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OAS COUNCILLORS 2022-2023

Acting President: Mary Jane Sneyd

Immediate Past President:

Brenda Nyhof

Councillors:

Anne Baldock, Jennifer Belt,
Doug Hart, Peter Hurst, Tash Hurst,
Raimo Kuparinen, Jenny Longstaff,
Stacey Roughan, Rose Shepard.

Acting President's Message Mary Jane Sneyd

The OAS has been busy recently. The very successful Cleveland National Art Awards Exhibition has been packed up, the fascinating Magnum photos exhibition hosted by Amnesty International has finished, and Artsenta have once again showed visitors their varied and very interesting artworks. We also managed to stage a well received Demo Weekend, featuring 15 artists.

Now our 147th Annual Exhibition is filling the galleries. I saw the exhibition briefly before I left Dunedin prior to the awards evening and I thought the exhibition was looking excellent. Congratulations to all the prize winners and thanks to the judge Ross Currie for his excellent work. Thanks also to the volunteers for their help and support with our recent busy schedule. And there will be plenty more opportunities for the rest of the year so keep painting or drawing or sewing or whatever you do best!

The OAS Council is going from strength to strength and working very well together, but we would still appreciate some new blood, new ideas and extra pairs of hands, so please think about offering to join or re-join the Council. As the Railway Station will be closed from 14 – 18 August for a crane lift, the **AGM will be held on Thursday 24 August, at 7pm at the OAS.** We hope to welcome new councillors then.



Sarah Ellis organising courier packages at the end of the Cleveland exhibition.



Lindsay Campbell viewing works in the Artsenta Exhibition.



At right: The galleries were full of artists and the curious public for Demo Weekend on 10 and 11 June.

Members' Evening 20 July, 7.00pm

Ross Currie, judge of the OAS 147th Annual Exhibition, will discuss his selections and talk about his own experiences as an art collector. Also, several artists with work in the exhibition will talk about their art practice.

Ross is the current President of the Dunedin Public Art Gallery Society and we have invited their members to attend our evening meeting.



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Back Issues of the newsletter
are available on the website.

CLEVELAND NATIONAL ART AWARDS

Thank you to all the generous sponsors of the various categories, the artists who entered, the willing volunteers who undertook many tasks to make this huge exhibition happen so successfully. Also, the support of visitors to the gallery, and voters in the People's Choice Award is appreciated. This was won by **Jasmine Middlebrook**, whose work 'Self Combustion', pictured at right, captivated viewers with the detail and superb skill involved.

PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD: SPONSORED BY MORAY GALLERY



2nd: Mark Cowden, 'Ambiguity'.

3rd: Kylie Matheson, 'Great Heights'.

4th: Nye McLellan, 'Distortion'.

5th equal: Nelle Paton, 'Lake Marian Reflections', and Simon Schollum, 'Kitchen Things'.

OAS 147th Annual Exhibition - on show until 22 July



On 30 June we celebrated our members' artwork at the 147th Annual Exhibition awards night.

Special guests to present the awards were: Fiona Dyer, Ginny Green representing Mollie and John Pledger, Michelle Nicholls, and Murray Hughes. The audience waited in eager anticipation to see whose works had been chosen by the judge, **Ross Currie**, for awards. It had been a time-consuming and absorbing task for him as there were 7 different awards to be decided and 143 works to peruse. Thank you, Ross, for your diligence.

Here are some of the judge's introductory comments:

"It has been an honour to be the judge of the 147th annual show and a pleasure to spend hours immersed in the art work. It has also been a challenge because the standard this year is high. In some cases though more attention needs to be made to the framing. This is a crucial aspect of the presentation

In any show there are pieces that are not winners but nevertheless deserve

acknowledgement and I want to start by giving special mention to pieces that caught my eye and were not necessarily in the special categories for the prizes.

1. Fabrics based compositions by Tash Hurst and Mary Jane Sneyd stood out.

2. Beaded Jewellery by Hannah Bailly and Viviane Vagt with her environmental themes has a special mention.

3. There are a number of other gems that caught my eye and are deserving of special mention. These include the following artists: Danielle Munro, Sophie Drummond, Rosie Auckram, Haley Rata Heyes, Jerry Howlett, Anne Baldock, Josceline Winslade, and Jenny Longstaff."

More of Ross Currie's judge's comments are included with the results on the next pages.

A school holiday visit for sisters Florrie and Josceline Winslade of Balclutha. Florrie is doing the Detail Detective activity and Josceline is holding one of her entries in the Annual Exhibition.

*Above: A winning line-up, left to right: **Kezia Armstrong** (The Elizabeth Howie Young Artist Award), **Tony Adamson** (The Hughes Family Trust Award for Excellence), **Ross Currie** (exhibition judge), **Hayden Williams** (The Francis Nicholls Landscape award), **Kirsten McAuley** (The John H. Pledger Drawing Award), **Stacey Rughan** (The Rona Dyer Cup for Printmaking), and **Jen Belt** (The Mollie and John Pledger Award).*

*Absent: **Tony Shields** (The Roy Dickison Trophy for Heart of the South).*



147th Annual Exhibition Awards

Judge's comments by Ross Currie

The Rona Dyer Cup for Printmaking

Winner: Stacey Roughan, *'Remind Me'*, monoprint.
(Pictured at right.)

