

Art Connections

PO Box 1018 Hamilton 3240 www.wsa.org.nz

Welcome to the March newsletter, our intention was to have our newsletter as a quarterly edition however there has been a lot going on, and even more to look forward to.

Our school term is well underway and it's great to have the tutors and students back in the studios. We now have AfterPay as an option for classes which can be helpful if you are wanting to work the class fees into your weekly budget. You can go onto our website, wsa.org.nz to use this service when booking a class.

Our second exhibition for the year is on now at our gallery, blue on Anzac Parade and the exhibitors had a fun opening on Saturday, which was well attended. Thank you to Gemma Reid for curating the works and to Amanda, Geoff and Renee for helping hang the exhibition. A big thank you to the group of Printmakers who helped make the Opening and the delicious array of food and refreshments. Make sure to drop in from Wednesday to Saturday 11.30am-3pm to see this exhibition, the printmaker's works are beautiful. We now have bookings in the gallery through until May 2024, if you would like to plan ahead and submit a proposal please look online or email blue@wsa.org.nz.

Our NZ Painting and Printmaking Awards entries closed in February, with 417 received overall. Our enthusiastic Judges, Dr. Carole Shepheard and Evan Woodruffe have thoughtfully examined each entry and selected 60 finalists from an impressive group of artists within Aotearoa. We are very fortunate to see all these artworks for the first time and host the exhibition in April. Thank you to Carole and Evan for their first part of the Judging and for the care, patience, knowledge and professionalism you bring to the awards. The Opening and Awards evening will be held at the Verandah Function rooms, Hamilton Lake on the 14th of April at 5.30pm. We hope you can all make it along for a very special night. There will also be the Judges talk on Saturday, the 15th of April at 10.30am, this is well worth coming along to and find out how and why the Judges made their selection. If you would like to volunteer to sit at this beautiful venue while the exhibition is on please contact the WSA office to select your day and time slot. The exhibition runs from 15 April to 23 April.

An exciting new award and exhibition will be held at blue gallery in June with the Small Sculpture Award. This award will be judged by Andrea du Chatenier. Please visit wsa.org.nz for all the details involved. Gaye Jurisich will be curating the works.

Hollie Tawhaio and Tonia Geddes have kindly accepted to be our Judges for the 2023 National Youth Art Awards. Both Hollie and Tonia come from a broad skill set and experience in the arts and we know they will continue the spirit of the awards by encouraging and selecting the entries with care from the many young artists that enter. We are excited for them to be a part of the exhibition and are looking forward to working with them as the entries come through. Please encourage any young people from 13 to 25 years old that may need that extra bit of confidence to give this a go.

Thank you to all our sponsors who are involved with our Awards. Their generosity is what makes this all possible for artists who enter, so please support their businesses as much as you can. They are all local people who care about nurturing the arts and our not for profit organisation. We are very grateful for the ongoing opportunities this creates for artists, not only in the Waikato district but throughout Aotearoa. If you would like to be part of this special team and become a sponsor, donor or volunteer please contact julie@wsa.org.nz. We need more help to continue offering these awards and exhibitions to artists and support their work. Art is so important for creativity, learning, mental health and well-being, for creating beautiful work and environments and with your help we can continue to provide the resources for this to keep growing in our area from young people to the elderly.

Awards 2023



NYAA Entries close 18 June 2023 All entrants notified as Finalists or not 27 June 2023. Delivery of artwork no later than 24 July 2023. Opening and Awards evening 28 July 2023 5.30-7.30pm. Exhibition dates 29 July – 13 August 2023

All entries must be received on or before the 8 May 2023. Finalists and non-finalists will be notified by 5 June 2023. The awards and exhibition will be held on 23 June, 2023 at 5.30pm in blue Gallery, 3 Anzac Parade, Hamilton.

ENTRIES NOW OPEN



SMALL SCULPTURE AWARD 2023

VISIT WSA.ORG.NZ



Finalists announced!

