

OTAGO ART SOCIETY Inc.



NEWSLETTER February 2023

Summer Exhibition

On show to Saturday 25th February



Kindly sponsored by
JW Smeaton
chartered accountants



It was wonderful to see so many attending the Summer Exhibition opening night on 27th January. (Award results and judge's comments are on the next page.)

President's Message

Brenda Nyhof

Wow... Its hard to believe we are into February already. I hope you all had a restful break, because we have a busy year lined up for you. Currently the Summer Exhibition, upcoming the Fringe, then our prestigious Cleveland and more. Later in the year we look forward to the station being uncovered in all its glory!

The visitors are back and the gallery has often been filled with people from all over the world. It's really great to see the place abuzz with activity again and at times really needing two people busily working to process sales behind the counter. I noticed that we have repeat visitors from around the country who make a point of calling in every time they are in Dunedin. Our wonderful locals visit regularly also; many were picking up gifts before Christmas.

Thanks to those people who jumped in and worked in the shop to allow us to stay open over the Christmas break. We had many busy cruise ship days during that time and made some great sales. Our 'Love Buy Take' exhibition did very well and artworks have flown off the walls and headed all around the world. Nice to think a painting of your backyard might be sitting on the lounge wall in someone's home in the USA!



President:
Brenda Nyhof

Phone 027 489 0360



Facebook:
otago art society



Instagram:
@otagoartsociety

www.otagoartsociety.co.nz

Back Issues of the newsletter
are available on the website.

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OAS COUNCILLORS, 2022-2023

President: Brenda Nyhof

Immediate Past President:

Doug Hart

Councillors:

Anne Baldock, Jennifer Belt,
Mari Gomes Bradford, Ingrid Duncckley,
Peter Hurst, Tash Hurst,
Raimo Kuperinen, Jenny Longstaff,
Stacey Roughan, Mary Jane Sneyd.

Members' Night

7.00pm Thursday 16th February

Come for a convivial evening with fellow members
and learn about forthcoming OAS events.

Presentation:

Several artists will discuss what motivates their
work, with the theme **"I am an Artist"**.

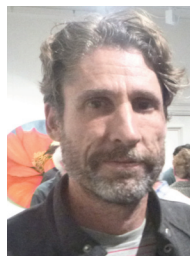
I am incredibly proud of our gallery and what we offer. One day when I was working in the shop I had three separate visitors telling me how they are just amazed at the fantastic gallery we have and the variety and quality of works. If you're ever feeling a bit uninspired, come and volunteer in the shop; it's hard not to feel uplifted by the many positive comments we receive.

Our Summer Exhibition is looking great with loads of gorgeous artworks. Thanks to our loyal sponsor JW Smeaton Accountants for sponsoring this – it is much appreciated.

Our week-by-week Featured Artist in the Ryman Gallery is proving very popular with both visitors and locals, some coming in specially to see their favourite artists at work, while the Thursday art group just keeps getting busier! If you have a few free hours on a Thursday, bring something to work on and pop along; we'd love to see you.

Keep making art!

Brenda Nyhof



Results of the 2023 Summer Exhibition

Judge's comments by Ed Hanfling

Ed Hanfling is a critic, art historian, and curator who lectures at the Dunedin School of Art.

FIRST PRIZE

Gillian Pope (pictured at right, beneath her winning work)

Upper Tama Lake 1/1

To describe a picture as 'together' is to say that it settles itself into a state of completeness, where everything that is there looks like it is supposed to be there – no more, no less. In this instance the overall effect is languid, simple and sensitive. The picture is not loud, but it carries across the room and looks 'right'. It is a study in carefully judged and felt colour values and animated lines (there are some nice squiggly ones with dots on the ends).

SECOND PRIZE

Emily Fischer (pictured at right)

Custard Caramel Tart with Cream, Strawberries and Hazelnuts, Not Recommended for Human Consumption

This piece is funny, odd and delectable, even if it is not for oral consumption. The title is a valuable description: I would not have guessed hazelnuts, but they really are there. This is a sculpture that does not take up much room in the world, but commands close attention. It could be a Claes Oldenburg accidentally put through the dryer.

