



CENTRAL OTAGO ART SOCIETY



Newsletter July 2021

Blossom Festival Exhibition 2021 at Central Stories

This year the Central Otago Art Society’s Blossom Festival Exhibition will be held at Central Stories Museum and Art Gallery.

We are hoping the benefits of this move will become a real positive and a refreshment of our exhibition calendar. It will be a challenge in some respects but we hope to make it a successful venture and one that we can repeat if it works to our advantage.

One benefit is the show will continue for five weeks as opposed to the usual 10 days which will take us up to near the end of October. This means we will need a bigger support base, a larger roster than before, and a team that can be utilised to carry out various duties that may arise.

You may also be aware Central Stories is going

through a rough patch at the moment with the loss of funding and the departure of some staff members. We have made the decision to help Central Stories by filling the exhibition slot that was previously holding the Art Gold Awards – now postponed. This slot would have been empty if we hadn't stepped in. Central Stories is appreciative of our support.

Get warm get painting.

Nigel Wilson

PRESIDENT Central Otago Art Society

Special Section “The Art of Decay”

The subject encompasses a wide range of ideas — anything organic, rotting fruit, vegetables, and/or buildings, cars, trucks, machinery.



Megan Huffadine



Judge and Guest Artist of the Blossom Festival Exhibition

Well known Bannockburn artist, Megan Huffadine, is this year's judge and guest artist of the Blossom Festival Art Exhibition.

Megan graduated from Otago University with a Bachelor of Arts in 1977 followed by post graduate diplomas, diploma in teaching and Bachelor of Fine Arts from Canterbury in 1987.

One thread of her practise involves environmental concerns, the other focuses on how people express personal identity and history through the objects they make, gather and own. The forms in her work are derived locally from Central Otago — seeds, remnants and discards are sketched from memory, scale is altered and developed into new forms.

She has taught art at several tertiary institutions in the South Island as well as teaching private art classes.

Megan has won four awards over the past 10 years for her sculptures.

Her solo exhibitions numbering 12 since 2008, were held at Hullabaloo Art Space in Cromwell, Form Gallery Christchurch, Milford Galleries Queenstown and Dunedin and Eade Gallery, Clyde.

Group exhibitions since 1987 include Milford Galleries, Hullabaloo, Judith Anderson Gallery Auckland and the Dowse Art Museum.

We are privileged that she is available to be our guest artist and judge at this year's Blossom Festival Exhibition.

DIARY THESE DATES

Monday Painters:

July 26, August 2 and 16 and September 6 and 20.

10am-3pm \$10 per day

Blossom Festival Entries:

Friday September 10: Entry forms due in.

Friday, September 17: Couriered work due in. C/- Melanie Eade, Community House, Centennial Avenue, Alexandra.

Monday 13 to Friday 17 September:

Deliver art works to Central Stories, Centennial Avenue, Alexandra from 10am-3.30pm

Wednesday September 22:

Opening night members and guests 6.15pm. Doors open to all attending

6.45pm Blossom Festival Opening

7pm Opening of the Central Otago Art Society Exhibition and presentation of awards.

Thursday September 23-Sunday

October 24: Exhibition open daily 10am-4pm. Friday October 22, open until 5.30pm.

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People's Choice award 5.15pm.

Sunday October 24: 3-4pm pick up unsold art work. A fee of \$10 will be incurred if work isn't collected on time.

Please remember to include your bank account details on your entry form for payment of works sold.

Encaustic Painting Workshop with Jenny Hill



Five enthusiastic artists were fully occupied the weekend of June 26 and 27 at the Encaustic Painting Workshop with tutor Jenny Hill from Locharburn. Pictured above are, from left, Judy Campbell, Jenny Hill, Viviann McFadzien and Melanie Eade.

Hot bees wax, George Forman heating equipment, blow torches and pigments in wax as well as collage materials were all used by the creators of some wonderfully creative pieces at the workshop.

The room had to be well prepared for the course to prevent any wax spillage from spoiling furniture and furnishings.

Collage artist and tutor, Jenny Hill saw encaustic art as a technique that she could use to embed her collage in. Encaustic painting originated in Classical Antiquity.

Jenny said "I was self taught until I attended an encaustic art workshop in Australia with the late Nancy Crawford, and encaustic artist from California".

Melted bees wax is used with damin resin added to help harden the wax when the art work is finished. Encasutics are environmentally safe as they emit no toxic fumes and don't require the use of solvents.

The art work is usually done on board or plaster and layers are built up so that a 3D effect can be created. The board needs to be heated

prior to wax being added, and as layers are applied, it is important to keep the surface warm in order for the wax to adhere to the surface. After the paint has been applied to the support, a heating element is passed over the surface until the individual or spatula marks fuse into a uniform film. This "burning in" of the colours is an essential element of the true encaustic technique.

It is an art medium which is ideal for creating textures. You can scratch into it, embed papers and natural fabrics (no plastics or polyesters), hand made papers, dried flowers and leaves. Torn up pages of books, magazines, photographs can all be layered into the encaustic work.

LIFE MEMBERS of CO ART SOCIETY

Nigel Wilson, Allan Johnston

Denis Kent and Judy Campbell



This large encaustic landscape by Jenny Hill, is made up of various photographs and some drawing.



Kristen Ojala, left, and Camille Alabaster, right, at the workshop. Camille is showing the works the students completed on day one of the course. With gloomy weather all weekend, this was a positive way to spend the time creating works of art using techniques new to the participants.

The Central Otago Art Society gratefully acknowledges the generous sponsorship for our Blossom Festival Exhibition. Major Sponsors Duncan Anderson Dental Surgeons and Tall Poppy Real Estate, Alexandra.

