

The Pastellist

The Pastel Society of Australia Inc.

Established by John and Ivy Jeffrey in 1985

Welcome to the Pastel Society of Australia Inc.'s October 2018 newsletter!

Our inaugural **Pastel EXPO** was an exceptional event. Enjoy the contents of this newsletter, it's bursting with photos, comments, winners, and stories about the Expo! Also included are up-coming workshops, demos, reports and tours.

On a sad note, our deepest condolences go to the family and friends of Barbara Alexandra, who passed away recently. Barbara has been a wonderful support to the PSA and Founder of the Alexandra Awards. We are all very sad to hear of her passing.



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Congratulations

Lyn Diefenbach

Pastellist of the Year 2018

We gratefully acknowledge Steven Huang's BCC Ward office - who kindly print and staple our Newsletter (in black and white at no charge – not even for the paper) for members who need a hard copy posted to them.

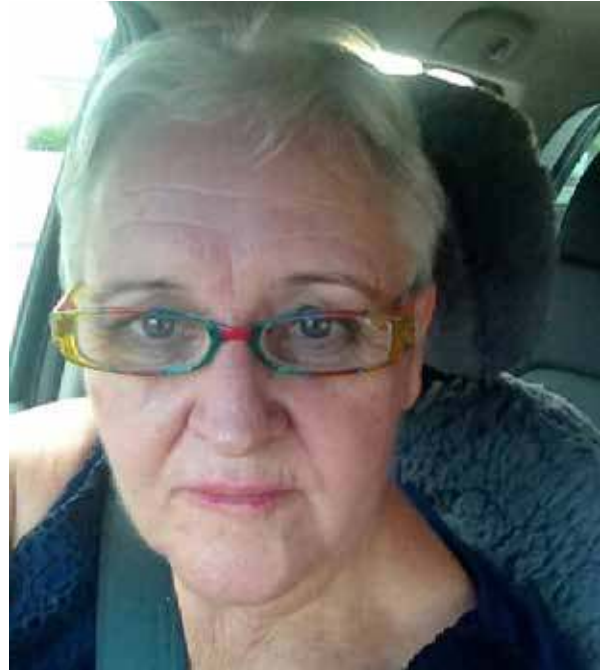
Yes, we truly now have stepped up to the mark and are the Pastel Society of Australia. It is with many thanks I present this presidents report as we have in this last month presented our Inaugural Pastel Expo.

Thank you very much to all who spent so many hours and days in the organizing, planning, volunteering, presenting, attending. Mostly thanks go to our patient families for supporting us as we took this monumental leap of faith with passion, direction and determination.

Over the last few years our society is growing in so many ways and has gained strength and professionalism through its members and their participation. We have drivers of vast professional experience, master artists, an accountant as treasurer, business managers, owners and operators, teachers, some with masters and other degrees in their fields of expertise, putting all this together with our combined passion for pastel it has enabled us to produce a recipe for very measured and successful outcomes together. All this time we are increasing the number of members coming on board even this week.

At grass roots our still growing membership base, which now expands beyond our shores and this showed by the attendance at our Pastel Expo 2018, from France, USA, NZ and every state of Australia. The expo was held at Caloundra on the Sunshine Coast of Queensland, one of Australia's growing tourist holiday hubs with exquisite beaches, plentiful accommodation, eateries, shops and clubs. There is picturesque hinterland to roam and amenities including the events Centre which we hired for the expo.

2018 annual awards were also presented in Caloundra during the same week as the expo with great success. We had double the number of entries with the quality of work that could have stood on any world stage. We were delighted to welcome two professional judges, Liz Haywood Sullivan, former President of the International Association of Pastel Societies and Michael Hawker the Curator of Australian art at the Queensland Art Gallery. Many thanks go to the friends of the Gallery Caloundra for their assistance due to our workload at the expo.



With sadness however I had to announce at the awards that we lost one of our sponsors of many years, Barbara Alexandra passed away in Melbourne, Sunday 9th September after being ill for some time. It was with great pleasure that I had a long conversation with her about a month previously. She had sent us her cheque to enable the award to continue for the next few years and I needed to thank her personally. Due to the fact of that conversation, she went on to ask the family to make further moves to continue the Barbara Alexandra Award into the future. We extend our condolences to the family and friends of Barbara and look forward to a long association with them with many thanks for their support.

Overall I am extremely proud to be the figurehead and spokesperson of this society of artists and art lovers. We have had such a great time over the past short while and I am happy to announce the committee voted to do EXPO 2020. Further planning is yet to be made and will be announced in due time, once the pastel dust has settled.

Thanks for all your help and participation.

Suzanne

Suzanne M Robinson

President, Pastel Society of Australia Inc.

Category: 'Scapes'



1st Place: Lyn Diefenbach (Lyn was also named Pastellist of the Year)

"Reflecting in Paris":

Outstanding example of pastel art; remarkable in every way. A unique image that definitely catches the eye.