THIRD PRIZE

Ash

Kawerau River (pictured at right)

Intense, personal and puzzling, this woodcut feels like it is straining to contain itself, projecting beyond its modest dimensions. Colour and shape are amplified, and there is a challenge for the viewer to grasp or understand the work as a coherent picture. It is eccentric, not naturalistic, but somehow the form fits the subject matter.



Some of the OAS Featured Artists who have been exhibiting and demonstrating their work over recent weeks:



Raimo Kuparinen



Rachel Foster



Brian Stewart



Cara Fotofili

When the going gets tough...

With the COVID years leading to challenging economic times, as well as the lengthy duration the railway station has been under wraps, OAS has soldiered on through the difficulties. As a society, we rely on volunteer help to keep our doors open and to continue presenting our well-received exhibitions.

We need you more than ever! We have several major events to run this year. Please consider how you

might be able to help the society by volunteering, even if only for a few hours. At times we have been desperate for assistance in the shop. We need more people to come and train up for shop or other duties like receiving artworks, assisting with catering for openings etc. You will be paired with one of our staff or an experienced fellow volunteer. There are also places available to be filled on the OAS Council. Please get in touch!

Fringe Festival Exhibition



The OAS is delighted to be part of the 2023 Dunedin Fringe Festival, with the exhibition theme **'Rainbow Connection'**. We are very grateful to have the support of a new sponsor – Resene – enabling us to have some cash awards for artists. We are looking forward to seeing your adventurous vibrant rainbow-themed works for this exhibition running **from 16th March to 1st April**. Works need to be new to the OAS and must reference the theme, please. For our valued members there's no entry fee; but we welcome any non members keen to take part for a small fee. Please spread the word if you know of any eager artists who would like to enter. Note the **receiving day** for this is **Saturday 11th March 10am–1pm** – not a Sunday!

The Awards event will be on Thursday 16th March at 6pm instead of our normal members' night. It will be a celebration of all things Rainbow, so come dressed in theme. Plan your costume now – you might win a prize for your efforts. We will tell you more about this nearer the time.

The Exhibition team are planning a colourful 'Rainbow Installation' in one of the galleries that should deliver great photo opportunities and are calling for any members that would like to help create it. Please email annebaldock@outlook.com or ph 021 1081911 to register your interest, if you'd like to help. There are no special skills required, just a willingness to work as a team. It will be fun!

We welcome any donations of A4/A3 pads of thickish craft paper or light card in any rainbow colours. Please drop materials off at the sales gallery before the end of February so we can start creating.

We are also on the lookout for a wooden slatted picnic bench with a back. If you have an old one you don't want please let us know.

Entry forms can be downloaded at <https://otagoartsociety.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/OAS-2023-Fringe-Entry-Form-20230131.pdf> or pick one up from the Sales Gallery.



Poster image: 2021 Winner Gavin Choi, Howick

ENTRIES CLOSE 10 MARCH 2023

\$15,500 PRIZE POOL – PHOTOGRAPHY, 3D, PAINTING, DIGITAL, PRINTMAKING & MORE

Entry form at
otagoartsociety.co.nz
or pickup at the OAS
Dunedin Railway Station

THE CLEVELAND CHARITABLE FOUNDATION



2023 Cleveland National Art Awards

One artist will win \$10,000, so don't miss the deadline of Friday March 10th to enter.

No late entries will be accepted, so mark it in your diary now and get creating. This is a significant national award with works for exhibition selected by the judges, so ensure you provide your best possible image to improve your selection chances. Remember it includes several categories with 2D works in painting, printmaking, photography and digital and 3D works covering sculpture, ceramics, jewellery, textiles and homeware. There's also a special \$1000 prize for an artist 25 and under. Please spread the word – anyone can enter as long as you pay the fee! Entry forms can be downloaded at <https://otagoartsociety.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/2022-Cleveland-Entry.pdf> or pick one up from the Sales Gallery.

We will be calling for extra volunteers to assist with presenting the Cleveland. This is a major national art awards exhibition and will require many willing helping hands. Stay tuned!



