

PORTRAIT OF DYLAN GOES ON DISPLAY AT BOATHOUSE THIS SUMMER.

There are very few portrait drawings and paintings of Dylan Thomas taken from life.

Staff at the Boat House in Laugharne are very pleased to be able to display a recent acquisition of a charcoal and gouache drawing of Dylan made at the White Horse Tavern, in New York, in 1953.

The artist, British born Peter Evershed, was at that time practicing in New York as a young artist beginning his career; He would make swift drawings, from life of famous and emerging literary talent to be found in New York and then issue them as lithographic prints. These prints and the original drawings are now finding their way into many public collections. The Boat House has, in this drawing, the original artwork for his print of Dylan Thomas. Prints of this drawing are to be found in the University of Texas, Houston, which has considerable Dylan Thomas related material, and Nottingham University.

It is fair to say that in this drawing the poet does not look well and it can be compared to the photographic portrait of him as a young man and given by him to his first 'girlfriend' Pamela Hansford-Johnson's parents and his death mask, once owned by Richard Burton, (both also on display at the Boat House).

Phil Alder, the County Arts Development Officer, comments 'the Council were approached by Peter Evershed who wanted the drawing to go to the Boat House as a fitting home. It came as a surprise to officers as this series of prints of literary figures were issued some time back, and being editioned in America were not known to them. After viewing the work and conducting some research the Council were very pleased to accept the offer'.

The drawing has now been cleaned and framed in a 1950's looking frame and will be on display at the Boat House until October.

For further information contact Maggie Richards on 01994 232726.