View at wsa.org.nz

NZPPA Awards & Opening Event Friday 14th April @5.30pm 'The Verandah', Hamilton Lake

Exhibition - Mavis & Co Cafe Rototuna

Te Ataahuatanga o Aotearoa by Rachael Hayton

An exhibition of images around Aotearoa – showing the beauty and diversity of our place. Media: pastel

Be sure to pop into Mavis and Co Rototuna to view Rachael's exhibition and enjoy a coffee and something delicious to eat.



26th January-28th March

Rototuna Shopping Centre 2/44 Horsham Downs Road

Exhibition Opportunity

If you would like to have an exhibition at Mavis and co. Rototuna, in 2023, please contact Julie at

julie@wsa.org.nz to discuss.

There is no hire fee and only 10% commission is taken on any sales. This is a good space for 8 x A3 sized pieces of works hung in a line as a guide. We have had some great sales. You also have the opportunity to have an opening, with catering organised through Chace and his team.



café · bar · bistro

Exhibition

blue Gallery

'River, Sea, Sky' - a group exhibition from WSA printmakers.

25th February - 16th March

Artworks by:
Gemma Reid – Janice Meadows
Carril Karr - Geoff McGowan - Elane Wisely
Maree Glass - Renee Marjolein - Hilary Batt-Ramage
Steph McLellan - Michelle Macaskill
Amanda Talsma-Williams- Ruth Davey
Tania Livingston - Margie Lucas - Sue Preston
Lara Salzwedel - Caroline Peacocke - Sally-Ann Riddell





blue gallery 3 Anzac Parade, Hamilton

Open Wednesday – Saturday 11.30am – 3.00pm



To book a place, or for more information please enquire via **julie@wsa.org.nz**

April SHP

Monday 17th April - Friday 21st April (Week 2 only)

5-12 years

9am - 12pm

We have a fun week of art activities planned for the April School Holidays. Our student numbers are kept low to give children quality time learning and exploring with many art mediums and techniques. Our tutors are experienced in their rolls as tutors and artists, and also tutor our term weekly classes.



Monday 17th April

Acrylic Painting Skills and Clay Modelling

Tuesday 18th April

Drawing Cartoon Animals and Watercolour Painting skills

Wednesday 19th April

Tissue Collage Artworks and Geometric Designs

Thursday 20th April

Miniature Art Creations and Oil Pastel and Dye Artworks

Friday 21st April

Textured Wool Art Canvases and Watercolour Easter Egg Designs

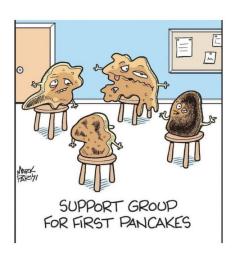


\$35per child per day or \$30 if attending all 5 mornings. All materials included.

enrol online wsa.org.nz



Funnies







Sculpture & 3D Character Design April Holiday Programme

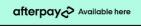
One of our super talented tutors Anya Gladstone-Gallagher has being running a sculpture & 3D character design programme for the last few school holidays. Dont miss out on this unique programme in week 2 of the April Holidays. Numbers are kept small to give your teen a quality experience and expert tutoring.

12-17 year olds

9am - 12pm

Monday 17th April - Thrusday 20th April





Enrol online wsa.org.nz

\$199 for 4 mornings - all materials included

Anya had an incredible class of talented students attend the 'Sculpture and 3D Character Design' school holiday programme in January. Students learned how to design, build, sculpt and paint a character with polymer clay. We were impressed by the skill level and talent exhibited by all the students.

Super Sculpey is a specialised oven-bake polymer clay, often used in the manufacturing of toys, jewellery, and figurines. In this course, you will learn how to design a character and sculpt with this high-quality product. You will also learn how to build a tinfoil and wire base ('armature'), which will reinforce the structure of your creation, so it may survive the distance. Does your character have three heads or fire spurting from their nostrils? Maybe they have human features or just those of a plain old bunny rabbit. In this class, the world is your oyster (and your character could be too!) Sculpting with polymer clay is a fun way to relax and let your creativity loose. You can achieve an intricate level of detail, using a variety of tools. Sculpting is immensely helpful for those wanting to improve their drawing skills, as you will begin to understand objects in a 3-dimensional format. It also serves as a steppingstone for those planning to pursue a career in the film industry as creature designers, props makers, stop-motion animators, prosthetic make-up artists and more.











