



First Floor
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DUNEDIN

Open daily 10am to 4pm

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Administrator: Ngaire Kitt

otagoartsociety@xtra.co.nz



We are delighted to welcome
Ngaire Kitt
our new Administrator.

She is a botanical artist, a ceramicist, and general 'crafty' person.

Thanks to Annie Pepers and Anne Baldock for giving up so much time to finding the right person.

Otago Art Society 143rd Annual Exhibition – until 27th July

Gay Rowcroft Award
WINNER
143rd Annual Exhibition
MARIE REID BEADLE
'Balancing Act – Stewart Island Party'
Acrylic

Another regular highlight of our exhibition calendar – the Annual Exhibition – was celebrated on Friday night, 28th June, when the awards were announced. Judges this year were two women with connections to the Dunedin City Council: Christine Garey, a Dunedin City Councillor, and Cara Paterson, who has had a connection to the local arts community for many years and is currently DCC Relationship Advisor – Arts and Culture.

The judges were kept busy with decision-making for several categories of awards: The Gay Rowcroft Awards for the top three prize winners; the Jean Nelson Award for a photographic work; and the Roy Dickison 'Heart of The South' Award for a work best reflecting our southern area.

see page 3 for results

Judge's comment about Marie Reid Beadle's Winning painting, pictured at left:

"... a play on words and a play on our hearts, set with endangered icons of Aotearoa New Zealand. The artwork is painterly and beautiful, with warmth and sorrow. It is fun but serious in its messaging."



*Photographic design
arrangement of fern frond
by Jenny Longstaff.*

Members' Meeting

Thursday 18th July at 7.00 pm

DOUG HART

Wilma Flintstone -
world class Palaeolithic artist
and

JENNY LONGSTAFF

Graphic Expression - Visual and Verbal

*Come along and support these members' evenings –
meet people and learn new things. Enjoy some mulled wine!*



President:
Doug Hart

Phone 0211346252



Facebook:
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www.otagoartsociety.co.nz

Back Issues of the newsletter
are available on the website.

President's Message

Doug Hart

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the Society. 143 years old and still going strong.

- Did you know that 143 is the sum of seven consecutive prime numbers: (11+13+17+19+23+29+31).
- An Air Canada flight glided for 143 miles after running out of fuel and landed safely.
- 143 years ago Edison made his first telephone call.
- 143 years ago General George Custer made his last stand.
- 143 years ago Nicklaus Otto built the first internal combustion engine, and 143 years ago the great Bangladesh cyclone killed 200,000 people.

But also 143 years ago, the first art society in New Zealand was founded by William Mathew Hodgkins. It proved to be a wonderful base for the establishment of art in this country. From its small beginnings, the emergence of New Zealand natural born artistic talent began, shedding the bounds of European based art. Through Hodgkins' influence this country developed its own artistic style and genres, but he also established an impressive collection of world class art that is on display at the Dunedin Public Art Gallery.

Hodgkins' initial vision was for the furtherance of art and that art should be accessible to all. However, this failed to happen because The Otago Art Society became an elitist club selecting members worthy, in their minds, of notable talent. Out went many promising and talented artists such as Ralph Hotere and Colin McCahon.

From 2018 all that changed with the repeal of the artist membership category and once again Hodgkins' vision was back on track. The adherence to the Dunedin City Council's Ara Toi Otepoti strategy for Dunedin was paramount in opening up artwork entries to all members.

In the 143rd Annual Exhibition we have included cement sculptures, pouring mediums, wooden construction and the somewhat over-shadowed skill of fabric art. The Otago Art Society welcomes and

encourages new and potentially exciting forms of contemporary artworks.

I believe Hodgkins would be pleased and amazed at the success of the Society he established all those years ago.

But what really makes an artist?

Is this you?

- The highlights in your hair are from your palette and not Clairol.
- The only piece of new furniture you have in your home is a \$2000 easel.
- You butter your toast with your fingers, just to feel the texture.
- You know what shade of green moss on the tree is.
- You never look at a person's face as a whole. You break it up into shadows, lines and shades and think how they look on canvas and there are Prussian blue finger marks on your phone.

Our 143rd Annual Exhibition was judged by two wonderful ladies who, although not artists themselves, have a wealth of involvement with the society and with artists and the art strategy in the city – **Christine Garey** and **Cara Paterson**. They gave up their time to scrutinise, debate and decide who the recipients of the awards were and the reason that they were chosen.

I would like to thank the enormous amount that the councillors, judges, staff (including our new administrator, Ngaire Kitt) and volunteers did to bring about the success of this exhibition. Furthermore, I thank the **Pledger** and **Rowcroft** families for their continued support to the Society. In addition, I'd like to acknowledge the continued support given by the DCC in providing us with the magnificent World Heritage building in which to display our artwork to thousands of people.

Without all this support, William Mathew Hodgkins' vision would not be projected into the 21st century. We look forward to our 144th.

Doug Hart



Return and Departure

Left: Newly-appointed Sales Gallery Co-coordinator **Jan Ingram** (left) has returned to us, having previously worked in that position several years ago. She is replacing **Jackie Ryder**, who has left to pursue her own creative interests.

