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Cleveland National Art Awards
Exhibition Opening 6.00pm Friday 3rd May

This is the big one! When the doors open on Friday night, 3rd May, for the Awards presentations, attendees will be rewarded with an exhibition of the highest quality, displaying 193 artworks from practitioners throughout New Zealand. A great deal of work has gone into making this a showcase of the best – a huge effort to get the entries received, sorted, hung and labelled. There have been several helpers but major individual input came from Raimo Kuparinen for positioning the lighting, Mark Cowden and Brenda Nyhof for numbering and ordering the paintings in the galleries, Celia Duff for typing up the initial emails etc. plus grateful thanks to Annie Pepers as President Doug's right-hand woman. It will be an exhibition that this Society can be very proud of organising.

As always, our staff of Anja, Ness and Jackie have been efficient and helpful.

Pictured is local artist printmaker **Philip Madill**, arriving with his exhibition entry to be checked in under the guiding hand of OAS vice-president **Annie Pepers**. In the background, president **Doug Hart** reads through the category listings.



Admiring the exhibition entry by **Philip Markham** are long-term OAS members and past councillors **David Corballis** and **Norman Hunter**. Two ceramic works by **Kylie Matheson** are in the foreground.



Members' Meeting

Thursday 16th May 7.00 pm

"A LOOK AT THE CLEVELAND"

An opportunity to view and discuss the Awards Exhibition.

In addition, **Doug Hart** shall be giving an illustrated talk on **Otto Dix** (1891-1969), a German painter and printmaker, noted for his harshly realistic depictions of German society and the brutality of war. He painted what he called "Life undiluted".



Self Portrait with Easel, 1926

Please come along and support these members' evenings as it's a good way of meeting people and learning new things.



President:
Doug Hart

Facebook:
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www.otagoartsociety.co.nz

Back Issues of the newsletter are available on the website.

President's Message

Doug Hart

The standard of work submitted to the Cleveland Art Awards was of a very high standard and it took the three judges many hours to make a final selection. I'm very grateful to **Justin Spiers, Manu Berry** and **Chris Idour** for the effort and time that they put in to this. In addition the volunteers who went the extra mile to unpack, catalogue, hang, label etc. the wonderful exhibition on show.

With the Cleveland underway and the awards settled for another 2 years, it's time to reflect on other matters.

The **Ralph Miller Exhibition**, which Brian Miller and his family worked so hard to put together, gave me food for thought. That thought was the preservation of scenes and moods from the past. By observing the sketches and paintings of Ralph, we can observe a different way of life that he experienced in Dunedin in the 1950's. At a recent talk given by Brian, he stressed the importance of recording the minutiae of life around us, because we need to keep records of what went before.

It's never been so easy to capture these scenes by using a digital camera. However, a more complex way is through drawing, painting and 3D works that may well endure longer than digital formats.

I recently visited the excellent **Port Chalmers Maritime Museum** with its superb displays of past times in the port and surrounding areas. Not only were there everyday artifacts, such as tea cups designed for Victorian men with large moustaches, but also paintings detailing the port 140 years ago. If no one had recorded these details, we would not have had the evidence of progressive change that has occurred.

Going right back into the prehistoric times, we can see by way of cave paintings the type of animals that frequented areas of our planet. Mammoth, Aurochs (large bovines), sabre tooth tigers, huge cave bears, crocodiles and hippo that existed in what is now the Sahara Desert. It paints a picture of climate and environmental change that happened Millennia ago.

In the Bayeux Tapestry, a comic strip of the invasion of England by William of Normandy, portraying armour, boats, weapons and people, there's even a panel depicting Halley's Comet streaking across the sky. A harbinger of good and bad things.

Lovingly illustrated pictures and calligraphy presented in vellum-bound volumes of Books of Hours, depict morals, religion, fashion and buildings. Elsewhere, the Renaissance exploding across Europe with scenes of Italian mountains, cities, towns, flora and fauna and, more importantly, the people of the day. What wonderful records to have and to refer back to, in a changing world.

It struck me that it's important to collect evidence today, in this rapidly evolving world, to show future generations what used to be and what was important to us.

What will people 100 years hence say about the new cycle-way that is being constructed on the Otago Peninsula? People today remember a single track road and have seen it transform into a three-lane thoroughfare. In 100 years time it may be underwater or transformed again into a 4-lane Highway with super efficient 'lime scooters'.

What if nobody had painted the white and pink terraces near Taupo, or drawn the dodo. These things would be lost to us and people would be hard pushed to believe that such delights were real. Our artwork should at some point reflect the world we are living in, whether it be recording wildlife, a building, a mode of transport or a scenic place.

Use your cameras, use your sketch books, cut out articles to make a scrap book, write a diary or blog – because in time they will be invaluable to the future generations.

Finally, don't forget that the next exhibition after the Cleveland is the **143rd Annual** followed closely by the **Edinburgh Realty**. Maybe a chance to record a local scene in your style? Food for thought.

Have a creative few months and, more importantly, have fun producing artwork.

Doug Hart

Ralph Miller Exhibition

Visitors to this exhibition, held from 15th to 26th April, were treated to a marvellous display of working drawings and original watercolours of lively figure studies, exhibiting a rare skill in portraying everyday activities in dynamic action, or languid repose. It is such a pity that Ralph Miller died in 1956, aged 37. His ability was such that he would have become a noted New Zealand artist.



Brian Miller, son of Ralph Miller, with some of his father's work.

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Important Notice

Your Society needs you! Some of our current OAS Council members will be stepping down this year. At the AGM in August, new ones will be appointed, so we need replacements.

