



## NEWSLETTER

**No 13. Term 1. January to June 2023**

Kurrajong Way, Mayday Hills Village. Beechworth 3747  
[www.maydayhillsartsociety.com](http://www.maydayhillsartsociety.com)

Greetings to all! This is the first newsletter for 2023 and it comes with our wishes for you to have a happy year ahead. We are not far from April which means we will have had our formal leasing arrangement for our wonderful building at Mayday Hills for one year. Prior to this we had a month by month rental for our first 5 years. Although the leasing arrangement means extra expenditure from the Art Society's account the autonomy and responsibility for the building is working well and with careful management we are covering our costs along the way. The building is now fully occupied with our valued art tenants. We are often fielding inquiries from artists wanting studios and always do our best to somehow satisfy their requirements. At the end of last year Peter completed building a new studio that has somehow been created in an alcove on the top floor, thereby allowing more practical and efficient storage for costumes belonging to the Beechworth Theatre Company. It is also great to see lots of productivity in the building with more of the resident artists coming in daily to their studios.

This newsletter is filled with lots of activities for our members this first half of the year. These include our regular Art talks and Café Scientifique talks that have now moved, by public demand, back to Friday evenings. We have Movies @ MDHAS again and they will still screen on Sunday afternoons. Thank you to all who have renewed their membership or joined us recently as new members. We hope the Art Society will be an organisation to which you will want to belong as we flourish and grow for many years to come.

Cheers Christine



## PAST EXHIBITIONS



***Blue Velvet* by Linda Buller**

The Art Society has been delighted to showcase an exhibition of paintings by **Linda Buller**. The exhibition opened on Friday 4 November. The opening occasion was enhanced by music from fabulous pianist Laurie Bould. Linda is the founder of BARC (Bali Dog Adoption and Rehabilitation Centre). An enthusiastic crowd enjoyed an interesting and heartfelt talk about Linda's life, her paintings and how her life experiences have inspired both her paintings and the reasons for establishing BARC. While some of the paintings have been dismantled in the exhibition to make way for other events in MDHAS, the remaining are on display in the downstairs gallery for a short time still and are well worth a visit.





One of the highlights of November was the **FUNDRAISING OPEN WEEKEND** in aid of the Bali Dog Adoption and Rehabilitation Centre. We had tours of MDHAS, music by popular, Chiltern-based performing artist Lennon and food, drinks and lots of fun.

We offered the chance for Beechworth's dogs to help their Balinese cousins! Pet owners were invited to the Art Society for a special photo portrait. Talented local photographer Claire Mitchell spent the weekend taking amazing photos of pets with digital images sent to delighted owners. Left we have a photo, courtesy of proud owner Nicki and her dog Squirt.

## *Phernalia Photography*

Many of you will have seen the fabulous pet portraits that our local photographer Claire Mitchell created as part of the BARC fundraising event. We are now happy to announce that Claire's **Phernalia Photography** will be based at the Art Society. Pets, people and general paraphernalia photography can be booked through MDHAS – all bookings [bibart@bigpond.com](mailto:bibart@bigpond.com). Sessions can be up to an **hour in length** for the very reasonable **cost of just \$90**. At the conclusion you will be given your own photo card of 20 shots. You can then have these developed as you wish (prints/cards/canvasses etc.) at your own expense. You will own the copyright.

*Claire has her camera, lighting and set ready for action for this next exciting Art Society venture!*

## **EVENTS @ MDHAS**

### **ART TALKS AND CAFÉ SCIENTIFIQUE**

Once again, we have a brilliant line up of speakers this year for our ART TALKS and CAFÉ SCIENTIFIQUE. Note the change back to the time slot of **5.00pm Friday evenings** on the first Friday of the month (except where noted for reasons of public holidays or speaker availability). Be sure to note the dates on your calendars.

