



First Floor
Dunedin Railway Station
22 Anzac Avenue
DUNEDIN

Open daily 10am to 4pm

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At right: Receiving day for
The Nude exhibition:
works being checked in.



Manu Berry with his two entries.



Part of the crowd at The Nude
exhibition opening on 21st March.



Pictured at the exhibition opening, left to right:
Natalie Reynolds (Bowel Cancer New Zealand),
Emma Bell (National Bowel Screening Programme
Manager, Southern DHB, Invercargill), Laura Bane
and Genevieve Cowley (Nat. Bowel Screening
Programme, Nurse Co-ordinators).

The Nude Exhibition

The selection of work that was hung for our current show again demonstrated the talents of our creative community. (I was going to describe the exhibition as 'arresting', but I assure readers that it was all very tasteful and no arrests were made.) It has been suggested that an exhibition featuring the nude could become a regular fixture in our calendar. The OAS is using this exhibition as an opportunity to raise funds for the Bowel Cancer charity.

Members' Meeting

Thursday 18th April
7.00 pm

Featuring a talk by
BRUCE MAHALSKI
owner-director of the
Dunedin Museum of
Natural Mystery.

Bruce's collection of objects
and his own creative artworks
should intrigue and
delight you.



Many of Bruce Mahalski's creative works
are made from bones.

In addition, **Doug Hart** shall
be giving an illustrated talk
on naive Cornish artist,
Alfred Wallis.

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

**Wild
Dunedin**
NZ FESTIVAL OF NATURE

Wild Dunedin week, 22nd April to the 29th April.

**Artists: Please bring in any works featuring Otago
Wildlife for the gallery shop display. (This year
the festival's focus is on freshwater habitat.)**



President:
Doug Hart

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

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www.otagoartsociety.co.nz

Back Issues of the newsletter
are available on the website.

President's Message

Doug Hart

Welcome to another month and what a month it's been for the OAS. The Nude exhibition has certainly grabbed the headlines of the Dunedin art community and meant that we've had many thousands of curious people coming to view the wide range of contemporary, classic and quirky interpretations of the nude. When we first mentioned the concept, we wanted people to think outside the box as well as interpret the body in the artist's original style. Well we've certainly hit that brief in an interesting and thought provoking way. Thanks to all the people who contributed including Steve Peyroux, Ewan Macgregor, Geoff Williams and Angela Burns, to name but a few.

Bowel Cancer Charity

The Nude exhibition was designed to not only showcase artworks but also to raise money for this important charity. I am so grateful for the moving talk that Natalie gave, who at the age of 26 was diagnosed with bowel cancer and had a fifteen month old baby to look after. In addition, I'd like to thank the screening team, Gen and Laura who gave an insight to the recognition of symptoms and care procedures. Buy an artwork, save a life.

Parking issues

This is still an issue for us because without car spaces at the front of the building, it will prove very difficult for members to pick up and drop off work. After all it's a working Railway Station still! I have started a petition to hand into the DCC regarding this. If you haven't signed then please come into the shop. The OAS has no objection to the removal of buses, coaches and camper vans to nearby designated areas, but keeping car access is crucial.

Art and conflict

The terrible shootings in Christchurch on 15th March made me consider the role that art plays in the combatting of extremist outrages that have plagued our societies throughout the globe. I can think of many examples that portray suffering in the hope that people will stand up to war and bigotry. Picasso's *Guernica* shows the tragedies of war and the suffering it inflicts upon individuals, particularly innocent civilians. The callous bombing raids inflicted by the Nazi regime were unbelievably evil. This work has gained a monumental status, becoming a perpetual reminder of the tragedies of war, an anti-war symbol, and an embodiment of peace.

Art is used to oppose conflict. Anti war organisations have commissioned artists to undermine sympathy for wars and produce material support for organisations such as Amnesty International and Medicins Sans Frontier. Many artists have also produced art independently to campaign for peace, notably Otto Dix after experiencing the horrors of WW1 and his condemnation of the rise of the Nazi regime which targeted minorities within society.

Conversely, art has also been used in the propaganda and glory of war and having recently visited the temple complexes of Angkor Watt, exquisitely crafted carvings of conflict, slavery, mutilations and victory adorn the walls.

In other works, such as in North Korea and Stalinist Russia, the artists have depicted the opposing side as aggressive, powerful, and savage in order to stimulate animosity and fear for the opposing side. To evoke a sense of nationalism and pride among compatriots, they have depicted battlefield victories, and to stress the need for continued public support.

We can only hope that mankind's lack of empathy for others eventually assumes the same status as the extinction of the dinosaurs.

Cleveland Exhibition

This is well underway at the moment and will be a monumental task for the judges to select and ultimately award the prizes. This is the first time we have a digital entry system along with the majority of major award exhibitions. It eliminates the practice of sending actual paintings in and then having them returned after deselection. The only downside of this method is you cannot effectively see the textures and true colours. The prize money is even greater this year and Margaret Cleveland is really looking forward to it. Thanks again to fellow sponsors, Moray Gallery, Gallery de Novo and Taut Art.

Picking up artwork

If you have exhibited artwork and it hasn't sold, please pick it up as soon as the exhibition is over owing to more work coming in for the next show. Thanks.

Exhibition dates : Edinburgh Realty Art Awards

It's now time to think about your entry for the much anticipated Edinburgh Realty Exhibition. Once again the company have been really impressed with the way the OAS puts together a show. It's the largest selling, most popular event that we run. This year we have another amazing, talented and experienced judge.