2nd Place: Chris Blake

"Wet day in Glasgow from a bus"

Lovely use of the medium to convey a rain-soaked day in Glasgow. Fabulous use of mark-making to express atmosphere and movement.



3rd Place: Karol Oakley

"Heyson's Saplings"

Traditional subject but beautifully handled; captured a beautiful sense of light.

Category: 'People/Animals'



1st Place: Tricia Taylor

"The Inimitable Fleur Sullivan" :

Fantastic expression on the sitter, you feel you know her from the depiction. The artist captured the spirit and character of her subject.

Love the reflected light in the hand in the unfinished left corner.

2nd Place: Genevieve Neale

"I Wear Glasses"

Beautifully handled; masterful use of textures; capturing a fleeting moment in time; expressive mark-making.



3rd Place: Paul Neale

"Jordan and Maddie"

Playful and interesting technique – talk about attitude! Interesting palette choice.

Category: 'Still Life'



1st Christine Clark

"Sunflowers"

Beautiful lively colourful work, pleasing colour harmonies, so much to see and discover in this work.



2nd Lyn Diefenbach

"Joy in the Desert"

Stunning image, beautifully rendered. This artist knows what is capable with this medium.



3rd Karol Oakley

"Top Shelf"

The texture allows for fascinating layering of colour – get close and enjoy!



Lynette Ansari "Sunset Byron Bay": Textured under-painting gives wonderful depth and expression.



Hettie Rowley "Glory Days": Lovely layering of colour, captures the power of the beast.



Tricia Reust "The Last Lap": What a story this painting tells. Love the gesture of the hands and the expression on the subject's face, clever use of past and present to tell this life story.



Jane Wray "The Burbs": A clever and unique way of looking at a street scene, a strong bold statement.



Anne Yang "A Gentle Soul" : You can really see in to the heart of this portrait, insightful.

Robyn Receveur "For we are young and free": Lovely gesture in the figures, tells a complete story. [image not supplied]



Rachel Cant "Afternoon Whispers": Captures the Australian landscape at day's end.



Gail Lusted "Samburu Chit Chat" : Lovely presence of the old and the new.



Louise Corke "Day Dreaming" : Contemplative and beautifully rendered.



Margaret Turner "Bribie Island" : Beautifully observed.



Maxine Thompson "K'sar El Khorbat, Tinjdad, Morocco": Great feel for the architecture.



Chris Blake "Charlie's Mate" : Bold use of pastel, full of life.

We were saddened to learn of the death of long time member and Master Pastellist **Barbara Alexandra**, who over many years sponsored the Alexandra Awards, established for entry by those who have never won a pastel award; she loved extending that thrill of winning for the first time. We will miss her, and remember her and would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge Barbara and the wonderful support she has given to our Pastel Community.

Alexandra Awards: there were two categories this year:

Category: 'Caught my Eye'



1st Susanne Capewell

"Heart of Pandanus"

Eye catching exploration of the pandanus structure.



2nd Angela Parr

"A Split Second"

Excellent composition and use of negative space, incredibly precise and detailed application.



3rd Jeanne Cotter

"The Pears At Claire's"

Wonderful point of view and exploration of shape.

Category: 'I Love It'



1st Joanne Cotton

"Malto Vivace"

Dynamic image, great mark-making and aerial perspective and feel for the resting water.



2nd Lynette Ansari

"Lagoon Low Tide, Lady Elliott Island"

Evocative use of mixed media texture with pastel.

3rd Petronella M Van Leusden

"Peace Jubilation 1918"

Fascinating image telling a story, the use of sepia tones evokes the era; full of energy.

[Image not supplied]

Australia's Inaugural
Pastel Exposition 2018

Hosted by the Pastel Society of Australia Inc.

**Thursday 13th - Sunday 16th
September 2018**

Caloundra Events Centre
Sunshine Coast, Australia



What a wonderful time we had!



Find us on Facebook at
Australian Pastel Expo

The Pastel EXPO 2018 is supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland. The Regional Arts Development Fund is a partnership between the Queensland Government and the Sunshine Coast to support local arts and culture in regional Queensland.



PSA Report to Committee on the Pastel Society of Australia Annual Awards 2018

A record number of entries (126) was received this year - spurred on by the exhibition being held at the Breakfree Resort in conjunction with the Pastel EXPO in Caloundra and by the fact that there was over \$7,600 in prizes.

Liz Haywood-Sullivan (from USA and past President of the International Association of Pastel Societies) and Michael Hawker (Curator Australian Art at the Queensland Art Gallery) were the judges. The standard of the works was exceptional and it proved to be a difficult and long session for them as they deliberated.



Due to many of the PSA members being involved as volunteers with the EXPO, the Friends of the Caloundra Regional Gallery stepped in and manned the exhibition – art lovers are a wonderful bunch!