**Friday 10 February 5.00pm**

**Dianne Mangan**



Dianne Mangan is a respected Australian ceramic artist living in Beechworth, creating one-off contemporary sculptural works, pot forms and functional ceramic items. Dianne has exhibited her ceramic works extensively throughout her early career and more recently in solo (2019) and group exhibitions. Her work is included in the permanent collections of Parliament House, Canberra; the Powerhouse Museum MAAS, Sydney; Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery, Launceston; and other public and private collections in Australia and overseas. Dianne maintains her ceramics practice with a creative passion that explores new and previously created forms and expressions in clay. She is of the belief that, with a regular work practice, intuition and expression, ideas will keep flowing. [www.diannemangan.com.au](http://www.diannemangan.com.au).

Left: *Elemental IV*, 2020

ENJOY A GLASS OF WINE AND NIBBLES. FOR CATERING PURPOSES IT IS ESSENTIAL TO RSVP TO ALL OUR TALKS. [bibart@bigpond.com](mailto:bibart@bigpond.com) 0412 126 219

Friday 3 March 5.00pm

Neil Funston



Neil lives in Beechworth and is a retired project manager/food process engineer currently working on a project in Rutherglen. He is a Mechanical Engineer who has had an extensive and interesting career in food processing, food product design and management for some outstanding projects. His creative and community minded spirit has also given him a passion for helping others. He is a director of BeyondHousing that helps homeless people with social housing and is an ambassador for White Ribbon, working to change social values to alleviate violence to women. Neil and his wife also work for Share The Dignity to ensure menstrual equity in Australia. We look forward to hearing from Neil about all of the projects in which he is involved and highlights of his career.

Friday April 14 5.00pm

Dr Jenni Munday



Jenni is an Associate Professor teaching in the disciplines of Creative Arts and Technology. We are delighted to also have Jenni's active support as the Chair of the MDHAS Board of Management. Her academic work is focussed on 'Developing and implementing innovative curriculum, learning and teaching models'. She has built a reputation within and beyond Charles Sturt University as progressive in online, flexible and distance education.

Jenni is going to share with us experiences on her recent visit to Iceland and to introduce and show the film *Rekaviður*, directed by Ines Meier and Inka Dewitz. **Synopsis:** The aim of this project is to raise awareness for climate change in the Arctic region via the journey of driftwood, for the importance of afforestation for climate mitigation as well as for driftwood's vital role in Iceland's history and culture. The documentary film tells the story of the driftwood's journey, offers insights into its Arctic climate records, its key role in Icelandic history and culture, and much more.

## **EVENTS @ MDHAS** *(continued)*

### **ART TALKS AND CAFÉ SCIENTIFIQUE**

**Friday 5 May 5.00pm**

**Soki Yi Bulmer and Stephan Bulmer**

Soki Yi and Stephan Bulmer and their children Orlando and Rosie moved to this region after living in Darwin for nearly 17 years. Stephan makes classical guitars and Soki Yi teaches classical guitar and Chinese (Mandarin). Stephan and Soki Yi perform as a guitar duo and Stephan as a soloist with a wide ranging repertoire. They will talk about their experiences and career...and we may also be privileged to have them perform for us!



**Friday 2 June 5.00pm**

**Therese Shanley**

Therese's beautiful art works are recognisable in many exhibition display settings around the region. Therese's works are predominately about people, places and objects that surround her and that are important to her for inspiration. She often draws on objects from her memory and on things that give her a feeling of nostalgia. Therese enjoys the beauty and the simplicity in many day-to-day doings, and enjoys using patterns and nature in her works to convey these feelings. [www.thereseshanley.com](http://www.thereseshanley.com).  
Paintings below – left: **All wound up**; right: **The camellia bush**.



## MOVIES @ MDHAS

The Mayday Hills Art Society is a member of the Federation of Victorian Film Societies, Inc. As such, film events organised by MDHAS are open to members only; although members can bring guests\*. There is no charge, although a gold coin donation is appreciated. Tea, coffee, drinks and snacks are available for purchase. RSVPs essential for each screening. Upstairs Playhouse theatre, MDHAS.

