



GLEN EIRA ARTISTS SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER – Summer 2022

Glen Eira Artists Society Inc

ABN 72-436-357-743

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From the President – Heather Welsh

Attribution – How often have you seen a public artwork displayed with either nothing written about it at all or something about the purpose of the work and its subject matter but no reference to the artist or the photographer who photographed the artwork?

GEAS has a commitment to artists being acknowledged through attribution and where possible a link to where more information is available about them. Likewise, photographers of artworks need to be acknowledged with proper attribution. This can be done politely with a simple request to the entity presenting the artwork. In each instance where I have drawn attention to the attribution omission, it has been immediately addressed. So, let GEAS know if you seen a situation where the Society might assist in this regard.

GEAS members will know of fellow artists who have lost homes, studios, artworks, art materials and other items precious to them in the recent floods. It is a really tough time and our good wishes go to those affected with hopes that they can rebuild what has been lost and reclaim their world of art.

GEAS congratulates several members for their recent achievements and looks forward to hearing from more members about what they have done:

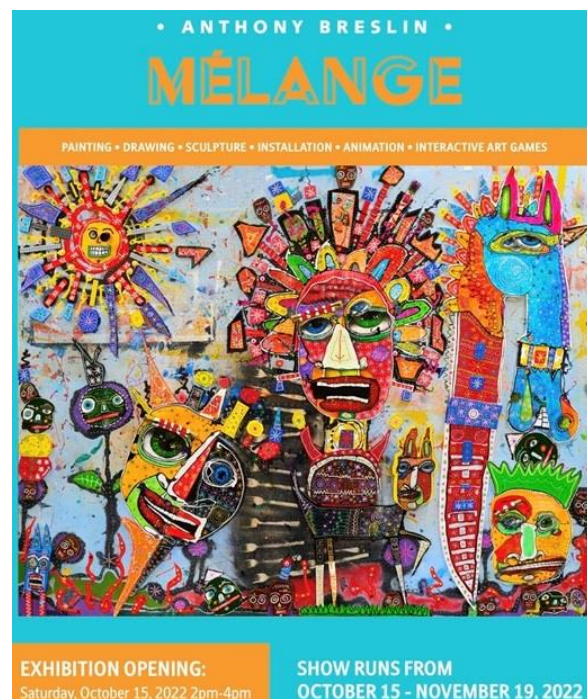
Kylie Castan for winning Second Prize in the 2022 Contemporary Artists' Society Annual Exhibition for her watercolour portrait of "Boots the Cat". Judge Katherine Hattam noted that Kylie's work was a "deft and accurate portrait of a cat, skilful use of watercolour".



Kate Birrell for her vibrant recent level crossing removal project artwork on the billboard beside local Glen Huntly station, supported by LXP. Walk rather than drive past to really appreciate Kate's work.



Anthony Breslin for his recent "Melange"-Exhibition at Burrinja Gallery. This was Anthony's first major solo exhibition in over a decade. Overcoming years of crippling health challenges, Anthony returned with spellbinding artistic exploration merging together never before exhibited early surrealist works with new paintings, art installations and interactive art games. The exhibition playfully invited viewers to immerse themselves as they explored this extraordinary melange of colour, form, and composition. Anthony's next project will be an artwork with students at Murrumbena Primary School.



Angeline Bartholomeusz was very pleased and honoured when she was recently awarded the Highly Commended Prize for her painting “*Beyond*” at the Victorian Artist Society Spring Exhibition. This work was also a finalist in the National Capital Art Prize in November last year.

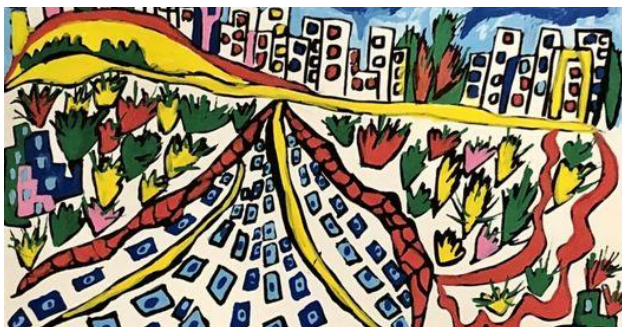


Jan Bull for being awarded fourth place for her abstract landscape ‘*Life Force*’ in the Hughesdale Art Group annual members’ show.



The promise of better weather brings many more opportunities to be outdoors with our art materials and enjoying the ambience of our natural surroundings. Enjoy!

Tamar Dolev for her exhibition “*Israel Transcended through a Lens*” that features photographs, drawings and paintings of urban and rural landscapes that explore themes of family history and cultural identity. The exhibition is supported by Arts Access Victoria and will be held at the Glen Eira Council Galley Annex.



