Thomas Joshua Cooper is one of the most celebrated and distinctive landscape photographers working anywhere in the world today. He was born in California in 1946 but has lived in Scotland for many years. Cooper is the founding head of photography at Glasgow School of Art but spends much of his life seeking out the edges of the world. Like artists such as Richard Long, and Hamish Fulton, Cooper is a traveller, a nomadic artist whose extraordinary photographs are made in series at significant points around the globe, most often at its extremities.

The capturing of any one image can involve days, weeks and months of preparation, arduous travel and considerable efforts to achieve. The locations are found on a map, tracked down and then photographed, each place the subject of a single negative taken with a weighty antique field camera. They are meditative, almost philosophical images, exquisitely printed by the artist in the 19th century manner with layers of silver and gold chloride.

Cooper’s major solo exhibition *Scattered Waters: Sources Streams Rivers* was displayed at Ingleby Gallery in Autumn 2014. Selected works from the exhibition were shown at The Fleming Collection, London from 20 February – 11 April 2015.

**Biography**

1946  Born in California, USA
1972  MA in Art, with Distinction in Photography, University of New Mexico, USA
1978  Photography Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts, USA
1982  Founded Fine Art Photography Department, Glasgow School of Art
2005  Winner of Creative Scotland Award
2009  John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship, USA
2010  First recipient of the Lannan Visual Arts Award, USA
2014  Elected Fellow of the Royal Society, Edinburgh, UK

Currently Research Professor in Fine Art, at the Glasgow School of Art, UK

**Selected Solo Exhibitions**

2019  *Refuge*, Parrish Art Museum, Montauk, USA
     *Los Angelese County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, USA (forthcoming)*

2015  *Wandering Home: Following the Celtic Perigrinati*, Govan Old Parish Church and Glasgow Cathedral, Glasgow, UK

2014  *Scattered Waters: Sources Streams Rivers*, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK touring to Fleming Collection, London

2013  *Messages*, Haunch of Venison, London, UK

2012  *Shoshone Falls*, curated by Toby Jurovics, Sun Valley Art Center, Sun Valley, Idaho, USA

2010  *TRUE and earlier works*, curated by Ben Tuffnell, Centro de Arte Naturaleza, Hueca, Spain

2009  *True*, Haunch of Venison, London, UK

*Selections from True: Photographs by Thomas Joshua Cooper*, Lannan Foundation, Santa Fe, New Mexico
True: Special project of the Third Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art, GMG Gallery, Moscow, Russia

2008  
*Point of No Return*, Rubicon Gallery, Dublin, Ireland, UK

2007  
*Thomas Joshua Cooper & David Bellingham*, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK

*international waters*, Unosunove Arte Contemporanea, Rome, Italy

2006  
*Ojo de Agua - Eye of the Water*, PaceWildenstein, New York, USA

2005  
*End of the World*, Casa das Mudas Centro das Artes, Madeira

*Thomas Joshua Cooper*, Galerie Judin, Zürich, Switzerland

*Point of no return*, The Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester, UK

2004  
*Point of No Return*, Haunch of Venison, London, UK

*Rock, Water, Wood*, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK

*Views from The Edge*, The Drexel Gallery, Philadelphia, USA

2003  
*Sojourns, Photographs by Thomas Joshua Cooper, from The Lannan Collection*, Marion Centre for Photography at the College of Santa Fe, USA

*Fortunate Islands*, Sean Kelly Gallery, New York, USA

*Some Rivers, Some Trees, Some Rocks, Some Seas*, Il Prisma Galleria d’Arte, Cuneo, Italy

*Coastline*, Thomas Schulte Galerie, Germany

2002  
*Running to The Sea*, Fundación César Manrique, Canary Islands

*Settlement*, Blain’s Fine Art, London, UK

*The Edges of The World*, Bowdoin College Museum of Art, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine, USA

*At The Very Edges of The World*, Tate St Ives, UK

*Moving West - Being West. New Photographs from The Atlantic Coasts*, Sean Kelly Gallery, New York, USA

*The Great River: Rio Grande River Crossings - From The Source to the Sea, 1994 – 2000* James Kelly Contemporary, Santa Fe, USA

2000  
*Thomas Joshua Cooper*, Galerie Arnes y Röpke, Madrid, Spain

1999  
*Thomas Joshua Cooper*, Anthony Meier, San Francisco, California, USA

*The Eclipse Pictures*, Michael Hue-Williams, James Turrell and Thomas Joshua Cooper, London, UK

*Water*, Patrick de Brock, Knokke, Belgium.