**Sunday 19 February 3.00pm**

### **MADAME**

*Madame* is a 2017 French comedy-drama film directed by Amanda Sthers. The film is a satire of the class divide in today's Paris. Following is a short synopsis of plot: Anne and Bob, an American couple living in Paris, organise a dinner party and invite twelve friends. Bob's son arrives by surprise and the total number of guests is now 13. The superstitious Anne asks her maid, Maria, to pretend to be a rich Spanish friend and join the table. The result is a confusing, but funny, series of mishaps. Starring Harvey Keitel, Australia's own Toni Collette, Rossy de Palma and Michael Smiley.



**Sunday 2 April 3.00pm**

### **AT ETERNITY'S GATE**

*This is a wonderful, brilliantly acted and memorable film.*

*At Eternity's Gate* is a 2018 biographical drama film about the final years of painter Vincent van Gogh's life. The film dramatises the controversial theory put forward by van Gogh biographers Steven Naifeh and Gregory White Smith, in which they speculate that van Gogh's death was caused by mischief rather than suicide. After seeing this film the viewer gets a deeper understanding of one of the greatest artists of all time. The film finds Willem Dafoe providing an acting tour de force as the deteriorating, emotionally, and supposedly, mentally unstable artist.

*At Eternity's Gate* takes its name from a canvas of an old man, made in the final months of van Gogh's life. The man thrums with a foreboding of the his mortality. In that picture, the subject sits with his balding head bowed and his face buried in his fists. A self portrait?



Sunday 21 May 3.00pm  
**CAN YOU EVER FORGIVE ME?**



*Can You Ever Forgive Me?* is a 2018 American biographical film based on the 2008 confessional memoir of the same name by Lee Israel. Melissa McCarthy stars as Israel, and the story follows her attempts to revitalise her failing writing career by forging letters from deceased authors and playwrights. The film also features Richard E. Grant, Dolly Wells, Jane Curtin, Anna Deavere Smith, Stephen Spinella, and Ben Falcone in supporting roles. Israel took the title from an apologetic line in a letter in which she posed as Dorothy Parker.

The film had its world premiere at the Telluride Film Festival on September 1, 2018.

For their performances, McCarthy and Grant earned nominations for Best Actress and Best Supporting Actor, respectively, at the 91st Academy Awards, the 76th Golden Globe Awards, and the 72nd British Academy Film Awards, among other ceremonies. Holofcener and Whitty were nominated for the Academy Award for Best Adapted Screenplay and won the Writers Guild of America Award for Best Adapted Screenplay.



Presented by Adventure Entertainment and brought to you by  
ArtScape Cottage Beechworth ([www.artscapecottagebeechworth.com.au](http://www.artscapecottagebeechworth.com.au))  
and Pernalia Photography, Beechworth.



The Art Society has been invited once again by Adventure Entertainment to be the host for REEL ROCK 17. This world leading adventure film captures the greatest stories from a year in climbing. It delivers a joyful dose of inspiration, heart, and humour featuring short films from around the world. Running time: 110 minutes.

**3.00pm**

**SATURDAY 29 APRIL**

Upstairs Playhouse theatre

Mayday Hills Art Society

**Bookings essential.** [bibart@bigpond.com](mailto:bibart@bigpond.com)

Tickets \$20 adults, \$10 children

## ART WORKSHOPS

### Introduction to Botanical art

with Christine Cansfield-Smith



*Magnolia x soulangeana* by C Cansfield-Smith

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.

**Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 February**

9.30am - 4.00pm

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

**Bookings essential. Christine 0412 126 219 [bibart@bigpond.com](mailto:bibart@bigpond.com)**

**Materials provided. Information on enrolment. Morning tea and refreshments provided.**



### UNIQUE EXHIBITION OPPORTUNITY FOR LOCAL ARTISTS!

The beautiful ArtScape Cottage on Malakoff Road is a peaceful and unique retreat for visitors to Beechworth. The cottage has a selection of musical instruments for guests as well as the works of local artists that are on display and available for purchase. All local/regional artists are invited to exhibit their work in the cottage. **No commission charged on sales. Contact Claire 0455 290 011.**



## ART WORKSHOPS

### Introduction to Mandala painting with Marie Salinger

**Relax, Connect, Create.**  
**Learn about Mandalas and create your own exquisite art piece for yourself or as a gift. You will receive individual instruction in a relaxed, safe and supportive space.**

The Mandala (Sanskrit for circle) process is absorbing. It is like a meditation and results in a beautiful artwork that tells your personal story. Every Mandala is unique.



