

PAUL SANDBY, SIR WATKIN AND THE LANDSCAPE OF WALES

In August 1771 the wealthy Welsh landowner, Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, and the talented artist, Paul Sandby, rode through the gates of Wynnstay Park at Newbridge on the start of a two-week long tour.

Together they would explore what an eighteenth century English commentator, had derided as *'the fog end of creation, the very rubbish of Noah's Flood'* or as we know it today - the glorious scenery of North Wales.

Five years later, Paul Sandby published *XII Views in North Wales*. This series of aquatints revealed that North Wales had the most picturesque, the most sublime and the most romantic scenery in Britain. The wide availability of Sandby's aquatints, unlike earlier paintings of Welsh landscapes, changed opinions about Wales for good. Artists were impressed and a new style of landscape painting was born. Tourists soon followed in the wake of the more adventurous aristocrats. They still come today.

In this exhibition you can follow Sir Watkin and Paul Sandby on their adventure in North Wales on film and through the works of art on display. The film reveals the places that inspired Sandby and speculates how his experiences in Wales transformed what he drew and how he painted. In the gallery you can see a selection of original works by Paul Sandby, on loan from Britain's major galleries, and brought together for the first time in the land that inspired them.



Sandby was the subject of many portraits by his contemporaries including Sir William Beechey and William Parry. Roedd Sandby yn destun nifer o bortreadau gan ei gyfoedion gan gynnwys Syr William Beechey a William Parry.

Paul Sandby, Francis Coles, oil, 1761. ©Tate Britain

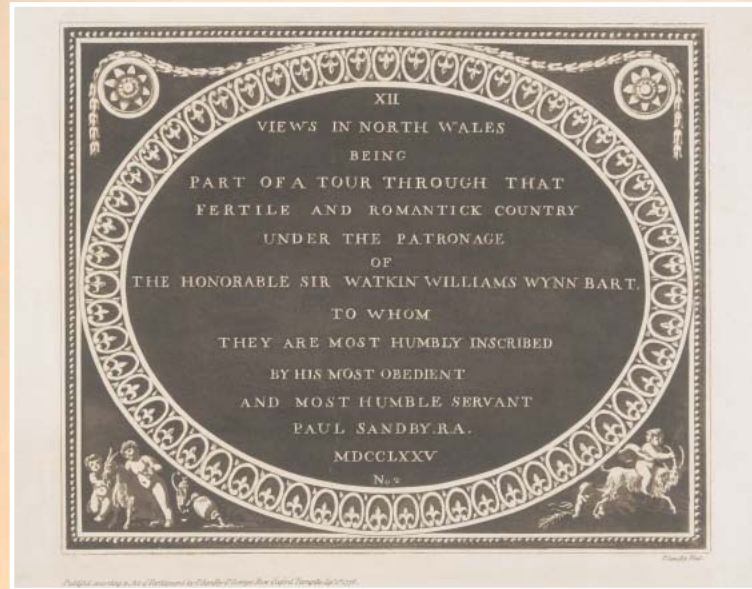
PAUL SANDBY, SYR WATKIN A THIRWEDD GOGLEDD CYMRU

Ym mis Awst 1771 marchogodd y tîrfeiddianwr cyfoethog, Syr Watkin Williams Wynn, a'r arlunydd talentog, Paul Sandby, drwy gatiâu Parc Wynnstay yng Nghefnbychan ar gychwyn pythefnos o daith.

Gyda'i gilydd byddent yn archwilio'r hyn a ddisgrifwyd gan sylwebydd Seisnig o'r ddeunawfed ganrif fel *'the fog end of creation, the very rubbish of Noah's Flood'* neu fel yr ydym ni yn eu hadnabod heddiw - golygfeydd godidog Gogledd Cymru.

Bum mlynedd yn ddiweddarach cyhoeddodd Paul Sandby ei *XII Views in North Wales*. Dangosodd y gyfres hon o acwatintau mai yng Ngogledd Cymru roedd golygfeydd mwyaf darluniadwy, aruchel a rhamantus Prydain. Gan fod acwatintau Sandby ar gael yn eang, yn wahanol i'r peintiadau cynt o dirluniau Cymru, newidiwyd y farn am Gymru am byth. Roedd wedi creu argraff ar arlunwyr, a gwelwyd dull newydd o beintio tirluniau. Dilynodd twristiaid yn ôl troed y boneddigion mwy anturus. Maent yn parhau i ddod hyd y dydd heddiw.

Yn yr arddangosfa hon gallwch ddilyn Syr Watkin a Paul Sandby ar eu hantur yng Ngogledd Cymru ar ffilm a thrwy'r arlunwaith a arddangosir. Dengys y ffilm y lleoedd a ysgogodd Sandby ac mae'n dyfalu sut y trawsnewidodd ei brofiadau yng Nghymru beth yr oedd yn ei ddarlunio a sut yr oedd yn peintio. Yn yr oriel gallwch weld detholiad o waith gwreiddiol Paul Sandby, sydd ar fenthyg o brif orielau Prydain, casglwyd hwy ynghyd am y tro cyntaf yn y wlad a'u hysgogodd.



Frontispiece, *XII Views in North Wales* © Amgueddfa Cymru - National Museum Wales

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Caernarvon Castle, Paul Sandby, 1777. © Amgueddfa Cymru - National Museum Wales