Could one of them be YOU? Would you be a keen helper, willing to turn your hand to various tasks in a fun atmosphere for the good of your Society?

Come and join the OAS Council. Talk to a current council member or phone the office for details on being nominated.

OpenArts Easter Exhibition Quite a few of our members also belong to the Otago Peninsula Arts Group, OpenArts. Last month they held their annual Easter Exhibition, when 38 items were sold and over 1,000 people visited the Macandrew Bay exhibition to admire the works.

The overall winner of the 2-D prize was **Gemma Baldock** (sponsored by Portobello Hotel) and the 3-D prize went to **Gavin O'Brien** (thanks to Mitre 10). Merit Awards to **John Bellamy**: 2-D (Larnach Castle), and **Hannah Bailly**: 3-D (Jane Slade). **The People's Choice prizewinner was Douglas Williams.**

Artists, put this in your calendar: Thursday Painting Group

Come along and enjoy a few hours of social painting. Artists of all abilities from our membership are welcome to join in any Thursdays 10.30 to 3pm. Bring your equipment, some lunch – sharing a love of art is what the Society is all about.



Bruce Mahalski, owner director of the Dunedin Museum of Natural Mystery.

April Members' Meeting: The Dunedin Museum of Natural Mystery

Bruce Mahalski, at left, was the guest Speaker at last month's Members' Meeting, telling us of his varied fascinating and skilful art interests, from illustrating comics, to murals, clothing design, sculpture and now, at his museum at 61 Royal Terrace, Dunedin Central, he has his wonderful collection on display. I visited recently – the mixture of art, ethnography and pure quirkiness was very enjoyable.



Edinburgh Realty Art Awards

Entry forms for the much anticipated Edinburgh Realty Exhibition are available now. Once again the company have been really impressed with the way the OAS puts together a show and have trusted us with their sponsorship. It's the largest-selling, most well-attended event that we run.

Friday 19th July:

Entries close

Friday 26th July:

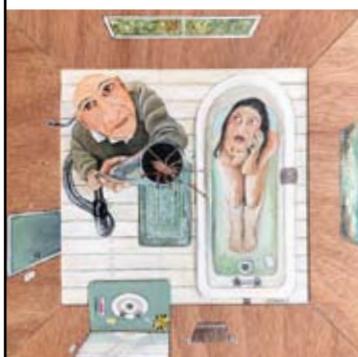
out of town entries in.

Sunday 28th July:

local entries delivered.

Friday 9th August:

OAS members opening night.



Look Out : Look Down Anne Baldock Exhibition

4th - 24th May 2019

Opening: Saturday 4th May from 12pm - 1pm

MORAYGALLERY 55 Princes Street, Dunedin

03 477 8060 www.moraygallery.co.nz www.annebaldock.com

Featured Artists

The Cruise Ship Season is now over. To provide an added sense of an artist's experience for visitors, over the summer months various members have been "Featured Artist" for a week. The season will begin again in October, with the arrival of expected cruise ships to be significantly more than the past season, when over 120 ships came to Port Chalmers.



Left: Raimo Kuparinen working on a pastel picture, skilfully blending the colours.

Below: Allie Simpson during her stint as featured artist. Allie is exploring the use of mixed media in her work.



Anton Lambaart, artist and OAS Councillor, is keen to ensure safer conditions for the paintings in the Society's Permanent Collection. Ideally, all the works in storage would be sealed protectively in archival, acid-free envelope sleeves, such as the ones he is holding here.



Anneloes Douglas, at the Ralph Miller Exhibition.



The View From The Cliff At Mangawhai
(121.92 H x 91.44 W cm)

Success for Artist: Kristen Olson Stone

Kristen is an out-of-town member, based in Auckland. "I love being a member of this Art group. I have visited the gallery at the Dunedin Railway station three times and I think its absolutely lovely!"

The painting at left was purchased by Kim Campbell, Chairman of the board of the ASB Corporate Art Collection, chosen out of over 1,400 paintings from all over New Zealand at The Royal Easter Show in Auckland at The ASB Showgrounds. (The chairman can purchase one painting per year at the ASB show for the ASB corporate art collection.)

Mangawhai is Kristen's favorite beach in New Zealand. You can see another of Kristen's beautiful paintings in the current Cleveland Art Awards.

Events Calendar

• CLEVELAND NATIONAL ART AWARDS

Awards Night:
Friday 3rd May, 6.00pm.

The exhibition will be open to the public from Saturday 4th May until Saturday 15th June.

April Members' Meeting:

- Come at 7pm, Thursday 16th May for an opportunity to view and discuss the **Cleveland Award Exhibition**. Also, Doug Hart will give an illustrated talk on German realist artist, **Otto Dix**.

• 143rd ANNUAL EXHIBITION

Entry forms will soon be available for this show.

Receiving of works will be straight after the works from the Cleveland Awards are cleared.

Exhibition opening will be on Friday night 28th June.

• EDINBURGH REALTY ART AWARDS

Entries close Friday 19th July.

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Editorial comment: Unless otherwise attributed, all items in the OAS monthly newsletters are compiled by the editor, Jenny Longstaff, Immediate Past President 2013–16. The newsletter is approved by OAS Council before printing and distribution.

Contributions are welcome: stories, photos, news, exhibitions, tuition etc.

Please email Jenny to discuss: j.a.longstaff@gmail.com or phone her on 021 1326 053. **Deadline:** information must arrive a week before end of month to appear in following month's issue. *The OAS Newsletter is printed by Hope and Sons.*