Written by Tricia Reust



Australian Pastel EXPO 2018

Showcasing, expanding and uniting pastel fine artists in Australia – a great success

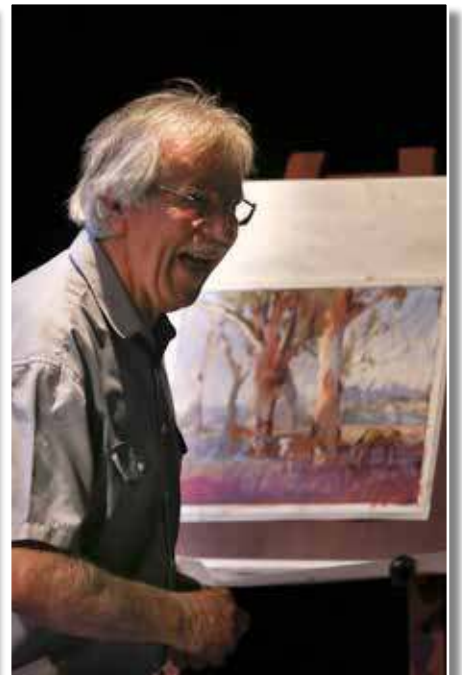
By Joanne Cotton

The Australian Pastel EXPO 2018 was the first ever pastel convention held in Australia acting as a platform to demonstrate and expand the validity and quality of pastel fine art in Australia. The credibility of the luminous, velvety and versatile medium of pastel has gained traction with many Australian artists over the last few decades. The EXPO's Tutors Exhibition certainly showcased the growing artistic talent in Australia and New Zealand, empowered through soft pastels. Alongside developing skills in pastel painting for participants, The EXPO's goal was to enhance the profile of pastel artists and to develop the pastel market and audience in Australia and the Australasia region. This was undoubtedly achieved by the attendance of over 200 artists at the workshops, demonstrations, plein air sessions, and paint-around on offer at the EXPO, and the incredible display of pastel talent at the Tutors Exhibition, the success of the silent auction, and turn over at the EXPO's Trade Show.

The EXPO was hosted by the Pastel Society of Australia Inc. and took place over 5 days, from September 12 - 16, 2018 at the Events Centre, Caloundra in Queensland's glorious Sunshine Coast. It was supported by the Queensland Government's RADF Major Arts Grants, the Sunshine Coast Major Grants for Cultural Development, and the Mayoral & Councillor Discretionary Funding Program for Caloundra, and was also generously sponsored by Art Spectrum, Oxlades Art Supplies, Softpastels.com.au, Friends of the Gallery-Caloundra Regional Gallery, Artable, Unison, Clairefontaine, Chroma, Blue Earth, Schminke, and Canson. The EXPO was attended by participants from all corners of Australia and New Zealand, including a few international participants. The event also united all the pastel societies in Australia whereby they were able to network, share and expand their knowledge and appreciation of soft pastels.

The EXPO was most fortunate to have past IAPS President, Liz Haywood-Sullivan participate as the EXPO's international tutor, main demonstrator and as one of the five artists in the EXPO's Paint-Around. We are most grateful to have Liz's expertise and profound experience regarding soft pastels passed on to the EXPO's participants.

With the overwhelming positive response from participants and sponsors, the Australian Pastel EXPO 2018 has demonstrated the need and desire by artists to celebrate soft pastels in such a focused and celebrated event in Australia. Many thanks to all the hardworking volunteers who brought this special event to life - take time to catch your breath as there is a calling for another Australian Pastel Expo in the future!







Some words from participants and tutors...

Thank you to the committee for your 3 years of dedicated planning and hard work to make it the success it was. Liz was a wonderful keynote presenter as we're all the other inspirational presenters. It was wonderful to steep myself in the magic of Pastel for 4 days. Thank you to the volunteers for their contribution at making the Pastel expo such an enjoyable experience. Lynette Ansari

Thank you so much for all your efforts. Can't even begin to imagine the hours your committee put in. Have had an amazing time. Looking forward to next one. Sharon Gimbert

Thank you for your dedication to making this event a reality. It was a superb event with lots to keep us busy! Your attention to detail was impeccable. Thank you so very much. Leigh-Ann Hargreaves

You have all been so supportive and amazing. You can all pat yourselves on the back....Congratulations on your brilliance! Everyone just got on with their jobs, no stress evident, just calm and relaxed throughout the event. So many volunteers all willing to assist in every direction. And thank you so much for inviting me.... a huge honour to be part of the Expo. Pauline Adair - Edwards

The Australia Pastel Expo 2018 was a huge success! Made possible because of all the hard work from the committee, tutors & wonderful volunteers - you are all amazing. Thank You from one very happy little pastelist. Julie Carmody

Well done to everyone in the committee, the PSA is like a real close knit community and everyone I met just made you feel welcome and the whole event so well planned and executed to perfection. Bravo to you all. So many new friends and contacts made. Susanne Maree Capewell

The planning and presentation of this expo were excellent. Thank you and congratulations to such a dedicated bunch of artists. Who said artists weren't organised? I was proud to have been involved with what I hope will be the first of many. Lyn Mellady

A sincere thanks and congratulations to you all for a fabulous inaugural pastel expo. It was a feat of greatness!!! Leoni Duff



Your Expo Committee and friends say goodbye until next time, thank you for making history by being part of the inaugural Australian Pastel Expo. Safe travels and happy painting.





