

wsa art Art Connections

WAIKATO SOCIETY OF ARTS

P.O. Box 1018, Hamilton 3240. Website: www.wsa.org.nz

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

This year WSA celebrates its 75th Anniversary. A number of exciting events are planned. First I would like to note the passing of Mike Stringfield, a past president and life member of the WSA. I have been impressed by the quality and strength of the people who sustained this society both as president and committee members. We still benefit from their efforts.

The 75 years of history and art exhibition at the museum will be a review of the impact of the WSA on Hamilton and will give a glimpse of the amazing art coming from WSA members over the years. Around the exhibition will be a number of events that the museum and WSA are working together on including speakers, workshops and a production of Campbell Smith's play "Waikato Green." I am grateful to the museum, to Kate, Robin, Leafa, Sarah and many others.

The first events will be the NZ Painting and Printmaking Award and The Right Bank Festival, both occasions which showcase WSA efforts to support artist to exhibit and sell. Later there will be a 75th celebration dinner, a youth exhibition and a member's exhibition at ArtsPost. In addition we will launch our new brochures and have some morning teas and artist talks. The exhibition committee is working out a system whereby WSA can support members into more exhibitions around town. If you would like to be part of the planning contact the Eriko will let us know.

After 2009 there will be a change in the National Contemporary Art Award. WSA initiated the NCAA in conjunction with the museum and Trust Waikato. WSA organized the award and the opening; the museum curated and hung the exhibition. For the past few years the museum has been the principal organizer while WSA acted as advisors and as selling agents. After

2009, WSA is pulling out of an active role in the NCAA. The museum has a vision of a larger and more significant award and a new sponsor has come forward that shares that vision. WSA continues to support the museum in this important endeavour and the Hamilton can rejoice that the opportunity to celebrate contemporary art at the highest level will continue.

As I predicted, the Barry Hopkins' Art Collection is witty, eccentric, mischievous and wonderful like the man himself. One visit or two is not enough so if you haven't been, start now. There are so many pleasures, but the sharpest pleasure is seeing old friends that have been hiding in the basement. It is wonderful to see the Mary McIntyres in Barry's collection while having the opportunity to study the moving and masterful drawings in the Trust Waikato gallery. It is also a particular pleasure to see early and later works by the same artists like the several Michael Smithers. Barry was able so often to spot talent before everyone else.

Finally, I must mention the WaiClay sponsored national pottery award. This is a breathtaking exhibition both in breadth and quality of entrants with the beautiful and the delightful, the strong and the delicate all present. Behind the black curtain is a wonderful experience that explores volume and surface, and plays with form and colour. Again congratulations to the museum for an excellent presentation.

MARTHA SIMMS

(right): Barry Hopkins and Martha Simms.

(below): Mary McIntyre and Barry Hopkins.

(left): Zena Elliott with her painting and Martha Simms.



WHAT'S ON?

WSA EVENTS for 2009

- February:** NZPPA Opening 20-February
NZPPA Exhibition 21 Feb – 1st March
Right Bank Festival stall Saturday 28th Feb
- March:** Business Membership Launch
Brochure Launch for WSA school and General Membership
- April:** Opening of WSA 75th Anniversary exhibition at the Museum*
Speakers and artist workshops throughout the exhibition*
- May:** Speaker and artist workshops*
- June:** Panel or Speaker*
- July:** Waikato Green by Campbell Smith *
- August:** National Contemporary Art Award*
Youth Exhibition

September: WSA 75th Anniversary Celebratory dinner

October: Waiprint Exhibition

November: Members Exhibition
*Museum and WSA cooperative venture

NZPPA ORGANISATION

This year the NZPPA has attracted record numbers. Judge, Dr Robin Woodward is currently selecting finalists from the 280 entries received.

Judges floor talk will be Thursday 19th 2pm at the Pavilion.

So please mark Friday February 20th, 6pm on your calendar for the champagne gala opening to be held at the Gardens Pavilion.

Tickets are available for sale from the WSA office or at the door on the night at \$10 per head.