GEAS Annual Exhibition 2023

During the running of the “Light” exhibition earlier this year, a few members expressed a wish for the theme to be repeated in 2023, only to discover that this was not an option. One member then proposed “Colour” as a possible theme, and was immediately followed by others who sought to influence the selection process and offered more ideas. History was then created when the Committee decided to adopt a democratic approach in selecting the exhibition theme and sought members’ input via a poll. Of the six themes on offer, “Colour” won by a decisively large majority. We hope that members will rise to the challenge, and look forward to their creative interpretation of *Colour*.

Council confirmed the exhibition dates, but with some modifications. Installation day was moved to Tuesday, 14 March ending on Sunday, 30 April. Deinstallation will now be on Monday, 1 May. More information will be provided in due course.

Art in the Park

After a few years of *Cityscape* events where artists spread along shopping strips to paint urban themes, it was decided to return to the former venue of *Paint in the Park* when these activities were held in Caulfield Park. This time, however, with a further tweak in the nomenclature – it is now called *Art in the Park*.

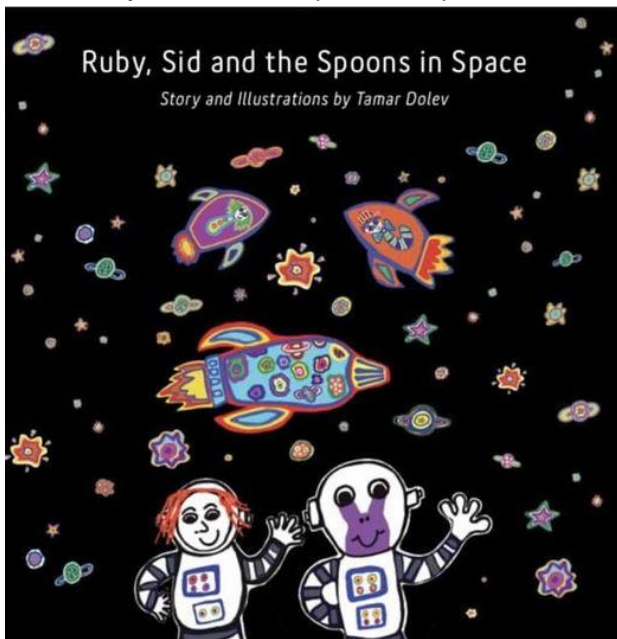
The event was held on Sunday, 13 November. Notwithstanding the grim weather forecast, the day turned out to be mostly sunny and mild. Many artists, family members and friends participated.

Particular thanks to the Rotary Club of Caulfield who organised this annual event. Your support is much appreciated. We also acknowledge the support of the Bendigo Bank Caulfield Park.



Other Members News

Tamar Dolev – After three years of creative painting and writing, Tamar has published her first children's book "*Ruby, Sid and the Spoons in Space*".



As well, her exhibition "*Israel Transcended Through a Lens*" is currently on show at the Glen Eira Gallery Annex and will end on 18 December. Don't miss this exhibition as Tamar's artworks and photographs reveal her keen observational skills.

Activity Reports

Participation levels in most activities were lower than usual, but with the advent of warmer weather we expect that they will go up again.

Professional Development Day – Following pandemic-induced disruptions to this activity the workshop was held on Saturday, 22 October 2022. It was led by Martin Bruckard who has conducted previously shorter sessions with the Studio Art group. Martin was engaging, provocative and supremely well prepared. He rightly assumed that the artists knew the basics of colour and encouraged them to experiment and be adventurous in order to progress. Participants were advised to think about colour choices and background, as well as combinations and schemes.

This was followed by a short demonstration of how to create a simple still life of a vase of flowers into a contemporary and interesting painting. The artists then attempted to apply these principles and were amazed at their own creativity in a variety of media.

Victorine Muerent – Artist and model

Victorine Meurent, best known as the model in Édouard Manet's *Dejeuner sur l'herbe* and *Olympia*, was more than just a model. She was an artist in her own right whose paintings were regularly included in the adjudicated exhibitions of the prestigious Paris Salon.

Born on 18 February 1844 to artisan parents – her mother was a milliner and her father a bronze patinator – she began modeling at the age of sixteen at the studio of Thomas Couture where she also studied art at his Atelier for Women. At the time she also modeled for Edgar Dega and the Belgian artist Alfred Stevens.

Meurent modelled for Manet until the early 1870s, when she began taking art classes. She and Manet became estranged because she was drawn to the more academic style of painting that Manet opposed.



Meurent's works from left to right: "*Jup*", "*Palm Sunday*" and "*Self Portrait*"

She also took classes with the portraitist Étienne Leroy, and in 1876 her self-portrait was exhibited at the Paris Salon when Manet's work was rejected – no small feat for someone poor and female at that time.

