



First Floor  
Dunedin Railway Station  
22 Anzac Avenue  
DUNEDIN

Open daily 10am to 4pm

P.O. Box 5174, Moray Place,  
Dunedin 9058, New Zealand

Phone: 03 477 9465

Administrator: Ngaire Kitt

otagoartsociety@xtra.co.nz

**OAS COUNCILLORS, 2020-2021**

*President:* Doug Hart

*Vice-President:*

Annie Pepers

*Immediate Past President:*

Nic Dempster

*Councillors:*

Geoff Adams, Lorna Allan,

Anne Baldock, Lindsay Campbell,

Eleanor Girvan, Mari Gomes-Bradford,

Hayley Rata Heyes, Raimo Kuparinen,

Jenny Longstaff, Danielle Munro,

Brenda Nyhof, Bo Stent.

## *145th Annual Exhibition*



**1st Place**



**2nd Place**

**Esperanz Open Section Results:**

**1st Place**

*Engrossed 2,*  
mixed,  
Jo Loughnan.

**2nd Place**

*Matariki Rising Over  
Te Mapoutahi,*  
acrylic,  
Lis Marshall.

**3rd Place**

*Ross Creek Reservoir,*  
oil,  
Hayley Rata Heyes.

*See page 3 for winners  
of other awards and  
judge's comments.*



**3rd Place**



Judge for the 145th Annual Exhibition was Ross Currie, President of the Dunedin Public Art Gallery Society. The exhibition opening night was held on 18th June.

## *Members' Meeting*

(Critique session 6.00-7.00pm)

**Thursday 15th July at 7.00 pm**

A presentation by Doug Hart on **Ruth Duckworth** (1919-2009), American modernist sculptor specialising in ceramics

A presentation by OAS artist/photographer **Jenny Longstaff**

*Noticing Patterns: Nature's artistic expressions. Observations, fascinations, and explanations.*

*Members' Meetings provide a good opportunity for mingling with your fellow members, seeking advice, sharing information, asking questions and voicing opinions, and socialising. Come and enjoy some friendly company and shared interests over a cuppa.*

**Annual Membership Subs are due. Please pay promptly.**



President:  
**Doug Hart**

Phone 0211346252



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Back Issues of the newsletter are available on the website.

# President's Message

**Doug Hart**

## Art, past, present and future

As practitioners of art in many forms and mediums, our members enjoy seemingly unlimited access to materials and methods that would, to ancient people, appear like magic. Our human society is going through another industrial revolution based not on fossil fuels but on micro electronics. It's an exciting but also scary environment of binary codes and exotic new materials such as graphene (a single layer of carbon atoms arranged in a honeycomb pattern) and quantum chip technology which will bring about far reaching effects and consequences.

## The past

The world of art started some 40,000 years ago hidden in the caves of Borneo and South Africa – there is controversy over earlier objects found in the form of scratch marks in other geographical regions. What is beyond doubt are Lascaux cave paintings in France depicting hunters, bison and elk. The figurative art of Kalimantan caves, in Borneo, also depict wild cattle rendered in iron oxide and ochre.

As millennia advanced, new materials came to hand: bronze chisels to shape stone; chemical elements which gave rise to new pigments; plaster for frescoes on Egyptian and Roman tombs and walls. New technologies such as the smelting of metals enabled people to fashion beautiful objects in gold and silver, studded with precious gems. New techniques of paper making and ceramics added to the wealth of art produced across global civilisations.

## The present

Today we have the luxury of combining old and new techniques and materials. Craftsmanship, traditional methods and knowledge of ancient ways of manufacture have added to the eclectic range of arts and crafts that we are immersed in today. The introduction of acrylic paint, pouring mediums other assorted materials, have seen art emerge as

a very accessible hobby for millions of people. Our membership enjoys the thrill of not only making art but also displaying it for thousands of people to enjoy. That's the benefit of belonging to an art society.

## The future

But what of the millennia to come? With the advent of new and increasing technology we as practitioners will face new challenges. Sure, we may still be using oils, acrylics, pencils, pastels, fabrics, clay etc. but many of the next generation will use methods not even available yet. Immersive art has already begun to make a mark, with virtual reality headsets placing us within an artwork. With the new technology of quantum physics, which is infinitely more powerful and complex than silicon chips, creating works of beauty in another realm and dimension will be groundbreaking and potentially alarming. The rise of artificial intelligences will see machines create artwork that is not programmable, but is autonomous with feeling and passion from the quantum computer artist.

It's hard to imagine this happening, but if you'd said to a Cro Magnon being that you had a small machine in your hand that could show moving pictures with sound, they would think you were a god or a shaman.

The technology of art is changing, but the nature and soul of art lies in making people feel great emotion towards your work.

Enjoy your artwork and look forward to the next exhibition. A competition will emerge in October and the artist to copy will be 'unwrapped'.

In August, it's our AGM. You, our loyal members, are an integral part of our society. Please renew your membership promptly and enjoy entering your artwork. If you would like to be a part of our hardworking team, then please get in touch.

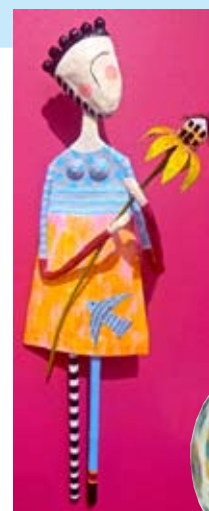
Kind regards,  
Doug

## Winner: National Cleveland Awards 2021 "People's Choice" category.

### \$500 Sponsored by Moray Gallery.

Congratulations to Mary Jane Sneyd, who won with her stitched textile work, *Bertie and Mac*.

