

MAYDAY HILLS ART SOCIETY

The Mayday Hills Art Society is a non-profit organisation for the benefit of artists in the region. Its objectives are to foster all branches of the visual arts and to provide innovative activities, networking and other opportunities for artists to advance their talents and for all those interested in art.

NEWSLETTER

No 7. February 2020

Kurrajong Way, Mayday Hills Village. Beechworth 3747

Hello all. We have ahead of us another year with the promise of lots of creative and inspiring activities. As always, we feel blessed to continue to rent our wonderful space at Mayday Hills where there are some exciting developments (further details in this newsletter). For 2020, our third year, the Art Society will continue to provide art shows, workshop programs and opportunities for comradery among artists in this community. All the best to you for 2020!

ART

NOVEMBER MEMBERS' EXHIBITION 2019

Thank you to our wonderful artists as we were able to hold an exhibition of their work during October and November in our gallery. It is a colourful and very interesting display of a diverse range of styles. It was open to the public, and particularly to anyone visiting the Mayday Hills site, from Friday to Monday each week. Our regular tours also enjoyed the exhibition and purchased several of our paintings and a selection of merchandise.



THE MDHAS WEBSITE

Thanks to the efforts and talents of Janey Dunn we are soon to have a beautiful, very sophisticated looking website! As you can imagine, there will be lots of information on the site about the Society, its members, our classes and groups and various facilities at MDHAS. This takes time to gather and to perfect. All of our artists are asked to contribute to the site, if you wish. This will take the form of approximately 200 words of biographical text and 6 or so images of your work...and a picture of you (optional). Please contact Christine for more information or you're your submission to bibart@bigpond.com.

BOTANICAL ARTISTS' WEEKEND WORKSHOP

We were delighted in September to have internationally renowned botanical artist Jenny Phillips visit with us to coach many of our local botanical artists in her unique and beautiful painting style. It was a thoroughly enjoyable and satisfying weekend. Jenny is more than happy to return to Beechworth and to MDHAS. We will happily take up her offer some time in the near future.



TERM 1 ART WORKSHOPS 2020

Drawing with H. Fish

Saturday 7 March
9.30am to 4.00pm
\$70 members. \$80 non-members.

Bookings essential.

Christine 0412 126 219

bibart@bigpond.com

List of materials provided on enrolment.



Escape from the circus by H. Fish

Get ready for a fabulously fun day of drawing!

Contemporary International Australian Artist 'H.Fish' was born in California 1948. He began his profession at Berkeley University in the Summer of Love (1967), which included poster art for Jimi Hendrix and work with Robert Crumb and Rick Griffin on the hugely popular comic magazine *Zap Comix*. H.Fish is well established in the style of surrealism, popular surrealism and original contemporary art. In the 1980s Fish worked on notable motion picture props including the flying wing for *Raiders of the Lost Ark* and the Batman Roadster for *Batman II*. The amazing scope and depth of his work spans 49 years and is held in noted collections throughout the world.
www.hfish.com.au



Still life with pastels with Wendy Stephens

Saturday 28 March

9.30am to 4.00pm

\$50 members. \$60 non-members

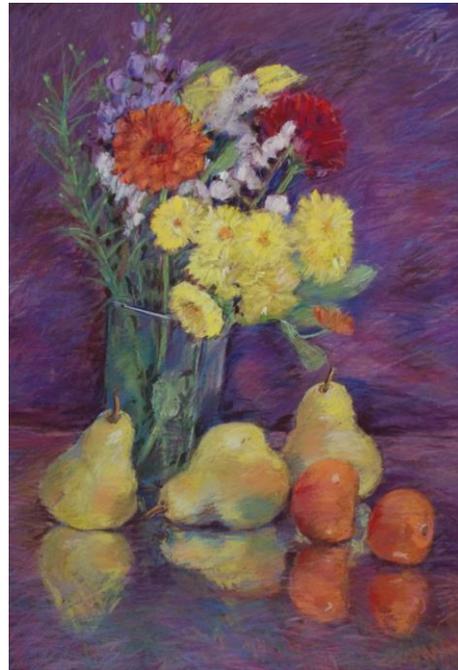
Bookings essential.

Christine 0412 126 219

bibart@bigpond.com

List of materials provided on enrolment.

Wendy is a very experienced and prolific artist Working in pastels and watercolours. Join Wendy for a day of using pastel to create a lovely still life painting. Learn to set up a still life of fruit or vegetables and to create a piece of art with an emphasis on composition, harmonising tone, colour, light, shadows, reflections and shade.