Friday 19th April: Entry forms available

Friday 19th July: Entries close

Friday 26th July: out of town entries delivered

Sunday 28th July: local entries delivered

Friday 9th August: OAS members opening night

Members' meeting, Thursday 18th April, 7.00pm

This meeting, starting at 7.00pm, will feature a talk by Bruce Mahalski, the owner of the Dunedin Museum of Natural Mystery. Bruce's collection of objects and his own creative artworks should intrigue and delight you. In addition I shall be giving an illustrated talk on naive Cornish artist, Alfred Wallis. Please come along and support these members' evenings as it's a good way of meeting people and learning new things.

Thursday painters

I'm still trying to establish this and am hoping it will become a regular feature on Thursdays, 10.30 – 3.00pm.

Come along with your paints and mingle with others. We've got room for about a dozen people.

Gifts for the OAS

I'd like to thank Mel from Southern Cross Lighting Dunedin for generously donating a large amount of state of the art lighting, and Sharon Stark Lont for agreeing to be our *pro bono* lawyer. Such great offers from lovely people.

Closing remark

Art in all its forms should be a pleasure and a passion to be involved in. Without your involvement the society would not be the organisation that it is today – 143 years in the making with the same ideals and reaching out to everyone to stimulate their lives. Thanks so much.

Doug Hart

SUMMER EXHIBITION PEOPLE'S CHOICE

Votes were tallied at the conclusion of the exhibition:

- 1st: *Because I Can* by Marion Vialade
- 2nd: *Sunburst* by Mehrdad Tahan
- equal 3rd: *Misty Morn* by Mehrdad Tahan and *Approaching Wanaka* by Phillip Markham
- 4th: *A Lot of Cock'n'Bull in Cromwell* by Marie Reid
- 5th: *Peninsula Holiday* by Linelle Stacey
- 6th: *A Flick of My Tail* by Allie Simpson
- 7th: *Distraction* by Silas Kemp
- equal 8th: *Ocean and Earth* by Nicola Jones and *Greenstone Treasure* by Alicia Elder



The People's Choice winning painting: 'Because I Can', by Marion Vialade.

Thursday Painting Group



Above: Doug Hart, Raimo Kuparinen and Annie Pepers pictured at a recent Thursday Painters get together. Doug reports that he actually sold the picture he was working on because a lady loved it so much that she wanted it straight away.

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

RALPH MILLER EXHIBITION

15th – 26th April in the Ryman Health Care Gallery, OAS.

Ralph Miller was the most prolific artist in the Pacific during WW2 and is noted for his drawings around the streets of Dunedin. He died in 1956 aged 37, leaving over 1000 sketches and drawings. He would have been 100 this year, so his son Brian Miller and family have sponsored an exhibition to celebrate his work and show a range of originals and working drawings.



Dunedin street scene by Ralph Miller.



The photo above shows exactly why it is crucial for car access to be kept available in front of the Railway Station. We need to be able to deliver and collect paintings in all weathers. Here, Calla Knudsen-Hollebon (right) extricates her painting, "Portal", from her car on receiving day for the Nude exhibition, helped by her partner, Connor Boyle.



Left: Joy Heazlewood and Di Wales at the Nude exhibition opening night. The painting behind them is *Nude I*, a watercolour by Don McAra.

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Recent Featured Artists



Brian Stewart



Jane Tui Schwenke



Left: Lindsay Campbell was kept busy unscrewing artists' packing cases when their work arrived for the Nude exhibition.

Tony Standford Shields Outdoor Painting Workshops

Phone 03-4781045 / Cell 0273242128

Demonstration in painting with oils, acrylics and watercolours for individuals or groups.



Lighting Our Way Forward

Ruth Reid and Katrina McGettigan co-ordinated artists as a creative show of support for Christchurch as a response to the massacre. Artists' impressions of lit candles were painted on 8" x 8" boxed canvases. Paintings were hung on Sat. 30th March, on railings outside Botanic Gardens, next to Museum, on Rolleston Ave.

Ruth Reid (on the left) accepting Jenny Longstaff's painting for the "Lighting Our Way Forward" initiative in Christchurch.



Some of Bronwyn Mohring's ceramic works.

Recent Featured Artists



Melissa Martyn shared the featured artist space with Bronwyn Mohring. Here she is seen discussing Bronwyn's prints with visitors.



Melissa Martyn, fibre and textiles artist.

Otago Peninsula Artists Inc.
'Almost an Island' Exhibition
Thurs. 11th April – Mon. 22nd April
Macandrew Bay Hall.

Open to Public 10am to 4pm Daily

Look Out : Look Down
Exhibition of works by Anne Baldock
at Moray Gallery, 4th – 24th May

Opening Event: 12 noon -1pm
on Saturday 4th May.

Events Calendar

• **'The Nude' Exhibition** will finish on **Saturday 13th April**. Artists, please collect your work from **12 noon on Sunday 14th April**.

• **Ralph Miller Exhibition**
15th – 26th April.

April Members' Meeting:

• Come at 7pm, Thursday 18th April to see a presentation by **Bruce Mahalski**, contemporary artist and owner-director of the Dunedin Museum of Natural Mystery. Also, Doug Hart will give an illustrated talk on Cornish artist, Alfred Wallis.

• **CLEVELAND NATIONAL ART AWARDS Call for Entries!**
(Entry Forms available at OAS desk.)
Entry form, fee, and digital image (high-resolution quality) due no later than 4pm Friday 12th April.

Judging will be by pre-selection from images, then selected artists will be contacted on Thursday 18th April to send their work ready for exhibiting.

• **Awards Night:**
Friday 3rd May, 6.00pm.

• Exhibition will be open to the public from Saturday 4th May,

the framers
ROOM

15% Discount on
Framing at all
times for
O.A.S Members

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*conditions apply

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.*