We are currently (and eventually will be desperately!!!) seeking volunteers to assist us with this event in the areas of:

Serving Drinks and Food. We need a couple of adults to help the St Pauls students.

Docents during the exhibition from Saturday Feb 21st until Sunday March 1st each day from 12-3 and 3-6 with an extra session on the Sat of the Festival from 10-12.

Unpackers 8.30am (some later) Mon 16th Feb until done (early afternoon), and hangers 12.30pm Wed until finished.

Should you be available to help in any way possible please contact either:

Maree Glass 021 322575 on 858 3099 or glassm@xtra.co.nz or Janet Knighton on 021 0590028 or 855 9133 or art.hire@xtra.co.nz

With the support of our sponsors this award has grown in strength and is certainly one of New Zealand's most prestigious staged on the national arts calendar.

VOLUNTEERS – REPEAT PLEA

We have a very small Executive Committee this year.

This year, 2009, is our 75th Anniversary and we have many events planned to celebrate the year. This year's Executive Committee is very stretched. So please give us a thought and when the call goes out for helpers step up to the mark. Strangely, volunteering is very rewarding. You meet great people and have great fun. And the jobs are never that onerous.

We particularly need someone to convene the Events and Social Activities sub-committee. Give Martha a call on 07 856 6981.

WSA ART SCHOOL

Welcome back from your well earned holidays. Classes for 2009 start in a few days. We look forward to seeing you.

Policy for the School of Art on Refunds and Credits for Classes

Refunds and credits for art classes are not normally given. However, there are exceptional circumstances that may be accepted by the Administrator as reason to give a credit for the following term's fees or a refund. When this occurs the Art School committee will be informed. The administrator also has the right to transfer students from one class to another when difficulties arise. And if classes are cancelled through lack of students as stated on the enrolment form fees will be refunded.

ANNE KALNINS

RIGHT BANK SUMMER ARTS FESTIVAL 2009

It is a good opportunity for members to show and promote your art. Remember that this is a festival and people are wandering through looking for "bargains". With this in mind the Exec suggest that artists bring only smaller low price items for a fast sale and a quick turn over.

As for last year there will be a \$5 charge for those who just leave their work. One hour minimum time on the stand and there is no charge. Larger items should be limited to three in number (although there will be limited space to store a few extra items to come out after others have sold.

Paintings should have no more than a 500mm width or depth. This will be Saturday 28th February 2009 from 10am to 4pm. Artists need to pick up their art works soon after 4pm.

We will need a group of helpers (give your names to Eriko on 839 4481) and a minimum of two working artists on the site (same as last year) so please put a circle about the date and give it some thought.

WSA is stretched for volunteers at this time, as we will be coping with this and NZPPA at the same time. Strong men are needed for both activities!!

ARTSPOST GALLERIES

From February 6th to 2nd March 2009, (Opening preview Thursday 5th Feb at 5.30 pm)

WaiClay Wainot?

Works by Gail Drake, Janet Smith, Maureen Allison and Jenni Taris.

Might see you there and other paintings

Paintings by James Wilson described as aspirational negativity with a pop-gothic edge.

Rescued Timber

Works by the Waikato Guild of Woodworkers.

Of Body and Spirit

Glass cast sculptures, cold worked, sandblasted and polished by Heather Olesen.

NEW ZEALAND PAINTING AND PRINTMAKING AWARDS

Champagne Gala Opening February 20th at the venue, the Hamilton Gardens Pavilion.

The award exhibition remains at the Pavilion until it closes on Sunday March 1st.

MIKE STRINGFIELD

It is with sadness we record the death of WSA, Life Member Mike Stringfield on the 18th January 2009.

WSA pays tribute to a truly great, special and faithful member, who for well over 40 years has with great heart, good humour, and sound counsel helped WSA on its way to this year's 75th Anniversary. Mike joined the WSA sometime in the late 50's as a person who had a great enthusiasm for painting and drawing. He had attended classes by Ida Carey at an earlier stage travelling from Morrinsville to do so, such was his interest.

