 'Azille from the Serre'**

28" x 20" oil on canvas

£1,275

OPPOSITE

**Azille Water Tower, Harvest Time**

30" x 24" oil on canvas

£1,600

Malcolm Croft is not a painter who paints the scenes of people sitting outside cafe's in the dappled shade of plane trees as this would be, he says, "the paintings of holidays".

Rather, he is a painter who digs deep, who reveals what is under the surface of a composition. A painter of real life, life which goes on in a place all year round, once the tourists have packed their bags and gone home.

Although there are no people in his paintings, there is (almost) always a hint of human presence in the landscape, be it a building or road. '*Azille Water Tower, Harvest Time*' illustrates this perfectly. The grape harvester in the bottom corner of the painting could easily be missed at first glance but it is these machines that are used to Hoover up acres of grapes in minutes, usually at night to slow the rate of fermentation.

They are not picked by hand as some people think and it is these machines that can be heard making the most incredible racket rolling through the village of Azille, often in the very early hours of the morning in the month of August.

This is what Malcolm captures in his paintings, the spirit of place.



**Malcolm Croft**  
**Self Portrait**  
oil on board



OPPOSITE

**Azille and the Pyrenees**

20" x 16" oil on canvas

£995

The mountain ranges of the Pyrenees, Corbieres and Black Mountains along with the vineyards surrounding his home in the Minervois region of Southern France provide beautiful backdrops for his compositions but for Malcolm the scene he paints (in terms of light) is always changing and always feels different.

Humidity plays its part, some days obscuring all three mountain ranges but his previous profession as a fleet street photographer taught him that almost any scene looks more interesting at the start or end of the day. The colour temperature of light at dawn or dusk being very different to that of mid-day. Malcolm is also sensitive to light having a seasonal variance being much warmer in the autumnal months.

All this knowledge has been brought through into his painting.

In essence, these paintings give us an honest portrayal and understanding of what life is like and feels like for Malcolm living in the South of France. *Spirit of Place* gives us a real life account.