Christmas Party

Tuesday 27th November

from 11.30am to 2pm at the Southern Cross Community Club at 51 Klump Road Mt Gravatt.

- Meals will be available to order from \$10
- Presentation of End of Year Awards.
- Spouses, partners & friends are welcome

Don't forget! We'll have a Painting Swap, so bring along your signed and finished painting with mat board and protective covering. Each participant's name is entered into the draw and everyone will receive a beautiful original artwork. What a wonderful festive way to share our art!

This year we are continuing our gifting to Foster Care Queensland, where each person brings along an unwrapped gift to donate for a boy or girl aged 12 - 16. Flyers and more info will be coming to your email inbox soon!

We ask that anyone not coming to Xmas Lunch please bring your gift to the 6 November Brisbane Meeting at Mt Gravatt Showgrounds.

RSVP to Kelcey Burman
secretaryozpastels@gmail.com

RSVP by 19 November!



Master Pastellist Exhibition 2019



All Master Pastellists please note and prepare if you are interested in being part of the biannual Master Pastellist Exhibition.

To be held in the **Old Fire Station Gallery** in Redcliffe from **16th October to 10th November 2019** (bump in Sunday 13th Oct after 3pm, pick up Sunday 10th Nov after 3pm).

Three one day pastel workshops already booked in this same venue during the time of the exhibition.

The Official Opening is set for Saturday 19th of October. We will need a full roster of MP's willing to donate a demonstration during the time of the exhibition. The Gallery will be open from 10am to 3pm, Wednesday through Sunday.



Join us on Facebook!

Have you liked us at the **Ozpastels** Facebook page? There you can keep up to date with meetings, workshops and announcements. Log into your Facebook account and search for **Ozpastels**, or go to <https://www.facebook.com/OzPastels/>

Entry: Members \$5, non-members \$10

Brisbane - 7pm, first Tuesday of each month at Mt Gravatt Showgrounds, Community Hall (upstairs), 1644 Logan Rd, Mt Gravatt. Coordinator: Margaret Van Maanen, 0423117730

DATE	TUTOR	THEME
6 November, 2018	Margaret Turner	Floral painting
4 December, 2018		Christmas Breakup

Gold Coast - 1pm, first Saturday of each month upstairs at RQAS, 25 Broadbeach Blvd, Broadbeach. Coordinator: Louise Corke, lou2345@bigpond.net.au

DATE	TUTOR	THEME
3 November, 2018	TBA	

Sunshine Coast - 6.30pm, third Wednesday of each month at Woombye School of Arts, 1-3 Hill Street, Woombye. Coordinator: Kay Weber, keyweber@bigpond.net.au

DATE	TUTOR	THEME
17 October, 2018	Christopher Blake	A French street scene
21 November, 2018		Christmas Breakup



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OPENING HOURS

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Email: colours@softpastels.com.au

BRISBANE

Coordinator: Lynette Ansari - workshopsozpastels@gmail.com

CODE	DATE	TUTOR	THEME	VENUE
B1018	20 & 21 October 2018	Karol Oakley	Colour and Tone - Planning for Success	Queen Alexandra Home, 347 Old Cleveland Road, Coorparoo

GOLD COAST

Coordinator: Louise Corke, lou2345@bigpond.net.au

CODE	DATE	TUTOR	THEME	VENUE
G1118	4 November 2018	Christine Clark	Painting Children in Pastel	TBA

SUNSHINE COAST

Coordinator: Pat Pennell, kppennell@bigpond.com

CODE	DATE	TUTOR	THEME	VENUE

DARWIN NT

Coordinator: Geoff May, gbmay01@gmail.com

CODE	DATE	TUTOR	THEME	VENUE
D1018-A	6 - 7 October 2018	Tricia Reust	Pastel over mixed media	DVAA, Frog Hollow Centre
D1018-B	13 - 14 October 2018	Tricia Reust	Pastel over texture on paper	DVAA, Frog Hollow Centre

**PLEIN AIR PAINT-OUT 2019****Tues April 23rd – Thurs 2nd May**

(Due to the demand of available accommodation we have made a pre booking of 6 Motel rooms and 4 snugs. (two of these are pet friendly) First in first served. Caravan sites are to be booked separately.

Bookings and deposits are to be made directly to Top Town Tourist Park for your choice of accommodation. Please contact **Top of the Town Tourist Park. 10 High St, Stanthorpe ph 07 4681 4888**

Take note to mention when booking that you are part of the P S A Art Group as discounts may apply.

Bring your own food and art materials.

