



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Every month is a rollercoaster of ideas, plans and meetings with some delightful openings and exhibitions thrown in.

The month started for me with the exciting Pecha Kucha night at Wintec. Pecha Kucha is a worldwide phenomenon that started in Japan as an evening that consisted of artists and architects discussing their works with 20 images thrown up on a screen for 20 seconds while the artist talks. An interesting and engaging mix of artists and concepts go by at warp speed. Wintec puts it on 4 times a year.

A memorable exhibition was the small selection of prints from Marty Vreede's book on Pompallier House and its French Press shown at the Baffin St Gallery Gallery in Pirongia. This is a lovely little gallery specialising in prints. I hope this moving exhibition comes to Hamilton in its complete form. Another exhibition even smaller was Maria Martin-Smith's collection of inspiring mezzotints of Pompallier House and its press shown in her family home en route to an exhibition in Russell.

The 'kate/allison' exhibition of contemporary art shown at Allison Ewing's beautiful house was exhilarating in its colour, variety and quality. We need more galleries able to show work of this calibre. Watch out for 'kate/allison' as art entrepreneurs who are filling a gap in the Waikato.

Finally, walking into the Trust Waikato Gallery at the Hamilton Museum, I was knocked sideways by the wonderful, wonderful Mary MacIntyre drawings of Louise Henderson curated for maximum effect by Leafa. They are being shown with some of Louise Henderson paintings. Don't miss them or the exhibition of works purchased by Barry Hopkins that usually reside in the museum vaults. This one will be a witty and impish look at the best of contemporary New Zealand art. I can't wait.

Finally, next year's schedule is filling in but is still not set in concrete except the 75th WSA Anniversary which will extend from late March to the end of August. During that time we hope there will be artist's talks at the museum and workshops at WSA, a play and perhaps a panel. The exhibitions at ArtsPost are not exactly as we had hoped but we will try to negotiate a change. The main member's exhibition will open at the beginning of November. But don't forget the booth at the Garden's Festival in February is a chance to display and sell small and less expensive works.

We are planning a launching for the 75th Anniversary events to take place in the last days of the NZPPA at the gardens. And there will be, I hope, a gala occasion to honour long time stalwarts of WSA and to look to a glorious future during the winter. Of course, every year the opening to the Painting and Printmaking Award begins the year with a gala occasion with is both exciting and fun. Double the fun and excitement by being part of the team of volunteers that makes it happen.

MARTHA SIMMS

GAYE JURISICH IN TAURANGA

I went over to Tauranga twice within three days recently.

On the first occasion I discovered **BIG RED** the big instalation by Hamiltonian, Gaye Jurisich, in the Tauranga Art Gallery. Very imposing and interactive.



It consisted of 5856 red tape strips, each 15m long, hung to form a huge cube; enough red tape to stretch from Hamilton to Tauranga! Keep any beurocrat happy

for life!



It has a small room within it and the public can walk through the tape. Kids were enjoying it when I returned a couple of days later with my camera.

The Gallery staff made them surrender their skateboards before they entered **BIG RED**. Spoilsports!!

Incidentally, the Tauranga Art Gallery is an interesting conversion of a local bank and the other exhibits were excellent.

Sorry, it is now too late to see **BIG RED** but Gaye will have a work called "Shag" at Point to Point, at the Sculpture Park at Waitakeruru - coming soon.

She will also have work on Waiheke at the Headland Sculpture on the Gulf.



WHAT'S ON?

ARTSPOST GALLERIES

Please note that ArtsPost will be closed from 25th December to 4th January.

28 November - 5 January

Diploma of Ceramics – Students Exhibition

Material Culture – Janice Meadows

Coil and Slab Forms – Ian Webster

Waikato Society of Potters – Annual Exhibition

Natures Design – Stuart Fyfe

Opening Preview Thursday 27 November

at 5.30pm.

9 January - 2 February 2009

In lieu of an Opening Preview a 'celebration' will be held on Thursday 22 January at 5.30pm.

ARTNEXUS LIVE

The 8th Annual Exhibition of ArtNexus

River Paintings

Anne Carter Jones

AT THE WAIKATO ART MUSEUM

“The Inimitable Mr Hopkins”

The Barry Hopkins Art Collection

Opening: Thursday 4th December 5.30pm (RSVP) and ...

