



First Floor
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DUNEDIN

Open daily 10am to 4pm

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Administrator: Ngaire Kitt

otagoartsociety@xtra.co.nz

OAS COUNCILLORS, 2019-2020

President: Doug Hart

Vice-Presidents:

Annie Peppers, Anton Lambaart

Immediate Past President:

Nic Dempster

Councillors:

Jenny Longstaff, Geoff Adams,
Julia McNaughton, Raimo Kuparinen,
Peter Nicholls, Mari Gomes-Bradford,
Brenda Nyhof, Celia Duff,
Lorna Allan, Lindsay Campbell,
Allie Simpson, Danielle Munro.



*Edinburgh
Realty Premier
Art Awards*

After two very successful corporate nights hosted by Edinburgh Realty, the official opening and awards presentations were made on Friday 9th August.



1st Prize (\$3,000) "**Seize the Day**", charcoal, by Mehrdad Tahan (above).

Comment by the exhibition judge, Bruce Hunt: A beautifully rendered charcoal work, subtly detailed and simple in form. A cloudscape as well as a landscape, evocative of the rhythm and movement of the NZ weather and its influence upon our landscape.



3rd Prize (\$1,000)
"Aoraki in Blue", acrylic,
by Baden French.

2nd Prize (\$2,000)

"River Walk, Arrowtown", acrylic, by Nigel Wilson.

Members' Meeting

**Thurs. 19th September
at 7.00 pm**

President DOUG HART will give a presentation on **Heritage & Environment** and other discussion will focus on the exhibition that will be on display in the Hope Gallery:

Field of Vision

in which seven OAS artists have expressed their artistic vision of our wildlife and environments.

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



President:
Doug Hart

Phone 0211346252



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.

President's Message

Doug Hart

Edinburgh Realty Exhibition

It's been a pleasure to continue our association with this company for the thirteenth year. The directors were delighted with the quality of the works on display and the positive reactions from their clients and the wider public. To date we have sold over fifty paintings from a total of 170 and attracted publicity from newspapers, radio, an international gallery owner based in Sydney and Shanghai and our local television channel 39. We sincerely hope that Edinburgh Realty will join us next year for the 14th time. The judge, **Bruce Hunt**, himself a very accomplished Otago landscape painter, was impressed with the range of work and the society itself. He has volunteered to give a presentation on his work in October's members' meeting and it's worthwhile going online to look at the beautiful canvases that he paints (www.brucehuntartist.com).

Animals and Art

From the earliest attempts by man to express himself either in words or gestures, evolved the need to make lasting marks of his real and imagined world. Bearing witness to this are the cave paintings of Lascaux in France, Altamira in Spain and many other sites around the globe. The rock paintings of Aboriginal North Australia capturing animals and water sources to Damien Hirst's 'pickled shark' demonstrate the need of mankind to preserve the essence of the animals and make us think about our environment.

In our modern times it has become increasingly important to look back at the historical artworks that have recorded extinct flora and fauna, as well as totally different environments that existed. The ancient people of the Sahara region recorded hippos, crocodiles and fish swimming in vast lakes fed by sizeable river systems. Neolithic hunter gatherers recorded aurochs, cave bears, sabre toothed tigers, woolly rhinoceros and mammoths. They recorded them on cave walls for purposes that are lost to us today.

The exploration of the continents by merchants, and funded trade expeditions, brought back tales and descriptions of 'fabulous beasts' such as sea monsters capable of sinking ships, and large flightless birds. Albrecht Durer's famous woodcut depicting a rhinoceros, shows an amazing creature slightly different from the real beast.



German painter and printmaker, Albrecht Durer, did this woodblock print of a rhinoceros in 1515. It is slightly inaccurate because he drew it from a written description. It became a very popular print and was regarded as accurate until the 18th century, when a real rhinoceros was taken on a tour of Europe during the 1740s.

If people had not captured the images of animals such as the Dodo, Tasmanian Tiger and America's Passenger Pigeon, then we would have no idea that they existed at all and they would have been put down as folklore.

Edward Landseer, George Stubbs, Eugène Delacroix, William Blake and Henri Rousseau have brilliantly captured the essence and spirit of animals in their paintings.

In the twenty-first century we are faced with many extinctions including the white rhino, now down to just two females. And 100 million sharks are being killed annually to satisfy the medicinal and culinary markets of Asia.



At the AGM, held on 15th August, President Doug Hart delivered the annual OAS performance report and outlined objectives for the coming year. All sitting Councillors were re-elected.