*Work from The New Found Land*, Sean Kelly, New York, USA

*Where The Rivers Flow*, Esbjerg Museum of Modern Art, Esbjerg, Denmark., Galerie Franck und Schulte, Berlin, Germany

*Waterfront*, Michael Hue-Williams Fine Art, London, UK

1998  
*River Works – America - Scotland*, Sean Kelly, New York, USA

*Thomas Joshua Cooper, Robert Adams and Emmet Gowin*, Princeton University Art Museum, USA

*The World's Edge*, Galerie Bugdlahn und Kaimer, Dusseldorf, Germany

*Where The Rivers Flow*, Leeds City Art Gallery, Leeds, UK

*Border Lines – The Cinque Ports*, Keynes Gallery of Art, University of Kent, Canterbury, UK

*Backwaters*, Cleveland Museum of Art, USA

1997  
*Where the Rivers Flow*, (touring) Fruitmarket Gallery, UK

*Border Crossings*, Konsthallen – Bohuslänsmuseet, Sweden

1996  

The Art Gallery, Maine Photographic Workshop, Rockport, Maine, USA

*The River Suite*, Galerie Frank und Schulte, Berlin, Germany

*October Calm - The North Sea*, Patrick de Brock, Knokke, Belgium

1994  
*Simply Counting Waves*, Centre for Modern Art, 1994 European City of Culture Exhibition. Curated by Jorge Molder, Director, Centre for Modern Art, Gulbenkian Foundation Lisbon, Portugal
1993  
*sea shore*, Galerie Stadtpark, Krems, Austria  
*The Swelling of the Sea*, John Weber Gallery, New York, USA

1992  
*Sojourn - Ten Years*, Cairn Gallery, Nailsworth, Gloucestershire, UK

1991  
*wind – riffling memories*, Gallery Fotohof, Salzburg, Austria  
*Kunst Europe (Britain) - Thomas Joshua Cooper, The Swelling of The Sea*, Heidelberg Kunstsverein, Heidelberg, Germany

1990  
*Dreaming the Gokstadt*, Kunstnerness Hus, Oslo, Norway  
*The Swelling of the Sea*, Art Gallery and Museum, European City of Culture Exhibition, Kelvingrove, Glasgow, UK  

1989  
*Dreaming the Gokstadt*, Brandts Klaedefabrik Museum, Denmark.  
*Dreaming the Gokstadt*, Serpentine Gallery, London, UK

1988  
*Arnolfini Gallery, Bristol The Staffa Project (touring)*  
Galerie Hubert Winter, Vienna, Austria  
John Weber Gallery, New York, New York, USA  
*Dreaming the Gokstadt*, Graeme Murray Gallery, Edinburgh, UK

1984  
*A Quality of Dancing*, Gallery of Art, Humboldt State University, California, USA

1983  
*The Guardian Cycle:Photographic Works* Graeme Murray Gallery, Edinburgh, UK  
*Thomas Joshua Cooper: Photographs 1970-1983*, The Fine Art Museum, University of New Mexico, USA  
*Ghost Dance*, Coracle Press Gallery. - (concurrently with drawings of Hamish Fulton,*Twilight Horizons*), London, UK

1982  
*Thomas Joshua Cooper: Photographs 1970-1982 and Selected Inspirations*, Mackintosh Museum, Glasgow School of Art, Glasgow, UK

1979  
*Atonements*, The Hayward Gallery, London, UK  
*Paysages*, The Bibliotheque Nationale, Paris, France  
*A Place In Between*, with Robert Benson, The Art Gallery, College of the Redwoods, Eureka, California, USA  
Focus Gallery, with Paul Hill and Raymond Moore, San Francisco California, USA  
The Friends of Photography Gallery, with Paul Hill, Carmel, California, USA

1975  
*Remnants and Prenotations*, with Paul Hill, Arnolfini Gallery, Bristol, UK