“A Roving Chat with Mr Hopkins and Friends”

A Walk and Talk through the Barry Hopkins Exhibition

Saturday 6th December 2pm

RSVP will be expected for the opening. RSVPs to 8386583 or to museum@hcc.govt.nz

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

You may have noticed that I've been giving a lot of space to printmaking recently. Two reasons.

The first is that I'm involved in printmaking classes as a student and enjoy the genre. The second is that fellow printmakers send me material and I write some myself. Printmaking is quite strong in WSA. I'm more than pleased, though, to include writing on other genres. Got an idea - send it to me - or better still write an article and send it to me. The ball is in your court.

PLINTH STORAGE – EMPIRE GALLERY CLOSES

WSA will be in need of storage space for a number of plinths etc we are having returned from Empire Gallery who, regrettably are closing down.

If anyone has access to storage space the Society can use for these items WSA would be very grateful. We need about the size of half a garage. (Incidentally Empire is having a 40% off sale very soon. WSA members with work at Empire are urged to contact them at 07-827 3227 for details of the closing and the fate of their works. (Ed)

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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. 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.

We will need a group of helpers (give your names to Eriko) 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!!

FROM THE WSA ART SCHOOL

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

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.

MEMBERS MORNING TEA

9th December 10-12am Studios 1 and 2

All welcome

Please bring small plate for shared morning tea. Morning tea combined with an exhibition of work from the Oils class of Jane Finch and her students/artist.

A very sincere thanks goes to all our tutors for sharing their expertise and resources so willingly and making the art school the continued success that it is.

Our tutors for the year were Joan Travaglia, Delys Lodge, Jane Finch, Tatiana Kalnins, Alice Nicolson, Sandra Rogers, Daniel Ormsby, Ruth Hickman, Janice Meadows, Taryn Hart, Zena Elliott, Ken Perrott, Nicole Peacocke, Doug Wright, Christine Melchoir, Donna McLeish, Robin Clarke, Kurt La Roche.

Thanks also to the classes committee for their time and advice.

Next year we are hoping to offer a number of Saturday workshops for those that are too fully committed throughout the week.

The Summer term recommences on 9th February 2009. We look forward to seeing you back and seeing new faces as well, everyone is welcome at the WSA Art School.

I recently picked up a book first published in 1847 (1968 reprint) on Pictorial Illustrations of New Zealand by S.C. Brees who was principal engineer and surveyor to the New Zealand company. It is a fascinating record of early New Zealand. His sketches in particular are quite amazing.

We wish you a happy festive season and safe driving over the holidays. See you next year!

Congratulations to Graeme Henry recipient of a Hamilton Civic award for contributions to the Arts.

ART in the Holidays

Ages 7-14 years

22nd and 23rd December 9-12 \$50

(Christmas shopping time) and 28th, 29th 30th January 2009 9-12noon \$75 9am -12 noon. ANNE KALNINS

ARTS WAIKATO CEO

Arts Waikato is now looking for a new CEO as Tim Macindoe is now a Member of Parliament!

Please use this link if you are interested or pass it to your networks: www.gregtims.co.nz/recruitment.php

MEMBERSHIP AND THE NEWSLETTER

The WSA membership list has been dramatically culled. Those who have received membership reminders (and four in the Newsletter!) and not responded will not have received this Newsletter.

If any of your friends comment that they have not received their Arts Connection – gently let them know what may have been the cause and that we value their membership and would gladly have them back.

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.

CHANGES TO ART CONNECTIONS

Some of our pages are now in black and white. This and a move to publishing the full newsletter every two months which will be commenced from the February 09 issue are designed to keep up the standard, some colour and keep the costs within budget. We will also be sending out a flier in B&W in the intervening months (except Jan).

For those of you who elect to receive your newsletter electronically you will be getting it all in full colour. For the intervening months a flier (B&W) will be sent out by Email to those with Email and by post to those without Email.

The new schedule for "Art Connections", the WSA newsletter, is as follows

Early December 08, then February, April, June, August, October, December 09.

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

BARRY SMITH, Editor

VOLUNTEERS

We have a very small Executive Committee this year. Next year, 2009, is our 75th Anniversary and we have many events planned to celebrate the year.

This year's Executive Committee is going to be 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. And the jobs are never that onerous.

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 desperately!!!) seeking volunteers to assist us with this event in the areas of: Catering, especially someone to act as convenor of catering.

Anyone interested can call Martha on 8566981 for more details.