Exploring Art Techniques Class 2019 International Commission

The Ammonites are 'Home' in Los Angeles – at last

Go back 3 years to 2019 when students in the Exploring Art Techniques class were given a commission to complete four paintings for the paleontology section of the Natural History Museum in Los Angeles. With the intervention of Covid, except for an exhibition in the Next Gallery, WSA, these paintings were stored until they could be delivered safely to the recipient. During the holidays just passed this happened and they are now in Los Angeles.

The paintings and another set of artistic work travelled Air NZ in two pieces of luggage. At 'check in' the question was asked "why were the suitcases so light" because we had five pieces of luggage? Canvases are not heavy, and the four canvases weighed 15 kilograms together with their packing. An explanation followed as to what they were and where they were heading. The explanation obviously impressed because all our five pieces of luggage were covered with 'fragile' stickers – sixteen in all!

The canvases were received by staff from the Paleontology section of the museum. As the photo shows this included the Curator, Dr Austin Hendy; Juliette Hook, collections manager of Invertebrate Paleontology; Dr Bill Estrada, Curator of History and Dr Jodie Martin, Assistant vicepresident of collections (shown left to right)



Los Angeles Natural History Museum staff receiving the ammonite paintings

These pictures were to be hung on the walls of the laboratory, office, cum meeting room and have already attracted considerable interest. For instance, their time on the wall was short lived as educational staff at the museum requested to use them at a workshop held recently to instruct teachers on paleo-art. Paleo-art is the consideration of pre-historic marine life through paleontology and art. We have been studying this in the Exploring Art Techniques class at various times. The workshop attracted 36 teachers who learned how to encourage and teach students to do scientific illustrations and imagine how extinct animals and plants could be 'brought to life' from their fossil remains. The ammonites from WSA were used to demonstrate how our young artists from New Zealand had been involved in this venture. Now it is back on the wall for the ammonites after this showing.

continued next page...

Exploring Art Techniques Class 2019 International Commission

The Ammonites are 'Home' in Los Angeles – at last (continued)

Congratulations to the artists who completed the commission and are receiving such praise and have created considerable interest and discussion for their work.

As the paintings are shown in the photo from the workshop the artists are (from L. to R) Bonnie Feng, Jade Luxton, Johanna Vreede and Erica Emmet. Well done.

Ammonite paintings in use for a teachers' workshop in paleo art.





Left: Erica Emmett





Below: Johanna Vreede



Below: Jade Luxton



Tutor Profile & Exhibition

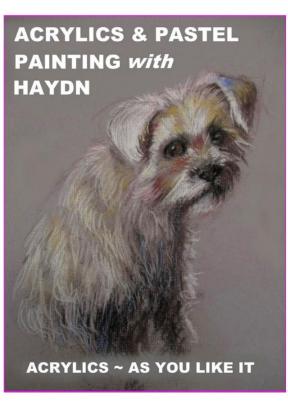
One of our highly skilled and long-term tutors Haydn Rive will be exhibiting a selection of his art upstairs in our Office Gallery space from 14th March until 29th March.

These artworks will be able to be viewed during office hours and on our website under 'Online Exhibitions'.

While our office is open 8.30am-4pm Monday - Friday and Saturday 9.30am-12.30pm, these hours can vary at times. Please phone ahead 1st to check.









In Term 2 as well as tutoring his Tuesday morning watercolour class, Haydn will be running a combined Acrylics and Pastel Painting class. This will be held on Wednesday mornings from 9.30am-11.30am starting 26th April for 8 weeks. Enrol online at wsa.org

Workshops

Join WSA Watercolour tutor Paulette Bruns for a day of learning the basic skills needed to get started in Watercolour.