Mike served as President of the Society for two years in the mid 80's and on the executive committee for many years. He was a valuable committee member and Management member. He took part in all the major decisions providing always a considered balanced view, as the WSA moved from the Studio Gallery, to Ward Park and Victoria Street, and later to Arts Post. Then of course there was the decision to relinquish the Arts Post Galleries to the Museum.

It is remembered that he began exhibiting his work early on in the 60's, or even earlier, and Mike continued exhibiting paintings to the end of his life. He particularly had affinity to watercolour and became known as an excellent landscape watercolourist with



his work being eagerly collected from WSA exhibitions and from shows further afield.

Mike's enthusiasm for Plein Air Painting knew no bounds, as he led the WSA Field Day Painters around the wider Waikato region on day excursions. His knowledge of the district and land owners took the FDP's to many hidden beauty spots. Weekend family groups followed their artist member to Kawhia, Waingaro, Thames, and Coromandel to name some. Directions for travel were accurate and concise.

On these trips newcomers were aided with good advice from Mike on how to cope with painting out of doors. The problems of changing light, strong winds, rain even, what products to use, how to prepare the board and paper, gadgets to help the outdoor artist - Mike gladly imparted his knowledge.

Many have also benefitted from his tutoring in watercolour at the W.S.A. Art School always receiving sound advice given cheerfully. Mike was a true gentleman, a faithful artist friend to many, and we will all miss his cheerful presence in our lives. We all extend our condolences to Joy and hope that she will still take part in functions with WSA where she will always receive a warm welcome.

Elaine Henry

PLINTH STORAGE – EMPIRE GALLERY CLOSED

WSA is still in need of storage space for a number of plinths etc that have been returned from Empire Gallery who, regrettably, have closed down. If anyone has access to storage space the Society can use for these items, WSA would be very grateful. In the meantime Robin Cuff has his storage area full of WSA plinths etc. We need about the size of half a garage.

ADVERTISING

The Newsletter is down on advertising at present. If any members can direct us to advertisers please let Eriko know. Although our circulation is not huge, the ads do go to a target audience.

CHANGES TO ART CONNECTIONS

This is the first issue in the new schedule for "Art Connections", the WSA newsletter. From now the new schedule will be early April, June, August, October, December 09 and Feb 2010.

There will be an intermittent newsletter/flier in the intervening months but all members with Email will receive the fliers by the internet except those without Email who will still get hard copy. All contributors (especially when advertising exhibitions and deadlines), please remember that for the eight page issue there is now a two month interval between issues.

Deadlines for copy will be about the 22nd of each preceding month.

Barry Smith, Editor

TURANGI 'ARTWORKS'

A bit distant, I know, but still in the Waikato catchment. But I thought members should be aware that this very small and interesting community (population 3400) has its own arts facilities and rooms and a very good and visible community gallery in the

main Turangi shopping centre. With help from a philanthropist and the Taupo District Council! But then they don't have the V8 supercars, do they?! Have a look at www.turangart.org

PHOTOCOPIER USAGE BY WSA MEMBERS ONLY

WSA's new photocopier prints Arts Connections now and is available to members.

Casual rate (GST incl.)

B/W A4 10c

B/W A3 20c

Colour A4 \$1.00

Colour A3 \$2.00

Standard photocopier paper is supplied by the WSA. Photocopier (self) service is available 8:30am – 3pm (Mon-Fri) Contact Anne or Eriko for authorisation (need to enter casual ID number). Contact Eriko for the lead-time and quotation for bulk copying.

ENVIRONMENTAL ART PHOTOGRAPHY – SUMMER PROJECT

Entries will be accepted until Friday, 3rd April 2009. A \$20 entry fee applies to cover administration. Each month images of all entries received for that month will be posted on the website. Website visitors will be invited to vote for their favourite sculpture that month. The favourite sculpture will feature on the website until the following month.