This month seven Otago Art Society members are staging an exhibition entitled 'Field of Vision' to highlight the diversity of life in New Zealand. The exhibition seeks to raise awareness of our local fauna, flora and stunning landscapes in an effort to record them for posterity. The plight of penguins with not enough food to eat owing to climate change, albatross that die from eating plastic on their oceanic wanderings and the impact of humans on the landscape as the population of the planet heads inexorably towards 8 billion.

What are people to say to their grandchildren in 100 years time? Birds that flew underwater, birds that couldn't fly at all, parrots that lived in the alpine regions, huge animals with horns, striped cats that roared through green jungles! No way Grandpa! I don't believe you.

The 'Field of Vision' exhibition will feature artists, animal organisations and photography talks as well as raising money for the Otago Wildlife Hospital, which is having a positive result in rescuing injured animals. Hopefully it will be well received by all our members and the public.

Other future news

The galleries will also play host to **Andrew Cook's** paintings and **Hamish Cormack's** 'Creatures' in September.

This is followed by the **Youth Art Awards** which showcase the talents and creativity of our five to fifteen year olds from local schools as well as independent entries. We are grateful to Bellamy's Gallery at Macandrew Bay and the Portobello Hotel for the sponsorship of this important event. Pauline Bellamy and Sarah Cunningham are to be the judges.

Then we are gearing up for featured artists, **Demonstration Weekend** and the Ryman sponsored **Spring Exhibition**. Annie Pepers and I have already planned 2020 which is full of events including the National Pastel and Ceramics exhibitions as well as the Hope and Sons sponsored exhibition and our own members' shows.

This society offers many opportunities for members to gain value for their annual subscription. In the coming months we hope to put in place ideas to extend the practical involvement of our members through workshops etc. We invite people to be a part of this society in a variety of ways, from helping in the shop to clearing out unwanted and obsolete items in our storage rooms. If you would like to help in any way then please come forward. We have a friendly and welcoming volunteer base.

Doug Hart

Edinburgh Realty Art Awards: judge's comments by Bruce Hunt

(See front page of newsletter for images of these two paintings).

2nd Prize: Nigel Wilson, "River Walk, Arrowtown", Acrylic.

A painting that reflects an artist who revels in the joy of paint and the magic of colour. A moment of conversation caught in a vibrant burst of autumn light. Every brush mark, slash and dribble of paint seems to find its place in conveying this riverside scene.

3rd Prize: Baden French, "Aoraki Blue", Acrylic.

Small paintings have provided some great highlights in this exhibition and this is no exception. Within the frame, warm hues shift and hover over cool. Familiar landscape features and colours of the Mackenzie Country lakes reveal themselves from within the abstract qualities of this painting.



Nigel Wilson



Baden French

Special Mentions went to works by: Andrew Cook, Gillian Pope, Jan Ingram, Sharon Richardson, Scott Drummond.



Merit: Gabby McKenzie, "Sleepover at Auntie Maud's", Acrylic.

A work of humour, familiar things and nostalgia. The title says it all. The bird's expression, presence of the cheeky frog – friend or intruder, as well as the skilled execution, form an intriguing and intricate image.



Merit: Jacob Koopman, "Hidden", Acrylic.

A painting that has drawn me back again and again. The black void beyond the figure creates mystery and there is tension in the subject's back as well as beauty. Surface texture is important to emphasise this.

Margot Coxhead's "Bumble" was purchased by Shirley Todd.



Edinburgh Realty Sponsor's Award: Sarah Freiburger, "Glade", Acrylic.



The RSA Choir welcomed guests to the exhibition opening.

This item has been written by our Administrator, Ngaire Kitt:

Art Books at The Hewitson Library

Located at Knox College, 3 Arden Street, North East Valley, Dunedin.

(Hewitson Library membership is free.)

Did you know that there is a whole collection dedicated just to Art at the Hewitson Library? While the library's focus is ecclesiastical, there is a huge range of titles that will appeal to everyone. Of particular interest is the **Chrysalis Seed Collection**. This Collection has been created just for artists and, thanks to generous and anonymous funding, is growing all the time. Many new titles arrived recently such as:

- *The Gift*, by Lewis Hyde
- *The End that Does: Art, Science & Millennial Accomplishment* by Cathy Gutierrez & Hillel Schwartz
- *Trying to Get a Sense of Scale* by Tim Lowly, et al.
- *Agnes Martin* by Frances Morris, et al.
- *James Turrell: Extraordinary Ideas – Realized* by James Turrell & Armin Kratzert
- *Luc Tuymans: Exhibitions at David Zwirner* by Tommy Simoons & Donna Wingate
- *Unspeaking Art of Bill Viola: a Visual Theory* by Ronald Bernier

I enjoy looking at monographs about artists or books compiled from recent exhibitions. Browsing these shelves I always seem to find something that surprises and inspires. Ngaire Kitt

Lawrence Summer Arts Festival

Theme: 'Heritage' – 1st Prize: \$2,500 2nd Prize: \$500
2-D works only (no photography or digital)

Closing date, digital submissions: 4th October 2019

Exhibition and activities will run over 2 weekends:
2nd & 3rd and 9th & 10th November

Information – Email: lawartcompetition@gmail.com
www.lawrence.nz/events Mobile: 0274 908 391



Do you need a student desk?

