



Andy Parker
Sleeping River, 2009
Oil on canvas
25 x 30 cms (unframed)

Dawn over Limehouse, with the Thames as flat as a millpond - the only time I've ever seen this. Something to do with the incoming and outgoing tides reaching their 'null-point', I guess. I jumped off the motorbike, set up and started painting immediately, rapidly mixing the paint, aware of the fragility of the experience, as time seemed to stand still for about 5 minutes, or so. At any second I expected a boat to come around the bend and stir the surface, but when one did, it made no obvious difference; then, within ten minutes, all was back to normal, waves splashed noisily against the wooden pilings and life resumed...

I have been a full time painter for around 15 years. Originally a musician and sound recording engineer, I studied art first at Central St Martins before moving on to the Art Academy in Southwark. My principal areas of work are landscapes and seascapes. I have exhibited regularly in the south-east, as well as in Wales and the Midlands. Recently, I have undertaken an extensive painting tour of the country by motorbike, entitled *In the Footsteps of Turner*, following the route of JMW Turner's *Ports and Harbours of England* series, which I will hope to be exhibiting towards the end of 2016.

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