**Saturday 20 May**

**9.30am – 4.00pm**

**\$140 non-members, \$120 members.**

**For further information call Marie on 0408 055 477. Bookings essential. Christine (MDHAS) 0412 126 219 [bibart@bigpond.com](mailto:bibart@bigpond.com).** All equipment and materials provided. Please bring lunch and an apron to protect your clothing. Morning tea and refreshments provided.

Come along and connect with a group of like-minded people in a relaxed space, as you lean into your creative self and paint your Mandala masterpiece. **Please note that places in this workshop are limited so that each person gets the required attention to finish their piece.** Marie looks forward to guiding you through the incredibly rewarding Mandala creation process.

#### ***What to expect?***

You will paint your unique Mandala on a 51cm x 51cm square using high quality acrylic paints. No prior painting experience is required. Marie will guide you step-by-step through the Mandala creation process.

#### ***A little about Marie***

Marie is very happy to have established her art studio at the Mayday Hills Arts Society in Beechworth. She works in a wide range of visual media including painting, photography, drawing, mixed media, printmaking, and sculpture. Marie studied Art at Melbourne State College, graduating in 1982 and has been an art educator since then in a wide range of school settings.

Concurrent with teaching Marie has maintained her own art practice and has exhibited her work in group exhibitions in Darwin, Melbourne and Beechworth. Marie's art is heavily influenced by her love of nature and she is very grateful to live in such a beautiful place as North East Victoria. Her art practice is always evolving and she now works very intuitively; responding to the ebb and flow of the world around her. She moves between figurative and abstract works and often incorporates the circle (Mandala) into her compositions. Marie is so grateful to have the gift of art in her life and to share her passion with others through her artworks and classes. Check out Marie's fabulous studio and some of her work here: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/avilasal/>.



## MDHAS AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH



**Aussies Knitting for  
War-Affected Kids**  
and crocheters, sewers, quilters and more



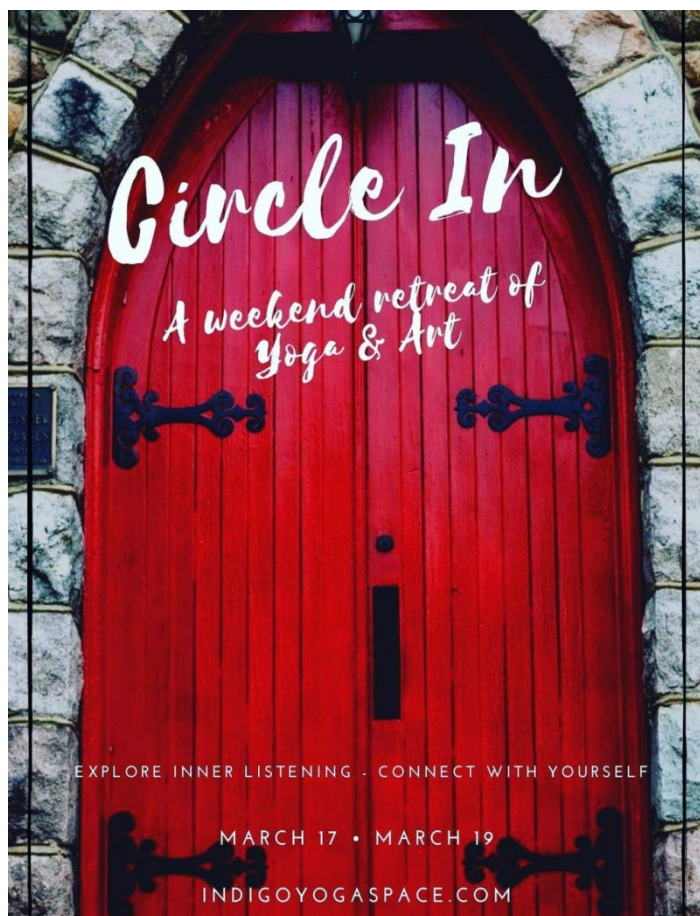
AKWAK (Aussies Knitting for War-Affected Kids) was formed in Australia. It is committed to helping children affected by conflict, war and displacement. The local Beechworth team is very active. The aim is to provide children in refugee camps with handmade clothes, toys, blankets and enrichment items. No contribution is too big or too small. They accept newly made hats, socks, neck-warmers, garments, mitts and blankets from wool or predominantly (75-80%) wool/natural fibre mixes. **The Art Society is overseeing an ongoing project to collect NEW gumboots in sizes to fit babies through to children of around 14 years of age to be sent to refugee camps in Syria.**