(Ness Kerr and Jan Ingram share the role of Sales Gallery Co-ordinator.)



Christine Garey and Cara Paterson judged the 143rd Annual Exhibition.

143rd Annual Exhibition

With comments by the judges.

GAYE ROWCROFT AWARDS

(See page 1 for Winner.)

2nd Prize:

'Nice to Have - State House' by Desi Liversage

"...this a confronting work, very much a reflection of our time with the image of a State House, a familiar old blanket which represents home, love and warmth, or could also mean being on the street without a home. This is a work with complex layers of meaning which the viewer can bring to the work. We really like that the artist is asking us to question our place in Aotearoa and our role in social justice and equity."

3rd Prize:

'Yellow Cube', by Mark Cowden

"...technically challenging and skilled, it's three artworks in one. We liked the simplicity and complexity!"

The Cleveland National Art Awards: People's Choice

Thank you all who visited and voted for their favourite piece in The Cleveland National Art Awards. Congratulations to **Sarah Freiburger**, whose painting was the most popular with voters. She won the \$500 People's Choice Award.

Other artists who polled well in the public voting were: Jerry Howlett, Elisabeth Grant, Mark Cowden, Philip Markham, Doug Williams, Sheila Brown, Anita DeSoto and Marg Hamilton.



People's Choice:

Sarah Freiburger's winning acrylic painting in The Cleveland Art Awards.

Please note this date:

AGM will be held in the OAS Hope Gallery on Thursday, 15th August at 7.00pm.

(2)



Mollie & John Pledger Award (Most Improved)

'Kiwi Villa/Peering Out/ Grand Entrance', by Christine Philp

"... the artist has gained great confidence in developing an art practice, working and successfully negotiating different mediums. This series of work is fun but meaningful in the current housing crisis, and need for more warm, dry homes."

(3)



Jean Nelson Photographic Award

'Tip of the Iceberg', by Pauline Bellamy

"... lovely light, we thought the composition could be abstraction, but equally it evokes other landscapes, like perhaps a waterfall. The message of climate change is present if you choose to bring it the work! Interesting, too, to see this photographic work from a renowned painter and printmaker!"



Roy Dickison Pride of the South Award

'Otago Harbour', by Cath McLean

"... we chose this work because it immediately placed us in the South, it's our harbour, our moody sky. We loved the panorama style that is able to capture the brooding winter sky and the patchwork technique of greens and ochres that make up the surrounding peninsula hills."



Sarah Freiburger
People's Choice Winner,
The Cleveland Art Awards.

Have you paid your Membership Subs?



Are you ready for our next exciting exhibition?

LIFE DRAWING OPPORTUNITY

*Improve your
figure drawing skills!*

Pauline Bellamy has arranged for a life drawing model to be available at Bellamys Gallery, Macandrew Bay, for four weeks, **starting Wednesday 10th July, from 5–7pm. \$15 each night.**

If interested, contact Pauline at:
email: bellamysgallery@gmail.com
phone: 027 431 1872

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Information for Preparing Exhibition Entries

With the Edinburgh Realty Art Awards coming up, PLEASE PAY ATTENTION to instructions on entry form.

For acceptance, we expect you to:

- Keep to size requirements.
- Attach D-rings to frame at correct distance from top.
- Attach swing tag with all details the same as on your entry form (keep a record of details when you put your entry form in.)
- If you exhibit under a different name to your usual name, please write both of them on your entry form.

Please remember we have new staff and they are not familiar with your names as yet. *Please write clearly.*

You are advised to photograph your work – keep a record. If you do, to avoid getting reflections you MUST photograph your painting BEFORE it goes under glass. (Artists should be taking a record of their work every time and filing it.)

Annual Exhibition: Highly Commended

The judges singled out several artists whose work caught their eye:

Douglas Williams, Morag Wheeler, Doug Hart, Anne Baldock, Baden French, P.G. Rob, Jenny Longstaff, Sharon Pine, Erin Jones.

Events Calendar

• 143rd ANNUAL EXHIBITION

Exhibition will be open until Saturday 27th July. Please collect unsold works on Sunday 28th.

July Members' Meeting:

- Come at 7pm, Thursday 18th July for two presentations. Doug Hart: Wilma Flintstone - world class Palaeolithic artists; and Jenny Longstaff: Graphic Expression - Visual and Verbal. Enjoy some mulled wine.

• EDINBURGH REALTY ART AWARDS

Entry form and fee in by 4pm Friday 19th July.

Receiving: All works delivered by Sunday 28th July, 10am-4pm.

Exhibition Awards presentation opening night will be on Friday 9th August, 6pm. (Private viewing for entrants and OAS members.)

Exhibition closes 7th September.

Collection of works: Sunday 8th September from 10am-4pm.



Highly commended 3-D works from the Annual Exhibition

Above: **Large Shallow Oil Spot Bowl, by Erin Jones:** "... we loved the form and the technical nature of the abstract patterning and oil spot glaze through both the bowl and the large vessel."

Left: **'Arian', by Sharon Pine** "... loved this work's technicality in its 3D form and meticulous placing of the mosaics, especially the bead-work mane."



Mark Cowden (3rd Prize winner in the Annual Exhibition), with his wife **Juliana** at the opening function.



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.*