Please contact Betty or Penelope for details and registration forms, and send the completed registration form to us A S A P. Any further queries about the Paintout: ph Penny 0403 882 079 or Betty 0417 672 771

Wet pastel on paper in landscape

Tricia Reust

2 day Workshop

6th - 7th October 2018

8.30am - 4.00pm

DARWIN

Outline – On the first day, participants will briefly cover landscape and colour theory; create a textured ground on one sheet of paper; and create the composition and under-painting for their second pastel work. (There is the choice to do either a complementary or a harmonious under-painting for this second pastel work). Both pastel landscapes will be completed on the second day.



About Tricia: Tricia Reust is a visual artist working in most media. She exhibits regularly, teaches, and judges competitions.

Tricia is a member of several art societies and is a Master Pastellist with the Pastel Society of Australia. Among many awards she won the National Mortimore Prize in 2012, and has had work accepted numerous times in the Bald Archy National Touring Exhibition. She has recorded an episode on TV's "Colour in Your Life", is published in International books and the Australian Artist magazine; her book "Landscape as Story" is available on Amazon and she has three instructional videos available through Pulsar Productions.

Details:

DVAA, Frog Hollow Centre for the Arts, 56 Woods Street. Darwin, NT

Time: 8:30 setup, 9:00 start to 4:00pm

Cost: 2 day workshop is \$180 for PSA members (\$220 non-members). Materials list available on website.

To book this workshop go to <https://ozpastels.com.au/events/category/workshops/workshops-darwin/>

For more information contact: Helena Gibbons, M: 0407252030. Email: helenag_em@bigpond.com

Using Pastel with Mixed Media on Canvas

Tricia Reust

2 day Workshop

13th - 14th October 2018

8.30am - 4.00pm

DARWIN

Outline – Choosing to work in a TRADITIONAL or CONTEMPORARY style, we will create a landscape OR draw a pastel motif over a collage and texture on canvas, using acrylic paint and pastel (and charcoal optional). We will briefly cover landscape theory, create the collage, apply texture, place an initial acrylic paint wash, and then complete the work with acrylic paint glazes and pastel (and charcoal is optional).



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For more information contact: Helena Gibbons, M: 0407252030. Email: helenag_em@bigpond.com

Colour and Tone - Planning for Success

Karol Oakley 2 Day Workshop

Queen Alexandra Home, Brisbane

Sat 20th & Sun 21st October 2018

What you will learn

This two-day workshop is an opportunity for Pastellists of any level to get involved in the successful planning of their painting. Karol uses a step by step guide to explain how to use colour and tone in a simple easy to follow way that can make your painting stand out from the crowd. This guide also includes many other foundation tools that are mostly overlooked in the hurry to make our painting. Does it sound like you? Come along plan play and explore the possibilities available for you to make an average painting better.

Day One: Using the Landscape subject, a step by step guide is given to each person to base their workshop painting on. Karol will explain and question all parts of this engaging tool and how it will work for you. This is a structured class with real teaching. References are supplied.

Day Two: Begins with some pastel exercises that will test your planning and observation skills (& on a Sunday morning!!) Selecting options from our new-found knowledge we put these into our own subject pastel painting, all under the guidance and individual attention of your tutor.

Bring your lunch, sense of humour, camera and water and a chocolate for the teacher. A materials list will be supplied on booking.



ONLY 3 SPACES LEFT

About your Tutor

Karol Oakley is a very experienced tutor, who generously shares what she knows and loves about pastels and painting. Her workshops are structured to help those new to pastels or wanting to further develop their skills and confidence.

Karol's workshops are informative and fun, with the often heard comment of "Oh I learnt so much". Tutoring is with step by step demonstration, explanations, and discussion with equal time individual help.

View her work at www.oakleyfineart.com

Karol Oakley is a Master Pastellist of the Pastel Society of Australia Inc. and the Pastellist of the Year 2014/15. There are pastel features and articles in Australian Artist magazine of Karol's paintings.

Details:

Queen Alexandra Home Community Centre, 347 Old Cleveland Road, Cooperoo, QUEENSLAND 4151 Australia

Time: 8:30 setup, 9:00 start to 4:00pm

Cost: 2 day workshop is \$160 for PSA members (\$200 non-members). Materials list available on booking.

More details contact Lynette Ansari: workshopsozpastels@gmail.com

Children in Pastel

Christine Clark - Master Pastellist 1 Day Workshop

Sunday 4th November, 2018

PSA Gold Coast - Broadbeach

Children are a delightful subject to paint, especially if they are toddlers or young.

I'd love to have you join me while I discuss the drawing and painting of children.

- Obtaining good reference photos.
- Learn how to get good expressive shapes
- Importance of light
- Gestural drawing with narrative movements
- Creating a feeling of innocence

I will demonstrate from my own photo how to capture the charm and spirit of children.