Flowers and fruit by Wendy Stephens

Contact Wendy for more information and a materials list.
email wendysue99@gmail.com or phone 0402 288 207



Day lily. Watercolour on paper by C. Cansfield-Smith.

Introduction to botanical art with Christine Cansfield-Smith

Saturday and Sunday June 27 and 28

9.30am to 4.00pm

\$160 members. \$180 non-members.

Bookings essential. Christine 0412 126 219

bibart@bigpond.com

Materials provided. Information on enrolment.

During this two day intensive workshop for beginners students will be guided step-by-step through the basics needed to understand and enjoy the fascinating world of botanical art. Students will learn how to observe light and to be aware of tone in drawings, to sketch and compose and to understand the methods for mixing watercolours. The aim will be to draw a live plant specimen in order to apply the techniques necessary to render a fine painting. Students will leave with a finished painting and have the tools and techniques to continue with botanical art as a hobby.

DISCOUNTS TO MDHAS MEMBERS FOR WORKSHOPS WITH KATHY ELLEM



Award winning artist Kathy Ellem approached MDHAS with an offer to all members of a 10% discount for her workshops. Kathy's goal is to share her techniques with students in order for them to develop their own style. Workshops in oils, acrylic and charcoal. E kathyellem1@gmail.com or see <https://www.kathyellem.com/workshops2020>

HAPPY HOURS AND ART TALKS

Our very popular combined Happy Hours and Art Talks continue in 2020. They are held on the first Friday of each month. Many of our members, their friends and guests, enjoy this social event where we can network and hear from artists and other creative professionals from around the region. All you need is a gold coin donation or a welcome contribution towards nibbles or wine.

Please make a note of the following events in your diaries:

Friday 6 March 5.30pm. Art talk with H. Fish



Fish is an award winning artist who founded the H. Fish Studios in 1970 and has continued to carve out a remarkable career as a passionate and prolific artist. His colourful social and political commentaries, through visual image, are recognised for their individuality and originality. His body of work covers two- and three-dimensional images and includes bronze sculptures, paintings, drawings and murals. This promises to be a highly entertaining talk and a great way to start the year.

Friday 3 April 5.30pm. Art talk with Judy Pierce

A reflection on studio ceramics since 1975. Craft, art or sculpture? Judy says that she has been around long enough to reflect on the vexed question as to where studio ceramics fits into the art world. According to Judy, she has been on an interesting journey that allowed them to drop out of the 'fast lane' in 1980 to move into a more relaxed lifestyle in Beechworth. While their main work revolved around functional ceramics they also dabbled in the non-functional art and ceramics. They have exhibited widely in Australia, India and France.



Friday 1 May 5.30pm. Art talk with Steve Curtain



With a thorough grounding in environmental science, Steve's work career began as Assistant Editor at *Wild* conservation and adventure magazine. This was followed by a stint as a camera assistant with the BBC Natural History Unit. Steve's focus is trying to restore the balance between people and natural ecosystems. He films, edits and produces nature-based films in Antarctica and the Southern Ocean, Japan's Hokkaido, Russia's Kamchatka, the Australian Alps, Blue Mountains and the Tasmanian wilderness. vimeo.com/stephencurtain

HAPPY HOURS AND ART TALKS

Friday 5 June 5.30pm. Art talk with Susan Reid

Art, design and craft.

For 30 years or so Susan has worked across the visual and performing arts as a designer and maker, and in community cultural development. She has been involved in every aspect of the commissioning and delivery of public art projects for local government organisations – including engaging artists, securing funding and donning the high vis and steel cap boots for major installations. She is currently the owner and curator of Arcadia, a gallery shop in Beechworth.



EXHIBITIONS

Arts of gold



We are pleased to invite you to submit your work into the **ARTS OF GOLD** exhibition, being presented by the Mayday Hills Art Society during Easter 2020. This art exhibition will be one of the major events to be held during the popular Golden Horseshoes Festival and will be on display at the Memorial Hall, Ford Street from 9 to 14 April 2020.

Following is the exhibition timetable of key dates:

Entry forms due with image of artwork/s
Final deadline for delivery of artwork/s to Art Society
Opening night
Last day of exhibition
Bump out, collection and return of works

Friday 6 March 2020
Thursday 2 April
Wednesday 8 April
Tuesday 14 April
Wednesday 15 April

The theme of this year's exhibition is in celebration of Victoria's gold rush era. There is no requirement for entries to interpret the gold rush theme as works can be of any topic, medium or style. Paintings, drawings, photographs, sculpture, textiles and framed and unframed works will all be considered for exhibition. However, the organisers do ask that **each entry include gold somewhere within or as part of their work – this might be incorporated into the artwork or be a feature of the framing. It can be prominent or as small as just a gold signature on a painting. The manner in which gold is included, in any medium, is entirely at the artist's discretion.** Entry forms from Christine bibart@bigpond.com.

