

MIDNIGHT MAASAI

oil on canvas

Midnight Maasai, painted by David Holden was once entitled 'Nordic Angel' produced by the artist Dominic Gray.

I purchased 'Nordic Angel' before it went on sale via the Internet. I worked the image to the extent that it changed dramatically, beyond recognition.

With consent from the original artist Dominic Gray, I decomposed the image of the angel with white spirit and oils, and reconstructed the image of a Maasai warrior holding a spear, walking into the canvas at midnight.

The worrying concern amongst educationalists is that course work essays are now being bought on the Internet and submitted as they are **without change**.

The American artist Robert Rauschenberg once bought a Jasper Johns drawing and erased it beyond recognition.

It sold for one and a half million pounds as a Rauschenberg work of art which was changed beyond recognition, as 'midnight maasai' was.

TEXT

[Link to MidnightMaasai in Portrait](#)

MAASAI IN THE LAKE DISTRICT.

We swam up the fell.
My legs buckle,
Feet sliding on moss and stone.
Flies bob about the droppings.
I guzzle warm air;
Let the faces of strangers
Fly past; and, like a beached barque,
I drop anchor.

Pollock never ran.
He let the paint run for him,
Shoes skidding on blues and reds.
Gloss bubbled where bright lines shone.
He drank down colours;
Spewed them at critics;
Drove on; till, like a tall ship,
He crested the wave.

I look to the summit.
My eyes sting,
Tears trickling through wind and sun.
Clouds dash across the mountain.
A single masai waits;
I grasp his arm, but he, wordless,

Thrusts me forward; so, as with all endings,
I begin to set sail.

POEM

[Link to MidnightMaasai in Portrait](#)