Christine Clark Master Pastellist of Australia -PSA Inc. (Artist & Tutor) -

+61 0422 033 860

Email: chrisclarkart@powerup.com.au

www.christineclarkart.com.au

www.facebook.com/christineclarkart/

www.youtube.com/watch?v=B48xPsYcxs



About your Tutor

Christine Clark is a professional artist and sought-after Tutor adept at helping students develop their own individual style and guides each student in reaching their potential, in a supportive and nurturing environment. Christine has won numerous awards and in 2007 was awarded Master Pastellist of Australia, status from The Pastel Society of Australia and in 2012 the prestigious Pastellist of the Year Award. Examples of her work have also appeared in the Australian Artist Magazine. In January 2015, Christine appeared on the TV show 'Colour in Your Life.'

Details:

Address TBA. Gold Coast

Time: 8:30 setup, 9:00 start to 4:00pm

Cost: 1 day workshop is \$70 for PSA members (\$90 non-members). Materials list available on booking.

Contact Louise Corke: 0419 644 665



Congratulations Yvette Hugill on your recent success at the Taree Open Art Exhibition held in July 2018.

'Through the Trees, Tinonee' - First Prize Drawing

'On Dusk, Wingham' - Second Prize Pastel Section



Congratulations Angela Parr for your PSA Annual Exhibition Arthouse Northside Peoples' Choice Winner "Arnhem Girl"



Margaret Ollenshaw was very pleased to receive first prize at the Mt Gravatt Show . Congratulations Margaret!



Gold Coast set subject competition winner was Cathy Ku. Congratulations Kathy!

Brisbane Demonstration Report October 2018

“Drawing Figures” with Christine Clark.

Photos supplied by Margaret Van Maanen

Christine Clark showed us loads of examples to illustrate a different way of drawing figures. Good reasons to incorporate figures in paintings include adding life and interest, showing scale, expressing emotion and telling a story. If the figures are to be convincing, we need to capture the mannerisms of the individual – such as the body language, gait, and dress. Chris suggests that humans identify tones rather than colour, so you should identify first the shapes or forms, rather than the outline or the colours. She believes that lines enclose the figure and trap the viewer’s eye in the shape.

Using a notan of your chosen subject takes the fear out of drawing figures. (A notan is a study of shapes and the Japanese word notanis means “light-dark balance.”)

What makes a very good, visually interesting image of the subject?

Examples

- A batsman, with his bat high in the air, demonstrates a good shape that is not symmetrical – curves down the boy’s back, and angles down the front.
- Two boaties were shrouded in dark, relieved by a low angle of light catching the edge of the 2 stooping figures, and the rim of the dinghy.
- In another image, of two men and a horse, the figures were silhouetted against the light outside. This makes simple areas, with the added interest of one figure seated while the other was standing, either side of the horse.
- A couple walking away on a bleak windswept site, showed the strength of dark male clothing and light for the female figure, against a grey day.
- Two people sitting on a bench showed the tones generated by strong sunlight falling on the figures.

Tools

Chris uses applicators to push the willow charcoal around and model the forms. This makes the forms

movable, easily reshaped, and the shadow areas can be emphasised. She uses a kneadable eraser to lift out charcoal to redefine the form, and to create highlights.

Chris tries out the composition and tonal patterns on cartridge paper first, and then repeats her chosen design on pastel paper. She uses some lines, but very selectively, and gently stated.

Finally, on pastel paper, Chris uses a soft brush to remove most of the charcoal and leave a ghost of the figure/s.

Demonstrations



1. People standing on a beach

Using cartridge paper and willow charcoal, Chris added about 8-10 people to the composition. She started with the figures on the lower right, and used these as a measuring tool to work out where the other figures should be added, to show distance and their comparative height. Linking shadows and overlapping body shapes help to simplify the design. Finally the water line connected them all to make a visually exciting statement, with the illusion of 3-dimensions. The figures were only very loosely blocked in but were convincing sketches of fisher folk.

Continued...

2. Beekeeper

Using natural Colourfix paper and willow charcoal, Chris captured the demeanour and gestures of the man at work, by blocking in the tonal masses, moving the charcoal around to give softness, and using the eraser to remove charcoal where the light was falling strongly.

In preparation for painting, Chris showed how she would dust off much of the pastel, in readiness for painting. To loosen up a strong form, she might also swipe across the charcoal. She emphasised that, at this stage, you have already done the thinking about the design and the tones, and can now focus on colour.



How can you practise the technique?

Chris thinks magazine photos are a good source for developing your skills as they show how people sit or stand. This will help you build your observation skills on a regular basis.

Thanks for an inspiring demonstration, Chris.



Brisbane Demonstration Report August 2018

An approach to landscapes with Chris Blake

Landscapes can be complicated subject matter, and it's often difficult to find a starting point. Chris Blake showed us a technique that finds the "backbone" of the composition. Chris calls the technique '3 lines and 3 tones'.

Lines

Chris used a variety of landscape images, each set in a plastic sleeve, so he could overlay his ideas, in felt pen, of where you might find the 3 lines that give this skeleton of the design.