In this hands on workshop you will make some test examples as well as create a small step by step painting.

\$95pp. All materials included. 10am - 3pm.

Enrol online wsa.org.nz





Printmakers International Exhibition Opportunity

Grafein International Print Mail Art Project

Grafein organizes small and large projects in the field of printmaking. Some of these projects are centered on pure printmaking, whereas in others, printmaking plays a leading role. Various projects such as exhibitions, master classes, symposia, lectures, open calls, and exchange projects, are organized both within The Netherlands and internationally.

In 2022 WSA Printmakers Carril Karr and Amanda Talsma-Williams contributed to this project. Amanda said that it was easy to enter and satisfying to see the catalogue after.

For more information go to grafein.com



Chopper to the Mine ... (13)

In 2018 the manager of Taharoa Mine emailed me. "Managed a chopper ride to the Mine for you. Meet at the North end." And so began a new venture where I was transported to an Iron sand mine, kitted up, taken around to take photos for reference.

There were fantastic mechanical beasts to get a handle on! The gray sand got into everything. The texture of the sifting sand was another problem.





This was one of my best. The huge scale of the deep holes I tried to depict here and the complex structures of their stacks was another problem. I wondered if it could be pulled off.



The last one was to be a
Triptych to include two
miners. Two real folks obliged
and sent me a photo. It was
exactly what I wanted from a
sketch sent!







Cambridge Chapel ... (14)

My friend contacted me from Wellington and announced he had bought a Chapel in Cambridge Terrace, Wellington. He was intending to restore it and use it to restore some of the Salvation Army music they had lost. As an art collector he would like to fill it with beautiful works. Would I like to come down and survey some spaces where I could add some works? I liked.

A year later we have a beautiful Chapel, the old organ was restored and I donated several work. I also painted two large pieces – both 40" x 60". Two.



Both "Nativity" and "Samaritan" are new works for the Chapel.



I wanted to introduce some NZ flavour to the Nativity, especially the pohutukawa tree as "The Tree of life."





Exhibition

Invitation to exhibition of new work by Colin Gibbs Saturday 4 March 2pm

Kia ora

This series of paintings is inspired by the music and poetic lyrics of internationally acclaimed jazz singer-songwriter, Caitlin Smith. It draws from her CD *You Have Reached Your Destination*, which she recorded with her Brave Caitlin Smith's Imaginary Band.



In talking about her work, Caitlin says

just when you think you're nearly there, the long journey away from your perceived destination begins. Then, when you feel you're back where you started and miles away from where you want to be, there you are—standing in the centre... at peace.

Caitlin speaks of being legally blind since birth as her blessing, for

though I may get lost more often than most, I experience the roads less travelled, and frequently, but fortuitously, go off the beaten track.

Colin says

those who may be familiar with my work as a painter, might view this current work as being a significant departure from my previous painting. I can assure you, it is the same artist!

Many times during this painterly process did I seemingly lose my way, to detour from the designated path, and yet somehow I found it.

Join us for drinks and nibbles Saturday 4 March any time between 2-5.00pm

Colin will give a floor talk

We are honoured to have Caitlin performing live in the gallery

Read about Caitlin and listen to clips of her singing her own compositions. https://witchdoctor.co.nz/index.php/2020/08/caitlin-smith-the-great-witchdoctor-qa/Scroll to the bottom and hear her singing, with orchestra, Nobody does it better.

The exhibition will be up until the next one is ready - at least until the end of April.

We try to have the gallery open from 10-4.00 every day except Mondays, but please phone or text 027 2484 884 to check that one of us is home before you come on out.

Ngā mihi, Catherine Lang

Mercury Bay Art Escape

Bayleys Coromandel, based in Whitianga are confirmed as the major sponsor of Mercury Bay Art Escape for 2023. Chairman Stuart Christie says; "We are really pleased to welcome Bayleys back and with a major change in ownership in 2022 they are continuing a great partnership of many years with the Art Escape and an association between art in our wider Mercury Bay community and the business of bringing visitors into the region.

