



## **RICHARD SCHMID PAINTING PRESENTED TO QUEEN ELIZABETH II**

### **During the Royal Opening of Abbotsford - The Home of Sir Walter Scott July 3, 2013**

Excerpt below from Jeffrey Carlson - Contributing Editor, Fine Art Today

A recently completed painting by the renowned American artist Richard Schmid received an impressive audience at its installation earlier this month: There to celebrate the Royal Opening of Abbotsford and the painting's arrival was none other than Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

In 2012 the Kansas-based charitable organization K.T. Wiedemann Foundation, led by president Douglas Pringle, commissioned Richard Schmid to paint Abbotsford, the Scottish Baronial home where Sir Walter Scott penned many of his well-known works. Located near Melrose, Scotland, Abbotsford remains a picturesque impression of Scott's 19th Century artistic vision.

To view the film short documenting the American Unveiling of Abbotsford House at the Wichita Center for the Arts go over to on West Wind Fine Art's YouTube channel. Video Title: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=26vcesu4K50&feature=youtu.be> ABBOTSFORD HOUSE-A Master Work by RICHARD SCHMID. The short film was produced by Kristen Thies as a gift to Schmid.

Richard Schmid's painting "Abbotsford House," Oil 50" x 30" was completed last year and unveiled in the U.S. on September 29. The painting was displayed at the Wichita Center for the Arts along with an Exhibition of Schmid's paintings before being donated to the Abbotsford Trust and physically transferred to Abbotsford, where it now hangs in the newly completed visitor center.



Jason Dyer Executive Director and Beverley Rutherford of The Abbotsford Trust giving a tour of Sir Walter Scott's study to Queen Elizabeth II and other distinguished members of Scott's family. Photos courtesy The Abbotsford Trust.

Queen Elizabeth II along with Sir Walter Scott's descendants were among those present to celebrate the reopening. The historic home at Abbotsford has recently undergone major renovations costing £14 million. It was officially reopened on July 3rd, when attendees celebrated those renovations, the new visitor center, and the installation of Schmid's masterful painting.

Though Richard Schmid was unable to make the trip, he was represented by his daughters, **Molly Schmid** and **Dr. Bettina Schmid** who gave a digital presentation of his art on their father's the evening of July 2nd.



Schmid standing in front of Abbotsford June 10, 2012. Photo ©Kristen Thies



Douglas Pringle President of the KT Wiedemann Trust, Kristen Thies, Queen Elizabeth II, Mathew Withey Curator, and Lord Sanderson Chairman of The Abbotsford Trust.

Then on July 3rd, **Kristen Thies, CEO and owner of West Wind Fine Art** who was invited by Richard Schmid to act as his emissary, had the rare privilege of presenting his painting to Queen Elizabeth II– an experience Kristen would later call, "an honor I will cherish for the rest of my life!"

For more information please visit:

<http://www.scottsabbotsford.co.uk>

For more information on the Art of Richard Schmid please call

Kristen Thies

508-566-9463 or

to view more paintings please visit:

[www.WestWindFineArt.com](http://www.WestWindFineArt.com)