From the entries, 14 images will be chosen as the finalists. These images will be printed at a 11 x 15 size, mounted, and then exhibited at a gallery in Hamilton during May. The award ceremony will take place at the opening of the exhibition. The first place award winner will receive \$500 and other finalists will be acknowledged as runners up. Further information about the challenge see Dec newsletter and are at www.sculpturepark.co.nz

An Outline of Northern Australia Aboriginal Rock Art

Barry Smith

With a good Aussie wife you just can't keep away from Australia! In 2008 Catherine and I visited both the Kakadu and Kimberley areas of Northern Australia. We visited the various scenic and wildlife places but by far the most intriguing were the many rock art sites we visited. On previous trips we had seen the rock art in the Carnarvon Gorge in Central Queensland and in the Cape York area. Here are a few impressions of our most recent trip.

Aboriginal occupation of Australia is now known to stretch back for over 60,000 years. Throughout most of that time the aborigines have recorded their lives and culture on the walls and roofs of the countless rock galleries wherever they lived. In most places it is fair to say that they have added to or modified their art. If they hadn't rock erosion would have destroyed the art. What happens is that certain tribes are responsible for



Ochre grinding hole in sandstone.

the art in their areas and they regularly refresh the rock art. However in some places the art is of great antiquity. Rock art is only one form of Aboriginal art. Other forms are bark painting, desert art, sculpture and body painting.

Subject Matter

As might be expected, the art often depicts activities and subjects related to the hunter-gatherer and cultural activities of their lives. Animals are often shown in 'X-ray' style, not all that unexpected when you consider that the final result of a hunt is to reduce the animal to a skeleton. Human figures and activities are celebrated in the art and often "women's business" and "men's business"



Female body depicting twins.

are kept in separate locations, as they usually are in aboriginal life.

Technique

A variety of techniques are used. The simplest is the stencil technique where pigment is taken into the mouth and spattered at an object such as a hand held against the rock. Feet or utensils or weapons may also be used as stencils. Other methods involve the preparation of brushes (by beating Pandanus roots) and pigment (by grinding ochre or other pigments using grinding stones in rock holes). It appeared to us, from the location of some of the art, that scaffolds of some sort had been used to obtain access to sheltered walls. Pigment was obtained from well-established ochre pits, from haematite deposits and from charcoal. Occasionally blue pigment is seen, this being usually of modern origin.



'Ricketts Blue Painting'.

Kakadu

We didn't get into Arnhem Land but we saw the best art within sight of the East Alligator River which is on its border. At Hawk Dreaming Camp we were led up steep rock, around rocky ledges and into caves.

Usually with a view over the surrounding countryside you could view the art and then look out over the swamp or Eucalypt forest and imagine yourself anywhere between the present and 60 000 years ago.

In some places the art appeared to be 'womens stuff', other places men's activities, evidenced by their activities and their gonads.

In several places the thin stick-like hunting figures, mimi spirits, said to live in the rock cracks, were painted in red ochre. These spirit figures are said by some to have been painted by the mimi spirits themselves and they are said to come out from their rock crack abodes in windless conditions and at night.



Tragedy? Modern Aboriginal art.

Kimberleys

In the Kimberley we experienced the Wandjina paintings. They have a 'spaceman' look about them with large eyes, great bodies, no mouths and auras surrounding their heads. They are said to be powerful creator figures who control rain, storm and floods.

Also present were the characteristic gwion figures (these are also called Bradshaw paintings after the European who drew attention to them) which are very distinctive in either tassel, clothes peg or sash style.



Wandjina Style Art. (note kangaroo at top).

Darwin and other Northern Australian Art

Commercial Aborigine Art is everywhere throughout Australia, nowhere more so than in Darwin.

We were so taken with the Art Museum that we went back a second time. There we saw several good Albert Namatajira watercolours, not traditional art at all but the first successful watercolourist work from the Hermansberg Mission.

There are many excellent examples of bark painting and commercial Aborigine art. Great place for a lunch and cuppa. Or a glass or two!

Go window art shopping in Darwin! There are many excellent galleries. Have a look at the website below, not Darwin but Kununurra (a bit further to the west!) -anything up to NZ\$84, 000. Naata Nungurrayi fetched A\$207 000 for one of her works at Sotheby's Auction in 2007. Another Aboriginal artist sold a work for A\$2.4m in 2007.