The lines may not include the horizon as that may be absent or not of great importance to the image. Instead, look for lines of general movement (e.g. along a creek bank; over a hill), lines created by form, and strong structural elements (e.g. a bridge crossing a creek; roof lines in an aerial view of buildings), or lines that follow change (e.g. the edge of a block of trees). The lines will often cross, and divide up other large areas. Secondary lines can be added around this design.

Lines may follow perspective along the edge of a building, or the grid line of streets.

If you are including a large tree, use a line through the centre of mass.

What makes your artwork different from a photograph? Are there any lines that pull the viewer's eye into the painting? How does the eye journey around the painting?

Tones

If you train yourself to see dark, mid, and light tones, you begin to break a complex image into an achievable artwork. The tones you start with just need to be recognisably different – you don't need the darkest dark or the lightest light.

Demonstration

The image for the demonstration was a wooden road bridge over a deep gully.

Chris uses a whiteboard pen to draw up his initial design, and try out the shapes. He finds pastel goes over it well, but he is not aware of any long-term risks

to the painting. [Note that this is NOT a permanent marker pen.]

Line 1: The road over the bridge. Make sure that you check the angle, as it may not be horizontal.

Line 2: The edge of the creek bank.

Line 3: The change of light and shade in the strong shadow cast by the bridge.



TIP 1: Chris uses a viewer when he is working outdoors. He has used pen marks at halfway, so he can put corresponding marks on the edge of his paper as a reference.

TIP 2: Chris suggests putting a time limit on yourself (e.g. 2-2.5 hours) to get the bulk of the colours on a full sheet of Colourfix paper. He suggests leaving it then for a day at least before you come back to review and analyse what is good, and what needs changing.

Chris began painting by blocking in the broad colour pattern, and established the tones. Using methylated spirits and a broad flat brush (2-3 cm wide), he created an under-painting, starting with the lighter areas, and working towards darks. He washed the brush in water between colours.

Once this was dry, Chris refined the tonal areas, especially adding lighter tones to break up the larger blocks. However, he made sure that some of the under-painting showed through, and he kept the feeling of the foundation lines he chose first.

Continued...

Due to the Annual General Meeting occupying the first part of the Brisbane meeting, Chris had to work very quickly in limited time. Despite this, he arrived at a stunning, loose representation of the image, boosting the colours of the subject. He demonstrated (bottom left of painting) how he would make an overlay of light strokes to add detail and refine the tones, given more time.

I hope we're inspired to give Chris' technique a work-out when we next try that difficult landscape! Thanks for such a speedy and entertaining effort, Chris.





2019 PAINTAWAYS WITH LYN DIEFENBACH - GET THE WOW FACTOR

Tasmania - All Things Pastel

6-10 February \$2,395

All studio based

Book at artables.com.au

US Pacific Northwest - Pastel and Oils

Plum Nelli Farmstay / Retreat

Limited to 5 participants

June 22 - 30 \$US 1,950

Studio and en plein aire

Book at plumnelli.com

France - All Things Pastel

At Haut Baran in the beautiful Perigord

5-15 July \$US 3,900

Studio and en plein aire

Book at www.hautbaran.com

Norfolk Island - All Things Pastel

October 1 - 8 \$2,499

Studio and En Plein Aire

Book at norfolkislandtravelcentre.com

For more details:

www.ldief.com/events

lyndiefenbach@gmail.com

+61 (0)7 4939 4482

2019 Summer Art Experience In Canberra

7 – 11 January 2019



Chris Blake

Loose and Vibrant Pastels for Intermediate and Advanced

A Master Pastellist with the Pastel Society of Australia, Chris' technique is a visual smorgasbord of vibrant rich colours enhanced by his use of Unison Pastels.

Chris has a contemporary impressionist approach to landscape painting in which tone, colour and texture are emphasised. Chris' demonstrations are always fun and entertaining with heaps of hints and information combined with his unique techniques.



Chris says, "As an artist one can never underestimate the power of a good sketch in the making of a work of art. A good sketch is the capture of inspiration, it's the essence of future work, and a window into the heart and mind of the artist, his art and the very way he /she thinks."

In this workshop Chris will teach you how to record the vision of what you want to paint into a workable sketch that in itself can be viewed as a work of art. We will use photos that Chris has taken and stages from thumbnail to pastel sketch, discover a method of keeping our work simple, loose. and vibrant. This will come about over the 5 days, by first learning the way to see, draw, and record the subject, finally making our sketch into a vibrant colour format on 1/4 or 1/2 sheet pastel paper.

