



First Floor
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DUNEDIN

Open daily 10am to 4pm

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Edinburgh Realty Premier Art Awards

Prize Winners and Judge's Comments

At the exhibition opening on Friday night, 3rd August, judge Anita De Soto announced the following prize winners:

1st: Ben Mitchell,
Soft Peach Steel, oil.

"Ben Mitchell has responded to Renaissance Vanitas painting with an engaging mix of classical and contemporary objects rendered with exceptional skill. The banal ornamental animals appear to be engaged with each other across this subtle and clever tableau that depicts life and death in the reflections of the artist's space."

2nd: Phillip Beadle, Above Portobello, Otago Harbour, oil.

"This painting was chosen for its luminous quality and exquisite colour palette. Its intimate scale draws one in on a bird's eye view on a day's end. The colours evoke warmth and peace in a beautiful dusky haze."

3rd: C.J. Edmonds, I'll Have What She's Having, Adam and Eve Reimagined, ink/collage.

"This work is a playful and humorous comment on the very serious topic of consumerism and popular culture. Its clever concept and abstractness capture the absurdity of our modern world. It is aesthetically beautiful at the same time."



Otago Daily Times

Pictured with his entry, Ben Mitchell, a John McGlashan College pupil, won the 2018 Edinburgh Realty Premier Art Award. Aged 17, Ben is the youngest person to gain first prize in the competition's 12-year history.



2nd: Phillip Beadle, *Above Portobello, Otago Harbour*, oil.



3rd: C.J. Edmonds, *I'll Have What She's Having, Adam and Eve Reimagined*, ink/collage.

See page 3 for Merit Prize winners, list of artists who gained Special Mentions, the Edinburgh Realty company award winner, and the People's Choice winner.

See page 3 for pictures from last month's AGM.

Spread the word!
DEMO WEEKEND
8th & 9th SEPT.
10am to 4pm both days.

Everyone welcome.
Talk to an artist! Come and see a wide variety of techniques being demonstrated.

Members' Meeting
Thursday 20th September
7.00 pm

Socialise over a cuppa and stimulating conversation with fellow members.

CRITIQUE

This meeting will be a Critique Session on various paintings – where the audience can say what they like or dislike about a series of artworks. They might mention ways that the picture can be improved. It should prove to be quite a valuable lesson in many constructive ways.



President:
Doug Hart

Facebook:
[otago art society](https://www.facebook.com/otagoartociety)

Instagram:
[@otagoartsociety](https://www.instagram.com/otagoartsociety)

www.otagoartsociety.co.nz

Back Issues of the newsletter are available on the website.

Immediate Past President's Message

Nic Dempster

For the past few months Doug Hart has been Acting President. At the Annual General Meeting, held on 16th August, he was formally appointed to that role. His first report as President will be in next month's newsletter. Doug says "I will do my best to lead the OAS into the future, surrounded by a very supportive council."

The following is a transcript of Nic's address to those who attended the AGM:

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK Doug Hart and those on the Council who supported my decision to step aside a few months ago to allow me to focus on Simon and my preparations for Fatherhood. Not only has this helped my personal stress levels, it has given us time to reflect on what is going to be a culmination of a decade long struggle and one that we had all but given up on. This isn't a typical pregnancy and I have been given valuable time to put my energy into navigating the legal maze and emotional rollercoaster this process entails. I would like to acknowledge the many kind words that Members have said to me and in some instances the gifts they have presented to us. Simon and I are deeply touched by the level of support that has been shown to us.

It is with a tinge of sadness that I step away from the Presidency with many goals not yet realised. However, I do hand the baton over to the new leadership team confident that these aims will be met in the coming years.

Part of the deal struck back in April was that I would still write and present this year's President's report. So here I am. This report is written some months ahead of time and is usually a little out-of-date by the time the AGM rolls around. This year it is a little more out-of-date than intended so instead of reading out what I wrote back then I ask that you permit me to veer off script. This will be the last time I get to address you all in this fashion and I would like to use my time to say a few personal remarks and pass on some advice to the new council.

I want to thank the **Dunedin City Council** for their continued support through our Lease Agreement and Rates Relief. I also want to make sure I thank our many Sponsors: **Hope and Sons, Edinburgh Realty, JW Smeatons, Anderson Lloyd, Art Zone, the Otago Daily Times, Alan Dove Photography, the Rowcroft Family and John Pledger**. Without their support the Society would indeed struggle to keep its doors open.

Along with **Wendy Mellberg Haecker** who left for Auckland at the beginning of the year, we have **David Corballis, Murray Ayson, Marie Reid and Denise Benwell** all stepping down from the Council this year. Their combined time on the Council can be measured not in years but in decades. I am in awe of the dedication and self-sacrifice that you have all shown in giving your time and effort to the Society. Your presence, knowledge and voices will be missed at Council meetings.