Docents during the exhibition from Saturday Feb 21st until Sunday March 1st each day from 12-3 and 3-6 but 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.

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.

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

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

PLEASE PAY YOUR SUBSCRIPTION – OLD SUBSCRIPTION RATES RULE !

We need your membership subscription for the year 1 Sept 08 to 31 Aug 09. There were many members who had not paid last years subscription and, regrettably we have had to cull them from the membership.

If you can't find the form sent out with the July newsletter, please contact Eriko on 8394481 or email wsa@wsa.org.nz and she will post a replacement.

The membership subscription is real value for money. Not only do you get all the benefits of belonging to the Society, if you take advantage of the discounts you soon get your money back!

And remember there are substantial reductions in our Art Class fees for members.

At the AGM we set the subscription rate the same as last year.

Give a gift subscription to a friend or family member – a creative Xmas or Birthday present that endures for at least a year!

IF YOU ARE TRAVELLING NORTH

DAN WELDON

Sunday 14 Dec 4pm Lake House Arts Centre, Fred Thomas Drive, Takapuna.

Dan Weldon, artist and printmaker from New York will contribute to a forum on printmaking as an artform in NZ. RSVP to 09 520-3442 or email hurrfiel@ihug.co.nz. Friday 5th Dec at Printmakers Studio, Lake House Dan Weldon will talk about his his methods of work, followed by the opening of his exhibition

Dan Weldon "Beyond the Print" Works on Paper 5-18 Dec Lake House

also ...

MARIA MARTIN SMITH

"On a Mission" The Attic, Pompallier Mission House, The Strand, Russell from 28th Nov until late Jan '09. Maria, former Hamiltonian and WSA member, who is towards the end of her full time printmaking course in Wanganui stopped over briefly in Hamilton and several of the Hamilton printmakers viewed her work. Mainly mezzotint but other artforms, all illustrating amazing concepts of historical interest. Excellent work. If you get a chance – see it.

ENVIRONMENTAL ART PHOTOGRAPHY – SUMMER PROJECT

The Waikato Sculpture Trust challenges you to create a temporary sculpture of natural materials that is particular to its setting.

It could be at your local beach, it could be in your vegetable patch, or it could be on a pond or the scree slope of a hill behind you. The challenge provides an opportunity for artists, photographers, family groups and schools to create an ephemeral environmental art work, submit a photograph of it, and document the work. Test your observational skills, spontaneity, and patience to work individually or by teaming up with others. The Waikato Sculpture Trust runs this challenge to raise awareness of sculpture and the environment. The judges will take into account three features of your entry: the overall sculptural concept, the photographic image, and the artist's statement/ documentation. The judges are Mark Hamilton (photographer), CK Reynolds (artist), and Gaye Jurisich (artist). 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 are at www.sculpturepark.co.nz.

MEMBERS SHOWCASE

MARTY VREEDE at Pirongia

About 25 people gathered at Hillary Rammage's Baffin St Gallery on Saturday, 15th November, to hear WSA member Marty Vreede, President of the Print Council of New Zealand, (who lives and works in Wanganui these days) talk about the special printing project at Pompallier House, Russell which resulted in six hand-made books and five boxed sets of prints being produced.

The print series was based on the Pompallier hymn, 'Mo Maria', the French printery and New Zealand connections. The book and sets have all been gifted about New Zealand. Marty's talk was part of his exhibition of prints based on the project.



Happy printmakers leaving Baffin St Gallery.

Marty spoke about the support network and art connections that are part of the printmaking genre. He believes that the engagement between people

results in a significant enrichment of their art.

He gave a history of the early printing at Russell, the 'printmaking wars' (!!!), and the history of the two presses there (see 'Art Connections' April 2008).



Ruth Davey and Marty Vreede, printmaking friends from the past.

The Gaveaux Press was responsible for the printing of 40,000 books before its retirement.

Marty and his wife Marilyn sang "Mo Maria" as we were about to leave. Very moving.

ARTNEXUS.CO.NZ

ARTNEXUS LIVE EXHIBITION

Selected works by artists of the Waikato co-operative ARTNEXUS will be shown at the Chartwell Gallery, Artspost, Hamilton from 8th January-2nd February, 2009.

The co-operative includes members of WSA and this is their 8th annual exhibition.

New Zealand's largest range of art materials

10% Discount for WSA members.
Conditions apply.

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