(Mary Jane's ability can also be seen in the wonderful appliqué on the jacket she wore, pictured, to the awards opening night.)



*Hope is Fleeting*,  
papier maché,  
George Kerr.



*Agate Vase*, pottery,  
Nicole Kolig.

Two items from the recent 145th Annual Exhibition. Variety of artistic expression is a notable feature of our exhibitions.

**Rona Dyer:** New Zealand artist, printmaker, painter and book illustrator, died on the 20th May, 2021 at Yvette Williams Retirement Village, Dunedin, in her 99th year. Rona, a skilled art practitioner of national regard, was a respected life member of OAS. Due to space limitations in this newsletter, her obituary will be in next month's.

## 145th Annual Exhibition

### Award Results and Judge's Comments

(by Ross Currie, President of the Dunedin Public Art Gallery Society)

**Esperanz Open Section** (Winning works are pictured on front page.)

#### 1st Place

**Engrossed 2**, mixed, **Jo Loughnan**

"How can you draw someone just reading and reflect fairly minimally the sheer joy and stimulation of being immersed in what is being read? Well here is such a work of art. There is light coming from her head. She is alive! It's sensitive, intimate, spare, evocative and interesting artistically with a mix of pencil, pastel and ink. This assured work speaks to anyone who knows the joy of reading."

#### 2nd Place

**Matariki Rising Over Te Mapoutahi**, acrylic, **Lis Marshall**

"Matariki links the stars with the land and this cements its cultural authenticity. This is a richly textured painting that speaks in the darkness."

#### 3rd Place

**Ross Creek Reservoir**, oil, **Hayley Rata Heyes**

"This standout monocoloured landscape captures a glimpse of Ross Creek almost as if through a lens. It has depth, richness and a scale reaching beyond its size. It is lush and brooding."

#### John H. Pledger Drawing Award

**Val**, 60 minute life drawing, conte, **Baden French**

"This is a drawing that embraces the viewer. A totally relaxed, beautifully composed and peaceful life drawing pose."



#### Francis Nicholls Landscape Award

**Mackenzie Mist 01**, oil, **Claudia Duxz**

"This painting successfully captures the grandeur, light and colours of the Mackenzie basin. It gives a fine impression rather than a description of the landscape."



Michelle Nicholls, who sponsored the Landscape Award to commemorate her husband, Francis, met Claudia Duxz, winner of the award, when Claudia was at the OAS gallery during a recent visit.



### Volunteers Afternoon Tea Party, Sunday 18th July at 3.00pm

If you have assisted the OAS in any way, we'd like to show our appreciation to you all. For a bit of fun, wear your most beautiful hat if you like.

This year's Volunteering NZ theme is: "Recognise, Connect, Reimagine".



#### Roy Dickison Heart of the South Award

**Store, Matanaka**, photography, **Trevor Douglas**

"The shop in this photo stands proud and assertive centre stage with the light establishing a luminous setting and framing. This is a beautifully composed shot."



#### Mollie and John Pledger Art Award

**Day Breaking**, acrylic, **Danielle Munro**

"There is a clear understanding of what judicious use of colour can do to create an impression and there is a clear skill in doing this. It is controlled and confident with its light. This stands strong close up and the dawning of a new day glows from the other side of the room."

## Events Calendar

### July Members' Meeting

Thursday 15th July

6.00-7.00pm: Critique session.  
(Bring along a work you'd like some non-judgmental advice about, for supportive feedback.)

7.00pm:

American sculptor

**Ruth Duckworth**,

presented by Doug Hart  
followed by a presentation by

**Jenny Longstaff**

*Noticing Patterns: Nature's  
artistic expressions.*

### Current exhibitions:

Until Friday 23rd July:

#### 35 for 35

Celebrating 35 years of Artsenta, this exhibition features 35 works of art by 35 Artsenta artists. This includes a mixture of artworks from current artists and works from the Creative Arts Trust Collection which has been gathered over many years.

### Forthcoming exhibition:

#### Edinburgh Realty Premier Art Awards

**Entry form and fee due by  
4pm Friday 23rd July.**

Receiving dates:

Out of town entries:

by 4pm, Monday 26th July

Local entries:

by 4pm, Sunday 1st August.

Awards Announcement night:

6pm, Friday 13th August.

Exhibition open to the public  
from Saturday 14th August.

### Please Offer Your Skills

The OAS Annual General Meeting will be held on 19th August. Doug Hart will be ending his 3-year term as President, with Brenda Nyhof standing as his successor.

Please consider stepping up as a member of the OAS council – an infusion of fresh energy and ideas, and commitment to help carry them out, will take us into a successful future. Finance, funding, promotion, IT – what skills could you contribute? Nomination forms are available at the office.



Visitors to our exhibitions appreciate the 'Detail Detective' sheets prepared by Raimo Kuparinen. Trying to find the painting that includes the detail is a great way to engage interest and test observation skills.

**Participation invitation:** 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). Skill-sharing and conversation – get to know some of your fellow members.

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Robbitti Stanley gets advice from Lorna Allan as part of a **critique session** prior to last month's members' meeting. This is a regular forum for helpful, non-judgemental discussion at **6pm on the 3rd Thursday of each month** (before the monthly members' meeting which starts at 7pm).



A warm welcome to Rose-Marie (Ro) Roney as a new volunteer in the shop. We appreciate help in filling the roster, even if you can only spare a couple of hours.



Volunteer assistance is a key part of successful OAS exhibitions. Assistance with receiving work, hanging the show, and returning work is always appreciated. The photo at left shows some of the work involved in unpacking and repacking. It is a time-consuming process that requires attentive record-keeping.

**The Otago Art Society will no longer issue or accept cheques. Our bank account number is: 02-0929-0274457-000.**

**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](mailto: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.*