**LAST YEAR'S SHIPMENT ARRIVED IN SYRIA FOR THE NORTHERN WINTER! SEE MANY OF THE GUMBOOTS PROVIDED BY MAYDAY HILLS ART SOCIETY MEMBERS SHOWN IN THE IMAGES BELOW. THE ART SOCIETY WILL CONTINUE IN 2023 WITH COLLECTING GUMBOOTS...SO PLEASE DONATE WHEN YOU CAN!**



## OUT AND ABOUT

### A WEEKEND RETREAT OF YOGA AND ART



Emma Hamill and Marie Salinger are excited to offer this weekend retreat combining Art and Yoga.....join them for a weekend of mindfulness and deep connection as they work with guided meditations, yoga and an art-based journey inwards by creating your own mandalas over the course of the weekend.

**PRE-REQUISITE:** A willingness to be present and part of a group dedicated to a weekend of Inner Listening and Quiet Contemplation. **NO ART OR YOGA EXPERIENCE NEEDED!**

**Where:** Blue Gum Church, Stanley

**When:** Friday 17 March from 5.00pm until Sunday 19 March

**All details:**  
<https://indigoyogospace.com/yoga-and-art-retreats/>

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# MARTA LETT



calligrapher · designer · tutor



Marta offers classes in **Celtic Art** online from February 6 with Macquarie Community College.

She also gives classes in **Calligraphy** from March, both online and in-person.

**EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST** are invited for a **local calligraphy group** in the Kiewa Valley. Contact Marta. Details below:

0423 947 472 marta.lett@gmail.com

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## COMING SOON



*Deceptive Markings by Sue de Vanny*

**Mayday Hills Art Society  
presents the  
Beechworth Creative  
Textile Art Festival**

**Major exhibition  
Workshops**

(international and local tutors)

**September 15 to 24 2023**

Memorial Hall, Town Hall  
Mayday Hills Art Society

**AN EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IS INVITED  
FROM ALL REGIONAL TEXTILE ARTISTS TO BE  
INVOLVED IN CREATING PIECES FOR THE  
EXHIBITION.** Contact Donna 0419 154 116  
banksia1966@gmail.com or  
Christine bibart@bigpond.com

**FURTHER INFORMATION TO COME SOON!**

## ART SUPPLIES



### **ART /PARTS**

#### **Fine Art Supplies**

**We now have a fabulous art supply  
shop and gallery in the region!**

ART/PARTS Fine Art Supplies is a family  
owned store that stocks a specially  
selected range of top quality and great  
value art supplies. Browse their online  
store or visit them at

**488 David Street, Albury.**

**Jacinta Mirams is friendly and extremely helpful and willing to stock any special supplies.**

**Don't forget to let Jacinta know you are a member of the Art Society!**

**ART/PARTS 0428 173 094. [www.artpartsfinearts.com.au](http://www.artpartsfinearts.com.au)**

#### **Mayday Hills Art Society Board of management**

Chair – Dr Jenni Munday, Secretary/Manager – Christine Cansfield-Smith,  
Treasurer/Archivist - Dr David Lawrence, Board member – Peter Leppert