Starting with assistance in the production of cost effective road signage, community contacts and early sponsorship, their support and friendship has helped us stage successful events every year except 2022.

Mercury Bay Art Escape Open Studios 2023 will be held over the first two weekends in March commencing with an evening Gala Opening at Hot Waves Cafe Hot Water Beach on Friday March 3rd.

Details and tickets are available at www.mercurybayartescape.com

Bayleys are the Major Sponsor of Mercury Bay Art Escape in 2023



Below are just two of the artist featured in this years event - Alan Rhodes - Whenuakite Potter and Meg Auth - Hahei Jeweller. For more information on these artists and others in this years event go to www.mercurybayartescape.com

Mercury Bay Art Escape Potters and Coromandel clay. Alan and Julia Rhodes produce hand-thrown pots with magnificent glazes that are unique to the Coromandel Peninsula.





Love of the sea inspires this Mercury Bay Art Escape art jeweller

Hahei local Meg Auth, creates art jewellery using found objects, stones and gems set in precious and non-precious metals which provide a reminder or connection to the sea for the wearer.



Calendar of Events and Exhibitions

MARCH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		FEB/MAR Printmakers Exhibition 'River, Sea, Sky' continues at blue Gallery	1 Term 1 Classes Continue	Z Te Ataahuatanga o Aotearoa Exhibition continues at Mavis & Co Rototuna	3	4
12 Beginner Watercolour Workshop	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	Printmakers Exhibition (last day for viewing at blue Gallery)	17	18
19	2 0	2 1	2 2	2 3	2 4	2 5
2 6	2 7 Te Ataahuatanga o Aotearoa Exhibition (last day for viewing at Mavis & Co Rototuna)	28 Elane Wisely Exhibition starts at Mavis & Co, Rototuna	2 9	3 0	3 1	

APRIL

						1
2	3	4	5	6 Term 1 Classes End	7 Easter Good Friday	8 Easter
9 Easter Sunday	10 Easter Monday	11	12	13	14 NZPPA Awards & Opening Event	15 NZPPA Judges Talk
16	17 School Holiday Programme	18 School Holiday Programme	19 School Holiday Programme	2 0 School Holiday Programme	2 1 School Holiday Programme	2 2
23 NZPPA Exhibition Ends	2 4 Term 2 Classes Start	25 ANZAC Day No Classes	2 6 Term 2 Classes Resume	2 7	2 8	2 9

3 0

Future Important Dates:

- Monday 8 May Small Sculpture Award Entries Close
 Monday 5 June Kings Birthday No Classes
 Sunday 18 June NYAA Entries Close

- Friday 23 June Small Sculpture Awards & Opening Event
 Friday 28 July NYAA Awards & Opening Event

March 2023 Art Connections

Sponsors

We would like to thank our sponsors for their support of the WSA.







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Hamilton City

















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A very special thanks to SHARP, who continue to help us substantially with printing.

SHARP

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NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING

Whether you're a member or not, we are excited to hear about your art-related adventures, exhibition reviews or travels, accompanied by your own photos. These will be reviewed by the WSA and included if we have space and they do not conflict with our operations. The Executives decision is final. Please contact us at wsa@wsa.org.nz

WSA OFFICE AND ART SCHOOL

120 Victoria Street (above ArtsPost Gallery) PO Box 1018, Hamilton 3204 07 839 4481

Office Hours:

Mon-Fri 8.30am-4pm Sat 9.30am-12.30pm

(these may vary, please check in advance)

artschool@wsa.org.nz for art school enquiries (Paulette)
wsa@wsa.org.nz for all WSA enquiries (Julie)

Website: www.wsa.org.nz

(Paulette works in the office 22 hours per week, if you need a faster reply please include Julie's email)

WSA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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