Joining **Anton Lambaart, Allie Simpson and Cassandra Rolston** are **Lorna Allan and Lindsay Campbell** onto the Council. I very much look forward to getting to know you and working with you over the next year. I would like to recognise all the Councillors who I've served with over the years for their support and guidance – especially **Anne Baldock** who pulled me back on some of my more wacky ideas and pushed me forward on the ideas that had merit.

To the staff (past and present), **Ness Kerr, Jackie Ryder, Jen Long, Anja Waugh, Cynthia Haakman and Jeanette Bird**: Thank you for your professionalism and commitment to the OAS. Your hard work makes the Council's job that much easier. I am confident that the OAS will continue to go from strength to strength with your diligent hard work.

I now get to transition into the role of Immediate Past President. I intend to take this as seriously as I've taken the Presidency. I get to happily stand back and watch the direction

Doug chooses to take and offer suggestions and advice to help him achieve his goals. I will always be available to offer insight and experience when called upon. I want to make sure that the knowledge I have gleaned over the last five years is passed on and not lost. This will always be done behind the scenes. I see the importance of this role as being seen, but not heard. The last few months have been excellent practice for me in learning to let go.

Advice to Councillors, Old and New

- Continue to be Active! Get stuck in. Learn all the aspects of the running of the Society and ask questions, make suggestions, and solicit advice.
- Get to know the membership. Make those personal connections. This builds not only your confidence, but also increases the emotional investment in the Society.
- You are no longer Members of the Society. You have now become Managers. The majority of the time these two titles are mutually inclusive, but there will be times when managerial decisions need to take precedent.
- Start to take into consideration a long term view of the OAS. Where will we be in 5 or 10 years' time? What challenges do we face now and into the future? What can we do to guarantee the Society's continued prosperity?
- Treat everyone you come into contact with the way you would like to be treated. You are ambassadors for the OAS. Make everyone's experience as positive as possible.
- Opposing views are welcome at Council Meetings. Robust debate brings with it the best ideas.
- Don't be afraid of taking on a leadership role! You are the future of the Society.

To Doug, my advice is this:

- Lead by example. Find your voice and stick to your principles.
- Use the talent in your Council. You have one of the freshest in many years. Make the most of them. Find the roles best suited to their skills and give them guidance to meet set goals and outcomes.
- Be bold in your ideas. Don't give up at the first hurdle. Push through.
- Keep reaching out and finding ways for us to work together with other organisations.
- The DCC's Arts and Culture strategy should be memorised into your brain. (I would encourage all Councillors to familiarise yourselves with this document.) A good grasp of this policy will see you in good stead with DCC staff and Council.
- A very wise Past President, (Gillian Pope), told me early on in my stint that, as president, you get the bricks as well as the bouquets. This taught me you will never please everyone all of the time. All you need to do is act in a way that pleases the most people, the majority of the time, and invest in a hard hat.
- Start thinking about your Succession Plan! The Next President is lurking within this newly minted Council.

And my final words of advice this evening are to everyone in this room. Volunteer. Get involved. You can never predict how decisions you make can affect your life down the track. My decision to volunteer and join the OAS Council five years ago has had an unimaginable impact. One that I could never have imagined. It was by connections made through the Art Society that Simon and I were introduced to our surrogate. Volunteering can change your life. I will always be grateful for that.

Thank you again for allowing me the privilege of being your President. I look forward to sitting back a bit and watching this new council and the councils that follow shape the future of the Society.

Nic Dempster

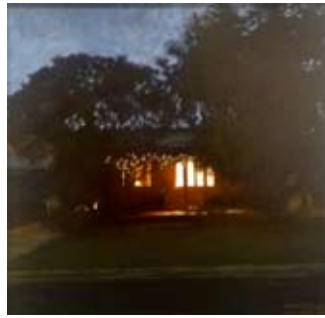
Cont'd.

The Edinburgh Realty Awards 2018 prize winners and comments.



Merit Prize: Gemma Baldock, *Thou Shalt Not*, mixed collage.

“A humorous and clever depiction of human nature and society. A playful comment using cut out collage figures that play out everyday drama like dolls.”



Merit Prize: Marion Vialade, *The Night Before a New Year*, acrylic.

“The night scene evokes a paradox of home comfort and also an ominous foreboding. Exquisitely painted with outstanding technical skill.”



Winner of the Edinburgh Realty company award
Anna Filimonova, *Even Birds Dream in the Moonlight-Motukiekie*, acrylic.



People's Choice Award Winner

1st: Luzette Crossan, *Being Content*, oil.