Judge's comment: This is a well balanced harmonious composition with multiple elements that stand out with a judicial and strategic use of colour. There is much to contemplate, to wonder what, or just make personal associations in this print. There is much of interest and just a touch of mystery for the viewer.



Stacey Roughan, 'Remind Me',
monoprint.

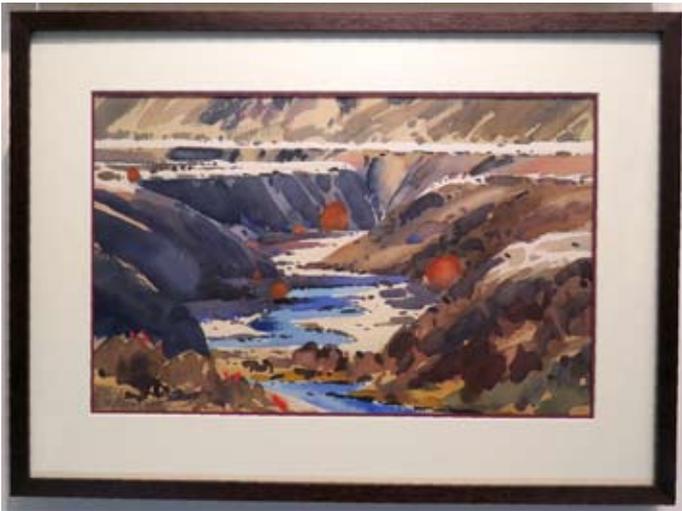


Right:
Special Mention for Printmaking:
Manu Berry, 'The Runes it Scrapes',
woodcut.

The Roy Dickison Trophy for Heart of the South

Winner: Tony Shields,
'Autumn, Manuherikia Gorge', watercolour.

Judge's comments: This is a confident work with bold brush strokes that capture the ruggedness and sculptural beauty of this part of Otago. The autumn colours are mute and the contrast between the land and the light in this painting gives it a fine illumination.



Special Mention for Heart of the South: Jane Whitaker,
'Sunset Over Naseby Village', watercolour & crayon.

The Mollie and John Pledger Award

Winner: Jennifer Belt,
'Stormy Waters' and *'One With the Earth'*, acrylic.

This award goes to a member moving forward with their art practice.

Judge's comment: Jennifer's work has previously focused primarily on manipulated photographic compositions and her small acrylics stem from this practice. She is successfully exploring and experimenting as she develops.



Special Mention for Heart of the South:
Rosemary Shepard, *'The View From Edward's Bay Bus Stop'*, oil.

The John H. Pledger Drawing Award

Winner: Kirsten McAuley, 'Woman Sitting', charcoal.

Judge's comment: This is a well composed work using a range of techniques with charcoal. This life drawing is respectful and peaceful with a foot nicely tucked under. There is judicious detail and smart use of tone.



Special Mention in Drawing Award: Rosemary Shepard, 'Hushed', graphite & charcoal.

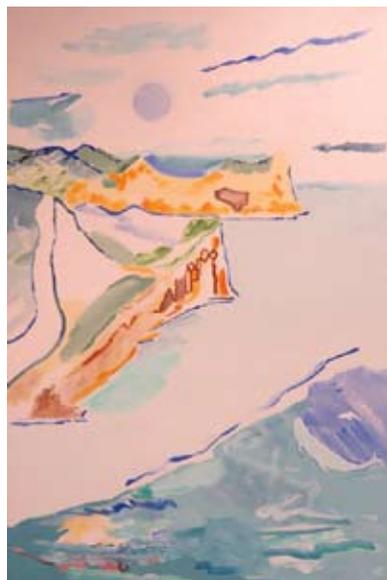
Thursday Art Group

Join in with an informal art group each Thursday in the Hope Gallery at OAS. Bring your lunch and something to work on (in any medium). Enjoy skill-sharing and conversation while getting to know some of your fellow members in a supportive, non-judgemental atmosphere.

The Francis Nicholls Landscape Award

Winner: Hayden Williams, 'Rope Swing, Mapoutahi Pa', acrylic. (Pictured at right.)

Judges comment: The detail is minimal but the impact is striking. Paint is used confidently. This is a well balanced composition with fine attention to light and shade using a limited palette. You can feel the day in this painting; cool in the shade, but hot out of it.