For more information see: www.aboriginal-art-australia.com



Well hung art.

WSA ART SCHOOL 2009 Summer TERM

Open to everyone - No experience necessary - Discover art- Community based

WSA Art School, Level 1 ArtsPost Building, 120 Victoria St Hamilton


WSA members / high school students: \$15 discount

ENROL BY PHONE (07) 8394481 or FAX (07) 8393869



WAIKATO SOCIETY OF ARTS

CLASSES START WEEK 9th Feb- (All courses are 8 weeks unless otherwise stated below)

	MONDAY Classes start 9 th feb	TUESDAY Classes start 10 th feb	WEDNESDAY Classes start 11 th feb	THURSDAY Classes start 12 th feb	FRIDAY Classes start 13 th feb
MORNING	Oils and mixed media Untutored 9.30am-12.00pm \$72 (members) \$62	Oil painting For beginners/continuers Learn skills 9.30am-11.30am \$127 (members \$112)	Painting and Drawing techniques for Continuers +experienced 9.30-12 \$ 137 Members \$122)	Creative Watercolour or acrylics Going further 9.30am-11.30am \$127 (members \$110)	Painting for Beginners + continuers Learn skills for better painting 9.15am-11.15am \$127 (members \$112)
	ART for the absolute beginner Draw, Pastels, Watercolour Oils Acrylics 5 weeks materials supplied 9-30-11.30 \$80	Experimental Printmaking Woodcuts etc. Includes materials 9.30am-12.00pm \$138 (members \$123)	INTERPRETING MAORI ART ...PLUS 10.00am-12.00am \$127 (members \$110)	Pastels for beginners 6 wks 9.30-11.30 \$96 Member \$84	Creative Watercolour Beginners + Continuers Further exercises for better painting 9.30am-11.30am \$127 (members \$110)
		Intro to Drawing Beginners/continuers 9.30am-11.30am \$127 (members \$110)		Etching Includes materials Beginners/continuers Fun to try 9.30am-12.00pm \$138 (members \$123)	
AFTERNOON	Children's Art 5-7 yrs 7 wks Variety of art materials supplied 4.00pm-5.00pm \$80	Children's Art 8-13 yrs Paint, draw and more Materials supplied 4pm-5.30 \$80	Young Adults 11-15 yrs Skills to improve drawing and painting 4.00 pm-5.30pm \$75	Children's Art 8-12 yrs Paint, draw and more Materials supplied 4-5.30pm \$80	<p><i>Materials are supplied for the first lesson of adult classes, except for life drawing – please bring large sketch book etc. Art in the holidays for children. April July Sept, Jan.</i></p>
	Children's DRAWING 8-13 Improve+ gain skills 4.00pm-5.15pm \$77			Children's Art 5-7 yrs 7 wks Variety of art, clay painting etc 4.00pm-5.00pm \$80	
EVENING	Experimental Printmaking Includes materials Woodcuts etc, 5.30pm-8.00pm \$138 (members\$123)	Painting for Beginners + Continuers Good skills 6.00pm-8.00pm \$127 (members \$112)	Art for the absolute beginner Pastels, Draw Oil, Acrylic Watercolour Materials supplied 5 weeks 6.00pm-8.00pm \$80 (members\$65)	<p>FEES TO BE PAID BEFORE CLASS START (or by prior arrangement) Places are not secure until paid. We accept the following payment types: Cash/Cheque/Direct credit/Eftpos/Credit card. A materials list will be given at the first class. Fax your enrolment to: (07) 839 3869 (on white paper), post to: WSA Art School, PO Box 1018, Hamilton, or deliver to Level 1, 120 Victoria St, Hamilton</p> <p>Class Day/time</p> <p>Name.....</p> <p>Ph(day) Ph(evng).....</p> <p>Address</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Ph(mob)..... Amount</p> <p>Credit Card (circle one) Visa Mastercard</p> <p>Holders name..... Exp.Date...../.....</p> <p>Card number</p> <p>Children - does your child have special needs? yes / no</p> <p>Signed Date</p>	
	Intro to Drawing Ideal for beginners etc. 6.00pm-8.00pm \$127 (members \$112)		DRAWING THE HUMAN BODY Beginners/continuers 6.00pm-8.00pm \$127 (members \$112) + model fee \$5 per session		
	Oil painting for beginners + continuers Learn skills to paint with 6-8pm \$127 (memb\$112)		Etching Beginners/continuers Fun to try Includes materials 5.30pm-8.00pm \$138 (members\$123)		