Take it away for a donation to OAS. Surplus to requirements in OAS office.

LUNCHTIME TALK @ OAS
Thursday 12th Sept, 1.00pm

Paul Sorrell:
Getting close to Nature with Wildlife Photography

Noted wildlife photographer, Paul Sorrell, shares his observations through a photographer's eye.

Please come! Koha to support the Otago Wildlife Hospital.

Youth Art Awards

Receiving Dates for entries

from schools and individuals:
16–18th Sept, from 10.00 to 4.00pm

Please Note: The Youth Art Opening Event scheduled for Friday 27th Sept, at 5.30pm is **only for award winners** and their immediate family plus school representatives, owing to new health and safety guidelines. (Previously, we have had too many attendees for the new safety guidelines.)

ART ZONE

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FRAMING EQUIPMENT OPPORTUNITY

Hayward's Auctioneers have some equipment for a forthcoming sale that you may be interested in – all the gear necessary for professional picture framing: cutters, compressor, mouldings etc. Contact Haywards: ph. 477-2559.

Forthcoming Exhibitions

This month will see a marvellous variety of exhibitions filling all rooms of our galleries....

Scene to be Believed

Andrew Cook's solo show will feature oils on canvas in the Art Zone Gallery, from 9–22 Sept.

Creature!

Hamish Cormack's solo show will be presented in the ODT Gallery from 10–22 Sept. You are invited to the opening at 2.00pm on Tuesday, 10th Sept.

Field of Vision

Seven OAS artists will present work expressing their artistic vision of our wildlife and environments in the Hope Gallery from 10–21 Sept. Artists are: **Allie Simpson, Raimo Kuparinen, Doug Hart, Annie Peppers, Brenda Nyhof, Mari Gomes-Bradford, and Rachel McCoubrey.**

Several speakers have been arranged to accompany this exhibition on various days, so check the overview on Facebook for Otago Art Society.

An opening function with speakers from the Wildlife Hospital and the Sea Lion Trust will be held from 5.30pm on Tuesday 10th Sept. All welcome.

Art For Our Sake Connections

This is a free visual art event at the Otago Art Society during Disability Pride week (16–22 Sept).

Artists who experience intellectual disability from Studio2, Artspace and the local Dunedin area are getting together to put on an exhibition. This is an opportunity for the wider community to see some truly outstanding art works, and broaden their understanding of art.

Opening Night Event will be on Monday 16th Sept. from 4.30 to 6pm. Free and welcome for all to attend. Exhibition will run from 16–22 Sept.

Events Calendar

• **EDINBURGH REALTY PREMIER ART AWARDS**

Exhibition closes 7th September.

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

• **SCENE TO BE BELIEVED**

Exhibition by **Andrew Cook**, on show from 9–22 Sept.

• **CREATURE!**

Exhibition by **Hamish Cormack**, on show from 10–22 Sept.

Opening: 2.00pm, Tues. 10th Sept.

• **FIELD OF VISION**

Exhibition by **Allie Simpson, Raimo Kuparinen, Doug Hart, Annie Peppers, Brenda Nyhof, Mari Gomes, and Rachel McCoubrey.**

Check Facebook for other events accompanying this exhibition.

Opening: 5.30pm, Tues. 10th Sept.

Works on show from 10–21 Sept.

• **LUNCHTIME TALK**

Thursday 12th Sept, 1,00pm.

A presentation by noted wildlife photographer **Paul Sorrell.**

• **MEMBERS' MEETING**

7pm, Thursday 19th September

Come along to hear speakers' presentations with discussion on heritage, wildlife and environment.

• **YOUTH ART AWARDS**

Sponsored by Bellamy's Gallery and Portobello Hotel

Receiving Days:

16–18th Sept, 10–4.00pm

Opening Night:

Friday 27th September, 5.30pm.

Please note: attendance is strictly limited to award winners, their immediate families, and school representatives due to safety requirements.

Exhibition open to public

28th September – 12th October.

• **OAS SPRING EXHIBITION**

Sponsored by Ryman Healthcare

Receiving Day:

Sunday 13th October, 10–4.00pm

Opening Night:

Thursday 24th October, 6.00pm.

On show through to 21st November.

Editorial comment: Unless otherwise attributed, all items in the OAS monthly newsletters are compiled by the editor, Jenny Longstaff (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.*