

# BEAUX ARTS

**Peter Lanyon**

**Blue Day**

1963

Oil on canvas

51 x 61 cm (20 x 24 inches)



## **Provenance**

Direct from the estate. Beaux Arts. Private Collection.

## **Description**

Paintings in the 60's were all painted in the few years of intense creativity after Lanyon looked up one day while walking along a Cornish clifftop, saw three gliders pass silently overhead, and pledged to join them. He began gliding seriously in 1959, and first flew solo a year later, clocking up hundreds of flying hours until August 1964, when he died in hospital in Taunton.

## **From Catalogue Essay to accompany Four Giants of British Modernism exhibition by Andrew Lambirth**

Certainly, in *Blue Day* the paint is even thinner and the canvas visible, though the vitality and freedom of the marks make this smallish painting a perfect formal statement of unexpected sonority.