- 2nd: Lynley Brownridge.
- 3rd: Anna Filimonova.
- 4th: Sarah Freiburger.
- 5th: Anton Lambaart.
- 6th: Karen Neal.
- 7th: Nicola Reif.
- 8th: Alicia Elder.
- equal 9th: Kelly Hyslop and Rachel Sutton.

Sales were excellent for the exhibition: 57 works were sold.

The following artists' entries gained **Special mentions:**

Linda Ledger, Kirsten Ferguson, Anton Lambaart, Renata Duan, Tania Bostock, and Filipa Fairy.

Annual General Meeting held on 16th August



Nic Dempster congratulates incoming President Doug Hart.

Pictured at right are the new additions to the OAS Council: Lorna Allan, Cassandra Rolston, Anton Lambaart, Allie Simpson and Lindsay Campbell.



As a mark of our regard for Michael and Jannette Hope, at left, Life Membership and Co-Patron status was bestowed. At right, Murray Ayson and his wife Joan also became Life Members. They have both contributed many years of valuable service to the OAS.



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DPAGS Friends Event

Wednesday 19th September, 10.00am FRIENDS Coffee Morning

Coffee morning talks at the Dunedin Public Art Gallery are open to the public by koha.

Dr DOROTHY PAGE, retired historian from the University of Otago, and with a special interest in women's and local history, will speak on 'Votes for Women - the Dunedin Story'; it's a topic dear to her heart and most appropriate because our meeting falls 150 years to the day after the passage of the law enfranchising New Zealand women. All welcome.

Introducing our new Administrator

"My name is Anja – I'm 24 years old and grew up in Dunedin. I have been living in the Sunshine Coast in Australia for the past year but have moved home to be closer to friends and family. I have a degree in graphic design and used to be an avid painter when I was younger. I'm really enjoying being a part of the art society so far and love being a part of the art world again. I look forward to meeting you all at some stage. Don't be a stranger if you are at the railway station!"

Anja Waugh, OAS Administrator



Cynthia Haakman (above left) was farewelled and Anja Waugh (2nd left) was welcomed at an afternoon tea attended by available staff and OAS councillors last month.



An introductory Colour Mixing workshop was held last month, co-presented by Lorna Allan and Jenny Longstaff.

Would you like to suggest a topic for a workshop or members' meeting? Please contact the OAS Council... we welcome your ideas.

ADVANCE NOTICE

The Otago Ceramics group exhibition in November will be a combined one with OAS members. Although the theme is 'open', consider using ceramics/pottery subject matter as a launching point, such as still life, pots and sculptures, ceramic patterns, styles, techniques etc. Receiving Day: 11th November.



Welcome new artist members

Erin Graham
Desi Liversage
Hamish Cormack

SPRING EXHIBITION ENTRY FORMS

There have been some changes to the Spring Exhibition. With Ryman Healthcare's sponsorship, the prize money has been raised to 1st: \$600, 2nd: \$400, 3rd: \$200 and a \$100 prize added for 'Special Mention'.

Please Note the amended date for receiving works for the exhibition is Sunday 7th October.

Do not bring your entry form in before this. Please bring it on Receiving Day with your entry.

THANK YOU, MITRE 10

By the time you receive this newsletter, our gallery rooms will have been 'refreshed' with new colours on the previously dark blue feature walls. Councillors and helpers have been busy painting in the week leading up to Demo Weekend. The vibrant colours achieve a smart new look and will provide variety when hanging artworks. Mitre 10 generously donated all the paint for this project, kindly organised for us by Roger Weston and the managers at Mitre 10.

Events Calendar

Artist Demo Weekend:

- 8th and 9th September, 10am to 4pm both days.

20 artists will be demonstrating their various techniques.

Members' Meeting:

- Thursday 20th Sept. 7pm. Interactive Critique Session.

Next exhibitions:

- Youth Art Awards, sponsored by Alan Dove Photography

Receiving works:

Fri 14th Sept, 3-6pm, and

Sat 15th Sept, 10am to 4pm.

Opening event for entrants and their families, Fri 21st at 5.30pm.

Open to public from 22nd

September to 7th October.

- Spring Exhibition sponsored by Ryman Healthcare.

Please bring your entry form with your exhibition items on Receiving Day, Sun 7th October, 1pm – 5pm.

Opening Night: Fri 12th Oct, 6pm.

Open to public until 11th Nov.

Special Meeting Thursday 18th October to discuss OAS rule changes.

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cath@theartistsroom.co.nz

ART SOUTH OTAGO TRUSTPOWER AWARDS: Entry form & fee in by 2nd Nov. Enquiries to Lisa Winslade: email artsouthotago@gmail.com

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.*