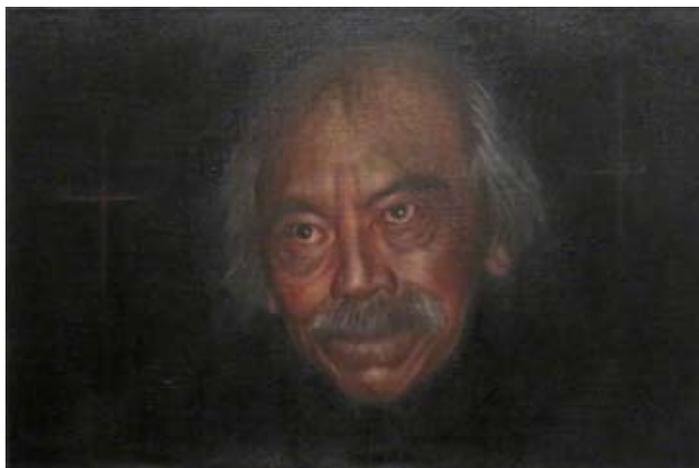


Special Mention in Landscape Award: Nicola Jones, 'Electric Blue and Dream Weavers, Karitane', acrylic. (Pictured at left. Unfortunately, artificial lighting when the work was photographed has affected its colour accuracy.)

The Hughes Family Trust Award for Excellence

Winner: Tony Adamson, 'Hotere', acrylic. (Pictured below.)

Judge's comment: The dark background referencing Hotere's work here enhances the face and allows it to dominate. Although the subject is not looking at us directly there is a strength and connection in this striking portrait of an icon. The light is in the face and there is wisdom and warmth in this portrait.



Special Mention in Excellence Award: Sarah Freiburger, 'Along the Raceman's Track, Silverstream Forest', acrylic.



The Elizabeth Howie Young Artist Award

Winner: Kezia Armstrong,
'Clown of the Mountains', acrylic.

Judge's comment: There are a number of bird paintings in this show but this one takes bird painting down a whole new path. The kea is a playful, wilful and cheeky bird and this is captured so well in this layered painterly piece. The kea is a bird that bursts on the scene and so does this expressive and mature depiction. There is a strong focus on the eyes and the beak. Don't mess with this bird! This is a bold, insightful and accomplished painting.

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Right:
**Special Mention
in the Young Artist
Award:**
Cassandra Newman,
'Darling Reunion',
acrylic.



The **DEMO WEEKEND** held on 10 & 11 June was an enjoyable experience for our participating artists and the public. Engaging with the creative process can be intimidating for some non-practitioners, so these encounters on our Demo Days are a friendly, relaxed way to see artists in action and ask questions.

Thank you to **Lorna Allan** and **Jen Belt** for organising the Demo Weekend. These ladies make a dedicated duo, also being responsible for the smooth running at the receiving desk for most of our exhibitions. They are pictured processing entries for the Annual Exhibition.



Jen Belt and Lorna Allan



A young visitor to the gallery is absorbed in the depth-defying intricacies of Raimo Kuparinen's entry in the Annual Exhibition: 'Oriental Parade, Wellington'. Well worth looking into!

**Introducing our new staff member:
Kara Hall**

Kara joined us recently and will be working as the **Sales Gallery Co-ordinator on Tuesdays and Wednesdays**. As part of our art community, she is looking forward to becoming acquainted with members and their artworks, as well as working alongside our valued volunteers.

Pop in and make her feel welcome!



Kara Hall

Floral Arrangements

Tash Hurst has been sharing the beauty of her garden with us by providing floral centrepieces for exhibitions. Her artistic arrangements have been admired and appreciated by many. On several occasions Tash has also made attractive little tussie mussie posies for presentations at exhibition openings and volunteer 'thank you' get togethers.



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Pictured above are some of the lucky volunteers who attended a 'thank you' get together organised by **Rose Shepard** in June. Rose loves baking!

Right: **Laura Marek, Jenny Longstaff, and Maxine Burney**, all OAS members, pictured in Maxine's studio gallery at the Christchurch Arts Centre.



Regular volunteer **Lynlee Heenan** replacing stock in the sales gallery jewellery cabinet. Members with work in the sales gallery are reminded that OAS is a cooperative and to share the load a contribution of volunteer hours is expected.

Calendar

Members' Night:

Thurs. 20 July, 7.00pm

See front page for details.

Showing now:

147th Annual Exhibition

On until Saturday 22 July

(Artists, please collect unsold works 10am -1.00pm on Sunday 23 July.

We do not have storage space.)

Forthcoming exhibitions:

Edinburgh Premier Art Awards

Entries closed at 4pm Thurs 13 July.

Receiving day for local artworks is Sunday 23 July, 10am to 4pm.

Awards announced at a private viewing for entrants and OAS members on Friday 4 August, 6pm.

Exhibition open to the public from 5 August to 2 September.

Notification of AGM: 24 Aug.

The Railway Station will be closed from 14 – 18 August for a crane lift.

The AGM will be held on Thursday 24 August, at 7pm at the OAS.

Your attendance is encouraged.

Exhibition to plan for:

Start thinking about your artwork for the Rymans Spring Exhibition with the theme: "I remember when"

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.*