

# Jeffs

James Gunyeon (Tim)  
1904 - 1975

## His Life

James Gunyeon Jeffs was born at Dumfries in 1904. His parents were John Andrew Murdoch Jeffs (1869 - 1922), fishmonger and Agnes Grierson Gunyeon (1873 - 1960), who were married at Dumfries in 1893. After leaving school James, always known as Tim, became an apprentice mechanic with the car manufacturer Arrol Johnstone.

In 1930 he won a poster design competition which inspired him to pursue an artistic career.

1938 James Gunyeon Jeffs married Marianne Dodds Ross or Chambers (known as Mary) in Kirkcudbright.

1941 he was appointed curator of the Dumfries Museum.

He was also a visiting teacher of crafts in various Dumfriesshire Schools.

In 1945 he was appointed to teach at Kirkcudbright Academy and he and his wife Mary moved to 9 High Street, Kirkcudbright. he is known to have also spent some time holidaying on Ardwall Island, Carrick.

He was a founder member of the Kirkcudbright Arts and Crafts Summer School, being a tutor, as was his wife Mary who taught spinning and weaving.

Tim had many talents from poster design and furniture making to weaving, but he became well known for his illuminated scrolls and carved wooden caskets used for ceremonial presentations - Dwight D.

Eisenhower and Sir Winston Churchill both being recipients.

In 1975 he drowned in a boating accident on Loch Ken.

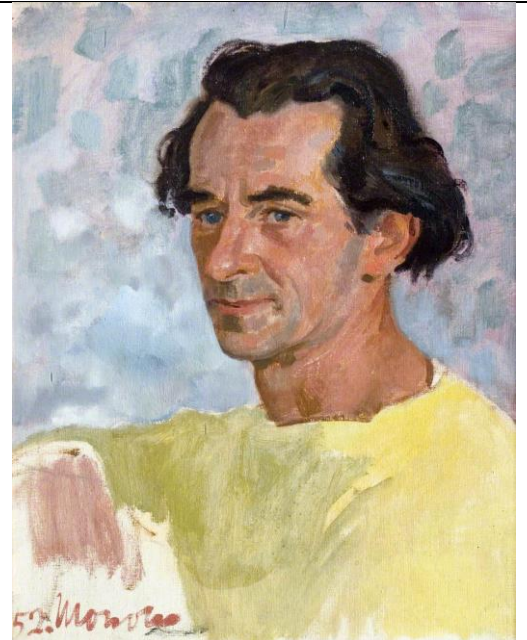
## His Work

The links below lead to websites which contain paintings by or stories about this artist. When you have viewed the contents, remember to use your browser's "back" button to return to this page.

[In the Artists Footsteps](#) [FutureMuseum](#)- various crafts

[University of Edinburgh Regional Ethnology](#) (Sam Kelly)

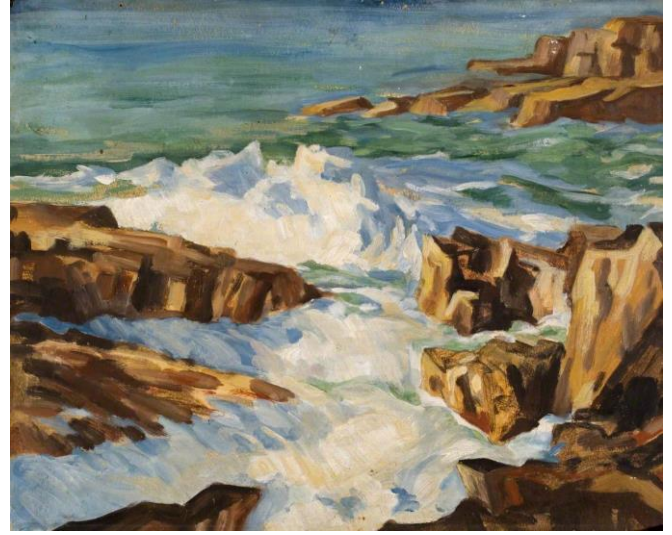
Sam's audio recollections about Tim Jeffs



*Tim Jeffs by Alberto Morrocco*



Rock Formation Ardwall Island



Water Tumbling over Rocks