Assistance is greatly appreciated. Above, volunteer Allan McMorran checks details on entries.



Getting to know you

Introducing **Rose Shepard**
In her own words...

Many of you will have visited the gallery recently and wondered where Tara is and who I am. (Tara has moved to Wellington.) From Christmas I have been working Tara's hours on the Thursday, Friday and Saturday. I will be finishing in this role mid-March. Since starting at OAS, firstly as a volunteer, and currently as a staff member, I have really enjoyed meeting and working with the other staff members (Ngairé and Nina) and all of the volunteers helping in the OAS Gallery.

My husband and I moved to Dunedin in February last year after several years of 'toing and froing' between Nelson and Dunedin. Joining the OAS was definitely one of my priorities. In Nelson I was a member of the Suter Art Society, exhibiting regularly in their shows and also working at the Suter Gallery as FOH for the shop and Gallery.

Prior to working at the Suter I worked with the Wearable Arts (later to become WOW), firstly as the set designer (in 1993) and then as their FOH Manager which also included designing the catwalk and venue seating, ticket sales, looking after the bars, food venues, parking, ushers, security, and seating! When the show went to Wellington it was time for a change, so I opened a gallery and art studio in Wakefield. From the studio I taught art classes with over 40 students of various ages attending. During those years both my parents were in declining health. They moved to Wakefield to be near us and after my mother passed, my Dad moved in with us, it was a busy place with art students, teenagers, and my Dad!

Thank you for the good work done

We are sad to see **Tara Douglas** depart from her position as sales gallery co-ordinator. She brought a creative touch and serene presence to her role. Our very best wishes go with her for her future in Wellington.

Thanks also to busy young Mum and artist **Danielle Munro** for capably supervising the OAS Newsletter for the past year. Jenny Longstaff is now the editor. Contributions and suggestions welcome. (See information at bottom of page.)

ART ZONE

ART MATERIALS
PICTURE FRAMING

**February: 25% off
visual diaries & pads.**

10% discount for OAS members on
all products throughout the year.

**57 HANOVER STREET,
DUNEDIN**

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In 2010 my father died and we decided to sell the gallery and buy a piece of land on the outskirts of Wakefield. No power or water, we lived in a yurt, planted trees and built a large studio and workshop. During this time I worked for a local college as the Arts Co-ordinator and completed my MFA at Whitecliffe College of Art and Design in Auckland, graduating in 2013.

With life's many twists and turns I've been fortunate to have had an interesting and diverse art career, and it's still going! Now my focus is on being the featured artist in the OAS gallery from 27th March to 2nd April.

***Exhibition by Heidi Beckers and
Jenny Longstaff at Owaka Museum.
Photography and paintings
on show until 31st March.***

Calendar

Thursday Art Group:

Every week, come for an hour or come all day. Bring your lunch and something to work on.

Enjoy an informal get together with fellow creatives.

Showing now:

Summer Exhibition

Kindly sponsored by JW Smeaton

On until Sat. 25th February

Artists, please remember to collect your unsold works on Sunday 26th Feb. from 10-1pm.

Members' Night:

Thurs. 16th February, 7.00pm.

(subsequently, 3rd Thursday of each month)

Several artists will discuss what motivates their work, with the theme **"I am an Artist"**.

Forthcoming exhibitions:

Rainbow Connection

Kindly sponsored by Resene

A Dunedin Fringe Festival Exhibition

Please Note: Receiving day is on Saturday 11th March from 10 to 1pm (not the usual Sunday).

Exhibition will run from 16th March to 1st April.

A Family Fun morning will be held on Saturday 18th March from 9.30am to 12.00 with various activities and music.

Cleveland National Art Awards

See details on previous page.

Entry form and fee due in by 10th March (digital image required).

Selected entries will be exhibited from 6th May to 3rd June.

Editorial comment: Unless otherwise attributed, all items in the OAS monthly newsletters are compiled by the editor, Jenny Longstaff. The newsletter is approved by OAS Council before printing and distribution. Contributions are welcome. 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.*