WSA wishes to acknowledge the support of the following organisations:



BECOME A MEMBER

Download a membership form: www.wsa.org.nz
Pick up a form from the WSA Office or ArtsPost
Phone (07) 839 4481 to get one sent to you.

MEMBERS' PRIVILEGES

WSA Art School \$15.00 off class fees Full year subscribers only
NZPPA Discount on Entry Fees (\$15 off per entry)
The Empire Gallery 15% on art materials
Whitcoulls Hamilton 10% on art materials
Resene Paint Colourshop 20% on art materials
Victoria Cinema \$9.00 tickets
The Museum Café 10%
Poppie's Bookshop 10%
Canvas Restaurant 10%
Gordon Harris The Art & Graphic Store 10%
Hillcrest Fine Wines 10%
Thornton Gallery 10% framing
Auteur House 10% rental DVDs, Video and purchase of books.
Free 50 words of promotional notice in *Art Connections* per year.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Due now for current year and from our AGM the 09-10 year.

Double \$65 (Seniors \$50)
Single \$45 (Seniors \$40)
Student \$20 (Current Student I.D. required)

New subscription rates at AGM in October to remain the same.

You can make donations (and pay your subscription) to WSA by post or via the internet.

Our WSA Account is:

Westpac 03 0306 0217827 00 Hamilton North Branch.

GRATEFUL

The WSA is grateful to:

- Trust Waikato for funding towards WSA Administration and Development.
- Bennett Advertising for the design and production of *Art Connections*.
- Warehouse Stationery, Ulster Street for providing the paper for this newsletter. Art and Craft Supplies in-store 8.30a.m. - 6p.m. Mon-Friday 9a.m. - 5p.m. Saturday & Sunday.
- SHARP for printing the August issue of *Art Connections* and for ongoing help.



DONATE

You can make donations (and pay subscriptions) to the WSA by post or via the internet. Our WSA Account is Westpac 03 0306 0217827 00 Hamilton North Branch.

MEMBERSHIP

As an Incorporated Society, members who wish to 'resign' should notify the society in writing rather than just stopping payment of their subscriptions. We have been contacting several people to remind them of their overdue subscriptions.

Art Connections newsletters, and all the benefits of participating in the WSA now only go to those who have paid their subscriptions.

Please ensure you have renewed your subscription for the current year and remind friends that they may not have paid their subs if they haven't received *Art Connections*.

EDITOR

Barry Smith phone: 07 8558296
Email: 2smiths@wave.co.nz

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES

Inserts \$80 per page (printed and delivered to WSA)
Full Page \$240 (available only if space available)
Half Page \$120 Colour Black & White \$70
Quarter Page \$70 Colour Black & White \$40

What's On and Members short adverts - up to five lines are free. WSA Art Connections will henceforth be every two months. In the intervening months we will do a smaller B&W flyer with only quarter page B&W advertisements.

ECO-NEWSLETTER -

Getting ART CONNECTIONS

Your Executive Committee is always looking at ways to reduce WSA expenditure so we can keep the subs down. We are looking to reduce printing costs, reduce our carbon footprint, and reduce the postage costs. So if you would like to get your newsletter by Email (and earlier) rather than by post, please let Eriko know (839 4481) or Email wsa@wsa.org.nz.

MEMBERS' SHOWCASE PAGE

Art Connections will run an occasional Members Showcase Page. This will give WSA members a chance to have their art profiled.