We will not be striving to do a master piece or to show how good we are. Rather, we are learning to understand what we are looking at. This class will give a new and appealing approach to the intermediate and advanced student.



www.chrisblakeart.com

2019 Summer Art
Experience
7-11 January
Canberra ACT



Book your place online at www.asoc.net.au - Registrations Close 7 November

Mc GREGOR SUMMER RETREAT TOOWOOMBA

13 – 19th January, 2019



FANTASTIC FIGURES – PASTEL

Christine Clark M.P.A

Join Master Pastellist, Christine Clark on a creative journey, with Fabulous Figures. This is an opportunity to capture figures in your work with confidence and assurance. Concentrating on adult figures, learn to create the beauty and elegance of the female form, also the

strength, movement and vitality of the male, as well as the subtle innocence and spirit of a child, from photos and life.

Learn all about simplifying the figure with shape, and creative mark making . How gesture and demeanour play an important part in drawing the figure. Learning the importance of light and tonal drawings and much more.

Enquiries: 07 4631 111 or mcgregor@usq.edu.au

Colours of the Centre Art Tour

Uluru – Kings Canyon – Alice Springs



Hosted by Master Pastellist Tricia Taylor
9 nights/10 days Departs 13th May 2019

PACKAGE INCLUDES

- Airport Transfers
- 9 nights Twin Share Accommodation
- Private transportation
- Touring and National Park Fees listed on itinerary
- Meals as listed
- Optional Extras available at cost
- En Plein air painting, sketching and photography opportunities sunrise and sunset.

PRICES FROM

- \$3389 per person Twin Share for Artists
- \$3189 per person Twin Share non artists



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DeliciousART

Weekend Course for Adult Beginners

February 2nd & 3rd 2019 in Brisbane

If you've wanted to try pastels as an art medium, this is the perfect opportunity. Learn how to paint clouds and sky, grass, trees and landscapes. This course is a great basic starter for the adult beginner.

Cost: \$180pp

Pastel & Paper Starter Kits are available to purchase for \$95 or a materials list will be provided upon booking.

Book online at <http://deliciousart.com.au/shop/>

Enquiries: Jeanne Cotter 0413 374 634

ART COMPETITIONS

Country Members Online Competition - Topic: "Embrace"

Closing date 31st March 2019

Judge: Helen Grant from *Australian Artist Magazine*

Prize money:

Master Pastellist 1st \$300 2nd \$200

General Member 1st \$300 2nd \$200 3rd \$100

October Set subject competition is "Remembrance"

In honour of the end of World War 1, one hundred years ago.

Now that the dust has settled from the hugely successful Pastel Expo we can get cracking on producing some wonderful and inspired works. Entry is open to all and remember they don't have to be framed.

We've been busy!

The Expo has taken up so much time and energy that we haven't managed to list all competitions, please stay tuned to your emails and our facebook page, Ozpastels, for news and updates of other up-coming competitions - thanks for being patient.

For more info contact:
Hettie Rowley
0406180121
competitions.psa@gmail.com



A Letter from your Editor

As the editor and designer of this and the previous two editions of the Pastellist, I want to take this opportunity to introduce myself to those I haven't yet met and to say what a delight it is to be part of such a supportive and growing art community.

Attending the Pastel Expo last month was a highlight for me and being able to put faces to names and be part of the volunteering team as well as enjoying two days of workshops was a wonderful experience. The Expo was a monumental event and I can't begin to imagine how much work and how many hours were contributed by our committed team to make it happen, and on behalf of everyone who attended, I would like

to say that we are very grateful to you and well done on organising and managing an exceptional event.

From a personal perspective, it was lovely to be included and accepted as part of the Society. Winning third place in the Alexandra Awards was truly a very emotional moment for me and has instilled an ever lasting desire to improve and learn as much as I can about the art of pastel - and how can I not when surrounded with so many esteemed and accomplished artists?

And so, I hope you've enjoyed the October 2018 bumper issue of the Pastellist Newsletter, full of pictures and stories about the Expo as well as up-coming workshops and events. Thank you to everyone who contributed, you are wonderful!

Blissings

Jeanne Cotter

<http://deliciousart.com.au>

Thanks to our Sponsors

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The newsletter will be released bi-monthly. The next newsletter is due out in DECEMBER 2018.

CLOSING DATE: Closing Date for December 2018 Newsletter is the 20th of November 2018.

Articles submitted AFTER this date WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

SEND TO: All submissions are to be sent to JEANNE COTTER at jeannecotterbrisbane@gmail.com

FORMAT: The preferred format for written articles is Microsoft Word sent as an attachment to your email. Articles sent from an iPad or in the body of an email are not acceptable. Please send photos as jpg attachments to your email, not embedded in an email, and title each photo with your name and a number (eg: janesmith001.jpg) rather than send as a file number (eg: 2200957694.jpg). Please make ALL reports in text font ARIAL Size 11. Many thanks for your assistance.

YOUR NEWS: Please let us know of your pastel achievements. We want to celebrate with you!! The newsletter is a great way to let people know and to build your profile.

YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE: We'd love to hear about Workshops and Demonstrations that you've attended. Be willing to write up meeting demonstration and workshop reports and send to the Newsletter team ASAP - within a week of the event - (PLEASE not at the last minute). Many thanks.

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