EXHIBITION

Nature & Us

Reconnecting with our plants and animals



Several members of MDHAS will be holding an exhibition at the GIGS Art Gallery, Wodonga.

When: 18 February to 15 March

Time: Opening night Friday 21 February 6.30 to 8.30pm

Opening: 10.00am to 4.00pm Tuesday to Sunday

Where: GIGS Art Gallery and Studios, Gateway Village, Lincoln Causeway, Wodonga

Exhibition, talks and art demonstrations by local artists Marta Lett, Marie van Lint, Cristina Zei, Tracie MacVean, Pat Welch, Judy Balfour. Also presentations by local groups on how we can protect our native plants and animals.

FILMS @ THE PLAYHOUSE

Last year MDHAS proudly opened its Upstairs Playhouse with the play BOMBSHELLS. This year we are delighted to be opening our film cinema upstairs. The theatre will have a dual purpose of both theatre and movie house; the latter has been made possible through the generous sponsorship of members Leigh and Val Privett. Recently, a small group tested the cinema for sound and picture quality and we were delighted with the results.

We are very pleased to have Rosemary Ryan and Mike Bydder manage the cinema – Mike taking care of the technical details and Rosemary the administration. Your MDHAS membership covers you for attending film nights and you can bring a guest. Regular film nights are now planned for the **3rd Friday of each month – our first will be on March 20. Time 6.00pm for a 6.30pm screening.** We will soon email you with details of the next film. At that time you will need to let us know if you are coming. We also ask that you bring a plate to share. We want to find out what you would like to see so you are welcome to send an email to rosemary.ryan5@bigpond.com with your film choices.



NEW FACILITIES

The Art Society now has a PRINTMAKING STUDIO and a FRAMING STUDIO for the use of all members. These are located on the top floor near the Archive research room. The printmaking equipment is kindly on long-term loan from Anita Lord. Tania Sutton, one of our resident artists, has offered to teach us all how to make the best use of the printer. She will hold a printmaking workshop in July. Details below:

PRINTMAKING WORKSHOP with Tania Sutton

When: Saturday 4 July
Where: Upstairs at MDHAS
Time: 9.30am to 4.00pm
Cost: \$30. Some materials provided

Please contact Christine (bibart@bigpond.com) or Wendy (wendysue99@bigpond.com) to reserve a place in the workshop.

FRAMING STUDIO

A totally self-contained framing studio has been set up for members. This was purchased from Leanne Murphy and, as such, Leanne is offering to tutor anyone interested in learning how to frame artwork. The MDHAS management thought the facility would be a great asset as it could save artists a good deal of financial outlay when framing their work. Details about Leanne's private basic picture framing lessons are below:



BASIC PICTURE FRAMING with Leanne Murphy @ Mellish Street Studio
2 hour introductory session. \$140 including a small kit to take home

Individual lessons only

Learn how to:

- Measure art and framing materials
- Order moulding chops ready to put together
- Join and finish a frame
- Cut a single mat
- Mount artwork
- Fit the whole frame together
- Add wire ready to hang

Subsequent sessions also available at \$50 per hour

Contact Leanne to book a session – leannemurphy@bigpond.com

0448 566 777

SOCIAL EVENT

Arty Party & 2nd birthday celebration

In November we celebrated the Art Society's second birthday in the beautiful gardens on a perfect spring day. The brief was to dress in a costume inspired by an artist, a character from a play, a movie or a painting. Artists, thespians and friends created a colourful event with several characters of old coming back to life! A 'picture frame' for photographic portraits was an outstanding success with all wanting to have their images permanently recorded.

Sensational entertainment was provided by the Bollywood dancers (Rose Gardner, Christine Cansfield-Smith and Wendy McKay-Taylor). They were led by expert choreographer and Art Society artist Shital Ravel. A photo of the event even appeared on the front page of the Ovens & Murray.



THE ENGINEER AND THE ARTIST

It is great to see that Sandy Bogusis and Troy Smith have teamed up to create a new business designing and producing motor cycle trailers using Troy's skills as an engineer and Sandy's artistic skills. They met at MDHAS two years ago. We wish them well with any venture!



MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS FOR 2020

Thank you for joining or renewing your membership in 2020. If you do not wish to continue as a member of the Art Society and do not want to receive this newsletter please let us know. Either bibart@bigpond.com or wendysue99@bigpond.com. The latest tally is now have 109 members.