1974  
*She Rain*, The Midland Group Gallery, Nottingham, UK  
*Indications*, The Photographers' Gallery London, UK

1973  
*Sweet Play*, Quiviera Gallery. Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA.  
"*The Fields We Know* - A Myth of Recollection*, University of New Mexico Fine Art Museum.  
Master's Degree exhibition, New Mexico, USA

1971  
*I See the God in You!*, The Art Center, San Luis Obispo, California, USA
**Selected Group Exhibitions**

**2018**  
TWENTY, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK

**2014**  
Ship to Shore – Art and the Lure of the Sea, curated Jean Wainright, John Hanard Gallery, Sea City Museum, Southampton, UK

**2013**  
Once upon a time and a very good time it was…, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK  
Hayward Touring group exhibition: Uncommon Ground: Land Art in Britain 1966-79, Southampton Art Gallery, Southampton, UK

**2011**  

**2010**  
Framing the West – The Survey Photographs as Timothy H. O’Sullivan, curated by Toby Jurovics, the Smithsonian Museum of American Art, Washington D.C., USA

**2009**  
Manmade: Notions of Landscape from the Lannan Collection, New Mexico Museum of Art, New Mexico, USA  
Worlds, Lillie Art Gallery, Milngavie, Scotland, UK  
Revisiting Landscape and Still Life, BafaFoto, Geneva, Switzerland

**2008**  
Paraisos Indomitos, Museo de Arte Contemporánea de Vigo, Spain  
ParisPhoto, Paris, France  
On Edge, The Traveling Gallery, Edinburgh, UK

**2006**  
Del Paisaje reciente, Museo Colecciones ICO, Madrid, Spain  
PHotoEspaña 06, PHotoEspaña, Madrid, Spain  
Human/Nature: Landscape photography from the GoMA collection, Gallery of Modern Art, Glasgow, UK  
”Photographie sehen… “, Nusser & Baumgart Contemporary, Munich, Germany

**2005**  
Marine – Paintings of the Sea, Crane Kalman Gallery, London, UK  
Landschaft als Metapher – Gruppenausstellung, Ursula Blickle Stiftung, Kraichtal-Unterowisheim, Germany

**2004**  
A Mares – Olladas Oceánicas en el arte Contemporáneo, Museo do Mar de Galicia, Vigo, Spain

**2003**  
Selections from the Sol Lewitt Collection, Britain Museum of American Art, New Britain, Connecticut, USA  
From the Collection – American Artists: Thomas Joshua Cooper, Sol Lewitt and Shirin Neshat, The Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh, UK  
Hot Summer in the City, Sean Kelly Gallery, New York, USA  
Thomas Joshua Cooper – Photographs / Mark Francis – Drawings, Galerie Tomas Schulte, Berlin, Germany

**2002/03**  
110 Years: The Permanent Collection of the Modern Art Museum of Forth Worth, The Modern Art Museum of Forth Worth, Forth Worth, Texas, USA  
The Peter C. Bunnell Collection, Princeton University Art Museum, New Jersey, USA  
The Great Divide, The Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh, UK  
Regarding Landscape, Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art, Toronto, Canada

**2001**  
From The Dark Room, Michael Hue-Williams Fine Art, London, UK  
East of Eden – Art, Nature, Society, Spacex and The Centre for Art and The Natural World, Exeter, UK  
Horizon on the Sea, Santa Monica Centre of Art and Berini Gallery, Barcelona, Spain  
Land - Thomas Joshua Cooper, Richard Long, Paul Nash, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK
The Idea of North, Leeds City Art Gallery, UK

2000
Leeds, Yorkshire, UK
Earth/Sky, Jackson Fine Art, Atlanta, Georgia, USA

1999
Thomas Joshua Cooper, Olafur Eliasson, Günter Förg, Axel Hütte,
Galerie Heinrich Ehrhardt, Madrid, Spain
Contemporary British Landscape, Angela Flowers Gallery, Flowers East, London, UK
Visione Britannica, Valentina Moncada, Rome, Italy
Sea Change - A Review of the Seascape in Contemporary Photography, The International Centre of Photography, New York, USA
By the Sea, Pingree Gallery, East Hampton, New York, USA
Sea Change - A Review of the Seascape in Contemporary Photography, The Museum of Photographic Arts, San Diego, California, USA