Any members interested please send in a short bio (about 50 words) and a couple of images to Eriko headed "Members Page".

The intention is to run the page, not every month, but occasionally as space allows and as material comes to hand.

We **do not promise** to coincide it with members' exhibitions, birthdays etc.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO NEWSLETTER

Art Connections newsletter welcomes articles and images relating to the arts, and listings of upcoming art events. All contributions need to be provided by 20th of each month to Eriko Hulse at the WSA office, email wsa@wsa.org.nz. Please type "Newsletter" in subject line.

TAX REBATE

The WSA would like to inform you that our organisation is a registered "Charitable entity".

This means you can claim a rebate for income tax purpose for cash donations of \$5 or more made to the WSA.

Please ask Eriko for a receipt when you make donations to the WSA.

OLD NEWSLETTERS

Just to remind members that if you are after information from old newsletters and have lost your copies, you can view the old newsletters on the WSA website www.wsa.org.nz, click on News, then Newsletters, and then chose the issue you want to view. All this, courtesy of our Secretary, Eriko.

MEMBERS' ADVERTISEMENTS

One of the perks of membership is the opportunity to advertise (for free) something of your work or upcoming exhibitions up to 50 words (without enlargement or photos).

WSA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Patron: Joan Fear
Hon. Solicitor: Warren Scotter
Auditor: Grant Mackintosh
Treasurer: Maiqing Zhou
President: Martha Simms (07) 856 6981
Committee: Alex McPherson, Barry Smith, Carril Karr and Paula Spiers.



WAIKATO SOCIETY OF ARTS

WSA Office and Art School
Level 1, ArtsPost Building,
120 Victoria Street, Hamilton.
Open 8.30-3.00pm Monday to Friday
Phone Anne or Eriko on 839 4481
website: www.wsa.org.nz

ArtNexus Exhibition

The ArtNexus group and their friends held a celebratory gathering in the Chartwell Room of Arts Post.

Their exhibition, which was curated by David Fowler, contained several paintings by WSA members. As might be expected this was an eclectic and pleasing grouping of paintings from a group of artists with increasingly high standards.



Waikato Bequests Trust

Last year the Waikato Bequests Trust was formed. It has the aim of providing a haven, in Trust, for any bequested art with an agreement between the Trust and the Hamilton City Council.

There is also a plan to protect any financial support offered. Anyone interested can contact the Waikato Bequests Trust by emailing bequests@gmail.com or phoning David Fowler 07 855 9903.

The Inimitable Mr Hopkins

Staunch WSA member, Barry Hopkins' collection was gifted to the newly formed Waikato Bequests Trust last year and this remarkable selection was the first public showing of any of the Trust's collection. What a generous and valuable gift!

This eclectic collection is the result of Barry's passion for art and his collecting habits since his teenage years. It is breathtaking in its size and scope and represents one man's lifelong interest in the (mainly visual) arts. Over 150 items are presented and the collection is a who's who of New Zealand, and especially Waikato art. All genre and media are represented. During the interesting floor talk the day after the opening Barry reminisced about several of the artists and their work. Many of the works are early examples of the artist's oeuvre and as such are of significant interest. Barry stated that his decision making on purchases is quite rapid, something many of us may identify with – when you see a work you either like it or you don't and a private collection represents just that. This representative collection of art speaks highly of the collector's judgement and choices.



Maria Martin Smith at Hamilton and Pompallier "On A Mission"

Members may remember Maria Martin Smith of Hamilton who has been studying art in Wanganui for some years and enabled some of the WSA Printmaking members to see her art on its way to her exhibition in 'the attic' Pompallier House in Russell.

Her exhibition ended just a few days ago and from all accounts it was very successful. Pompallier is becoming a focus



point for printmakers.

Maria's art, besides its own artistic value, has interesting historical connotations. For instance her mezzotints included the early presses from Pompallier, an amazing multimedia based on an early map of the Bay of Islands together with an overlay of red depicting the bloodshed of the time and a rosary constructed of musket balls with a cross made of early printing materials.