**Chris & Julie McCabe**

September 2017



**Ranunculus**

8" x 10" oil on board

£450



**Across the Vines, Azille**  
10" x 8" oil on board  
£450



**Across the Rooftops, La Livinière**  
10" x 8" oil on board  
£450



OPPOSITE  
**Looking towards Lezignan**  
30" x 24" oil on canvas  
£1,600



**Azille, Vines, Springtime**  
10" x 8" oil on board  
£450

**Towards the Pyrenees**  
10" x 8" oil on board  
£450





**Carcassonne, Soir**  
20" x 16" oil on canvas  
£995



**Azille, Matin**  
20" x 16" oil on canvas  
£995





**Carcassonne, Garage**

10" x 8" oil on board

£450



**Azille, Restaurant, Dusk**

10" x 8" oil on board

£450



**The Road to Fanjeux, Summer**

20" x 16" oil on canvas

£995

OPPOSITE

**Gazanias in a Terracotta Pot**

24" x 20" oil on canvas

£1,200





**Azille, End of Village**

10" x 8" oil on board

£450



**Azille, depuis le jardin des plantes**

10" x 8" oil on board

£450



OPPOSITE

**Azille, Winter**

20" x 16" oil on canvas

£995

**Azille, Chateau**

10" x 8" oil on board

£450





**Azille, Autumn Vines**  
30" x 24" oil on canvas  
£1,600



**Azille, Usine**

20" x 16" oil on canvas  
£995

**Spring Vines, Azille**

20" x 16" oil on canvas  
£995



**Red Geraniums**

16" x 20" oil on canvas  
£995



**Still Life with Blue Bottle**

16" x 20" oil on canvas

£995



OPPOSITE

**Still Life with Pumpkin**

10" x 8" oil on board

£450

OPPOSITE

**Still Life with Tomatoes**

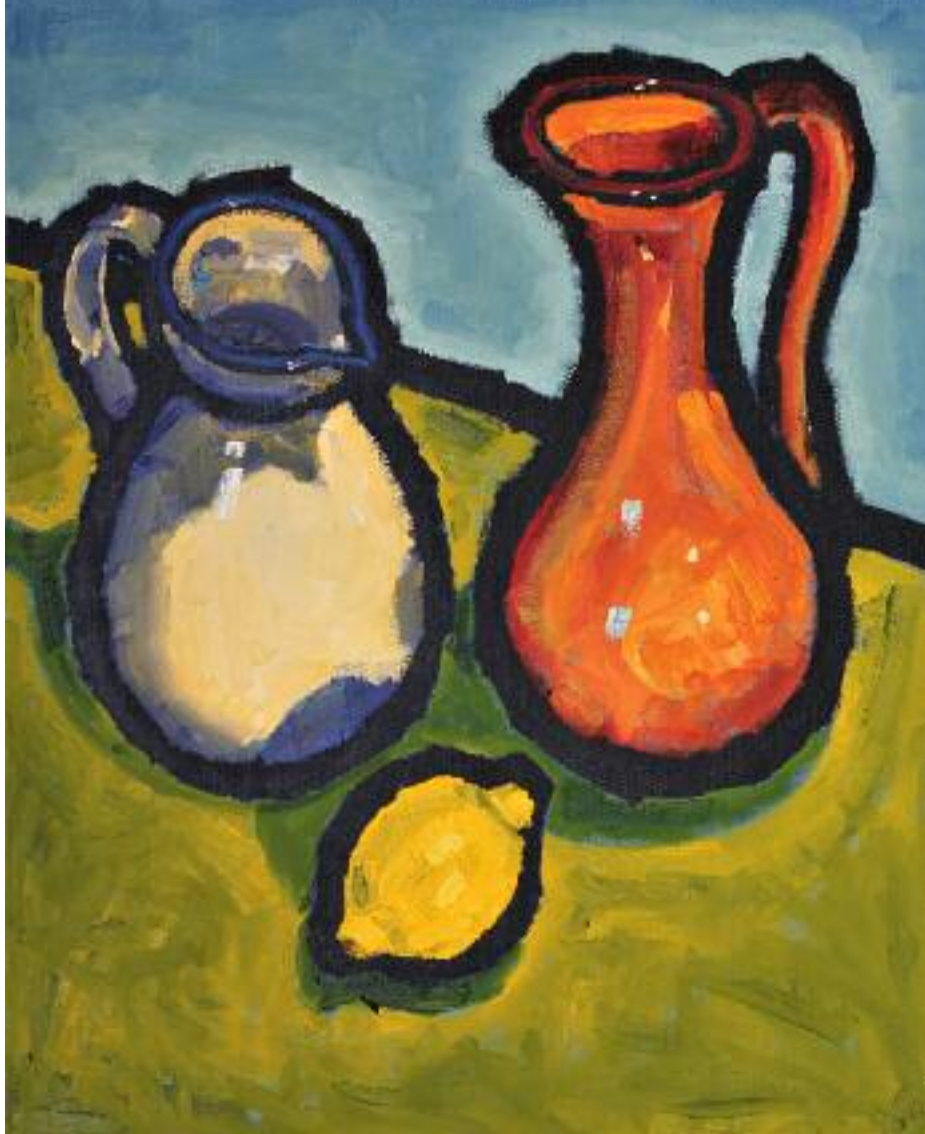
10" x 8" oil on board

£450

**Still Life with Lemon**

16" x 20" oil on canvas

£995





**Montreal, Summer**  
30" x 24" oil on canvas  
£1,600



**Beaufort l'été**

30" x 24" oil on canvas  
£1,600



OPPOSITE  
**Chateau Floris, Storm Coming**  
30" x 24" oil on canvas  
£1,600

**Oupia**  
10" x 8" oil on board  
£450



**Looking Towards the Alaric**  
10" x 8" oil on board  
£450



**Sunflowers, Fanjeux**  
10" x 8" oil on board  
£450





**Sunflowers near Montreal**

20" x 16" oil on canvas  
£995

**Geraniums in a Pot**

20" x 16" oil on canvas  
£995

OPPOSITE

**Azille from the Serre**

47½" x 31½" oil on canvas  
£1,995





**Guissan Harbour**  
10" x 8" oil on board  
£450



**Sète**  
10" x 8" oil on board  
£450

OPPOSITE  
**Canal du Midi, Homps**  
20" x 16" oil on canvas  
£995







**Hut near Canal du Midi**

20" x 16" oil on canvas

£995

OPPOSITE

**La Livinière, l'été**

30" x 24" oil on canvas

£1,600





**La Livinière, Autumn**

30" x 24" oil on canvas

£1,600

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