1998
Sea Change - A Review of the Seascape in Contemporary Photography, Centre for Creative Photography, University of Arizona, USA

1997
Location, Usher Gallery, Lincoln, UK
A Case for Collection, The Towner Art Gallery and Museum, Eastbourne, UK

1996
Tokyo Today, Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography, Japan
Grey and White, Galerie Bugdahn und Kaimer, Düsseldorf, Germany
Le Printemps de Cahors/Photographie and Arts Visuels 1996, Espace Caviole, Cahors, France
Prospect 96 Photographie in der Gegenwartskunst, Schrin Kunsthalle, Frankfurt/
Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt, Germany

1995
Shadows in the Water, Fotofeis, Fotofeis touring exhibition
Light from the Darkroom – A Celebration of Scottish Photography, Royal Scottish
Academy / National Galleries of Scotland, Edinburgh, UK
Tiempo Colección fotografica formada por Manuel Alvarez Bravo. Mexico City, Mexico
Calanais, An Lanntair, Stornoway, Isle of Lewis, UK

1994
Dear Stieglitz, Peninsula, Eindhoven, The Netherlands

1993
New Acquisitions/New Work/New Directions, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, USA
Shared Light, Oriel Mostyn, Llandudno, Wales
Nine Photographers for the Nineties, Laura Carpenter Fine Art Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA

1992
Potésis - Aspects of Contemporary Poetic Activity, Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh, UK

1991
Two Artists: Thomas Joshua Cooper, the Swelling of the Sea, and David Nash, Kunst
Europa (Britain), Heidelberg Kunstverein, Heidelberg, Germany
Salzburg: Six Artists, Six Views, Galerie Fotohof, Salzburg, Austria
The Revenge of the Camera, Galerie Pierre Huber, Geneva, Switzerland
From Art to Archeology, South Bank Centre, Hayward Gallery, London, UK
New Scottish Photography, Centro Cultural del Conde Duque, Madrid and Barcelona, Spain

1990
The Forces of Nature: Landscape as Metaphor, Manchester City Art Galleries, UK
Four Artists - Burgin, Cooper, Fulton, Virtue, John Weber Gallery; New York, USA;
Houston Fotofest, Houston, Texas, USA
New Scottish Photography, National Portrait Gallery, Edinburgh, UK
Von der Natur in der Kunst, Vienna Art Festival, Vienna, Austria
New Art from the North, Tate Gallery Liverpool, UK
Paysages de Moralise, Grey Art Gallery of New York University, NY, USA
1989

New Acquisitions, New Directions, New Works, International Museum of Photography at the George Eastman House, Rochester, New York, USA
Three British Artists - Cooper, Goldsworthy, Nash L.A. Louvre Gallery, Los Angeles, California, USA
Our Photographic Legacy; Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh, UK
Landscape in the Experience, Kölner Kunstverein, Cologne, Germany
Prospect Photographie; Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt, Germany

1988

Three British Artists: Thomas Joshua Cooper, Ian Hamilton Finlay and Kate Whiteford, The Gallery, Galerij S65, Aalst, Belgium
The Rim of Glasgow – Hidden Views, Glasgow Garden Festival, Glasgow, UK

1987

Perspectives: Glasgow, A New Look Collins Gallery, Strathclyde University; artist's contribution Outskirts - a City Circumnavigation
Message to Magellan, British and European tour. Glasgow, UK
The Unpainted Landscape, The Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh, UK

1986

At The Serpentine, The Serpentine Gallery, London, UK
Boundaries, The Cambridge Darkroom, Cambridge, UK
Four Artists - Ackling, Cooper, Fulton, Tremlett, The Orchard Gallery, Londonderry, NI, UK

1985

The Hayward Annual, Hayward Gallery, London, UK

1984

The Photographic Art - Pictorial Traditions in Britain and America, RSA, Edinburgh, UK
The Creation - Modern Art and Nature, Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh, UK

1983


1981

New Works of Contemporary Art and Music, Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh, UK
Photographer as Printmaker, The Photographers Gallery, Arts Council of Great Britain Tour Exhibition, London, UK

Selected Public Collections

Art Gallery and Museum, Kelvingrove, Glasgow, UK
The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, USA
The Arts Council of Great Britain, London, UK
Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, Maryland, USA
Banco Espírito Santo, Libon, Portugal
La Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris, France
Boston Museum of Fine Art, Boston, Massachusetts, USA
Centre for Creative Photography, The University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, USA
Centre National des Arts Plastiques, Paris, France
Centro Atlantico de Arte Moderna, Los Palmas de Gran Canaria, The Canary Islands
CDAN – Centro de Arte y Naturaleza, Huesca, Spain
City Arts Centre, Edinburgh, UK
D.G. Bank, Frankfurt, Germany
Dia: Beacon, Beacon, New York, USA
Dundee City Art Museum, Dundee, UK
The Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh, UK
The International Museum of Photography, George Eastman House, Rochester, N.Y, USA
The J. Paul Getty Museum, The Sam Wagstaff Collection, Los Angeles, California, USA
Selected Solo Publications

2014  *Scattered Waters: Sources Streams Rivers*, Thomas Joshua Cooper, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK
2010  *Shoshone Falls*, Thomas Joshua Cooper and Timothy H. O’Sullivan, Radius Books, Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA
2006  *True*, Thomas Joshua Cooper, Haunch of Venison, London, UK
2004  *Ojo De Agua/ Eye of Water*, Thomas Joshua Cooper, Pace Wildenstein, New York, New York, USA
2003  *Point of No Return*, Haunch of Venison, London, UK
2003  *Some Rivers, Some Trees, Some Rocks, Some Seas*, Thomas Joshua Cooper, Il Prisma, Cunio, Italy
2001  *wild*, Thomas Joshua Cooper, David Bellingham, James Kelly Contemporary, Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA
1995  *Archipelago*, with Alfred Graf, Galeries H.S. Steineck, Vienna, Austria
1994  *Simply Counting Waves*, curated by Jorge Molder, Director, Centro de Arte Moderna Jose de Azeredo Pardigao, Fundacao Calouste Gulbenkian
1988  *Dreaming The Gokstadt*, Graeme Murray, Edinburgh, UK
1986  *Between Dark and Dark*, Thomas Joshua Cooper, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico USA
Selected Collaborative Publications

1991  

1988  
Art in the Garden, Thomas Joshua Cooper, Graeme Murray, Edinburgh, UK

1987  
The Staffa Project: A Collaboration, Ian McKeever, Thomas Joshua Cooper, Preston Art Museum, Preston, UK and Provincial Museum Hasselt, Belgium

1975  
Remnants and Prenotations: The photographs of Thomas Joshua Cooper and Paul Hill, Bristol Arnolfini Gallery, Bristol

1979  


2012  

2011  

2010  

2008  

2007  
Scottish Photography: A History. By Dr Tom Normand, (pp. 6, 8, 77, 78, 80, 91, 175, 180, 187, 188). Luath Press Ltd, Edinburgh, UK

2006  
Scottish Qualifications Authority. Art and Designs Higher, National Qualifications. One photograph and two critical examination questions on the work. 31 May

2006  

2005  

2004  
The Oxford Companion to the Photograph. Edited by Robin Lenman. Oxford University Press, Oxford, UK; New York, NY, USA

2003  
Who's Who in Scotland. Carrick Media, Irvine, Ayrshire, UK

2001  

1999  
An American Century of Photography – From Digital to Dry Plate – The Hallmark Photographic Collection. By Kieih Davis, second edition. Hallmark Cards Inc. in association with Harry Abrams Inc. New York, NY, USA

1998  

1997  

1991  

1989  

1987  
New North – New Art from the North of Britain. Edited by Lewis Biggs. Critical texts by Lewis Biggs and Michael Tooby, Tate Gallery, Liverpool, UK

1987  

1987  
Contemporary Photographers: With critical text by Aaron Schraf. St James’ Press, London, UK
1986  *The Photographic Art – Pictorial Traditions in Britain and America.* By Dr. Mike Weaver. Scottish Arts Council, Edinburgh, UK


1983  *Macmillan’s Biographical Encyclopaedia of Photographic Artists and Innovators.* Macmillan, New York, NY, USA