The iconic "*Olympia*" scandalised both the public and the art community because they thought it depicted a brazenly defiant nude and thus was presumed to be a sex worker and a beggarly alcoholic. The reality was vastly different: although poor she derived her meagre income from modeling and teaching music. According to a letter she sent to Manet's widow in 1883, she made a living painting until she injured a finger on her right hand.

Meurent was inducted into the Société des Artistes Français in 1903, with the support of Tony Robert-Fleury, the founder of the society. By 1906, at the age of 62 Meurent had left Paris for the suburb of Colombes, a commune to the northwest of Paris. She lived there for the remainder of her life in a house that she owned jointly with Marie Dufour, a long time friend and confidant. Victorine Meurent died on 17 March 1927, aged 83.

At the Galleries

Look out for the multi-sensory Frida Kahlo event coming to Sydney this Summer.



NGV Ian Potter Centre – now on show:

- *Indigenous Art* from the NGV Collection, open until 29 January 2023.
- *Fred Williams*, open until 29 January 2023

The Loom – *Monet and Friends*, an audio/visual smorgasboard of works from the Impressionist movement. Open until 31 January 2023.

City of Melbourne Gallery – visit the “*Off the Grid: Invader and Melbourne Street Art in the early 2000s*”, open until 14 February 2023.



Quotes and Definitions

Quotes

“The only art I’ll ever study is stuff that I can steal from” – David Bowie

“I cannot teach anybody anything; I can only make them think” – Socrates

Definitions

“Woke” – alert to injustice and discrimination, especially racism.

Humour

“Calories” – little creatures that live in your cupboard busily shrinking your clothes at night.

Governance and Administration

Annual General Meeting – results

At the AGM on 24 November the participants elected a new Committee:

President: Heather Welsh
Vice-President: Andrew Inglis
Secretary: Mary Lewin
Treasurer: Jyl Bell

Other Committee members:
Angeline Bartholomeusz
Dorith Candy
Bernadette Polak
Kylie Castan

At the end of the official proceedings, Andrew made a wide-ranging presentation on ‘Art and Activism’. The participants enjoyed the comprehensive insights into the crucial role of art in responding to and influencing the trajectory of civil society over millennia. The presentation will be posted on the GEAS website.

Website

Our website was recently updated to record recent developments. More artists are now using the Members Gallery and posting works in their individual pages.

We are looking at means to allow members to update their own Gallery pages using a unique password. We hope to introduce this as soon as all the technical aspects have been addressed. For information about the online gallery and how to post your work on the website, please contact Mary M: 418 377 965, Email: geasartists@gmail.com.

Did You Know

The term ‘The Big Apple’ was coined by touring jazz musicians of the 1930’s who used the slang expression ‘apple’ for any town or city. Therefore, to play New York City is to play the big time – The Big Apple.

Brazil got its name from the nut, not the other way around.

Canada is an Indian word meaning ‘Big Village’.

Spain literally means ‘the land of rabbits’. It was named by the Carthaginians somewhere around 300 B.C. They called it Ispania (sphan, meaning “rabbit”). Evidently, there was an abundance of rabbits that roamed the land back then. When the Romans arrived, they decided to keep the name, calling it Hispania.



Reminder

Members are welcome to attend Committee meetings and participate in the deliberations. Please contact us geartists@gmail.com for a Zoom invitation.

We need your contributions by way of stories, artworks, as well as suggestions for new columns and improvements. Please send these to geartists@gmail.com

The best thing about being over 50?



We did all our stupid stuff
before the invention of the internet,
so there's no proof!

Acknowledgements and attributions

We acknowledge the important role and support to date of the Rotary Club of Caulfield

VIEW MEMBERS' ARTWORKS IN THE FOLLOWING PAGES

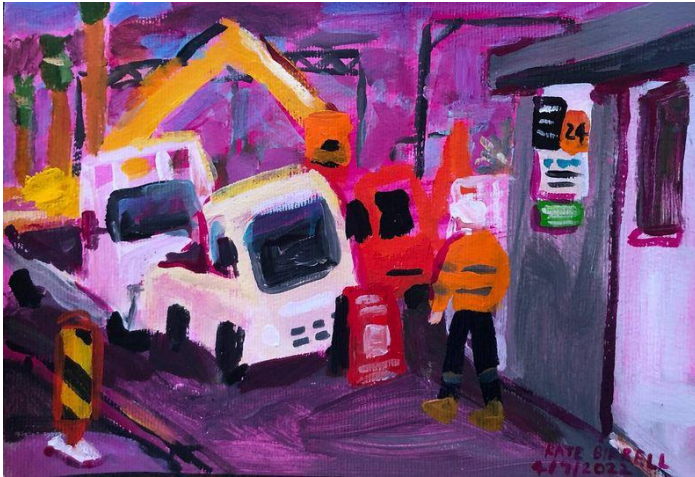


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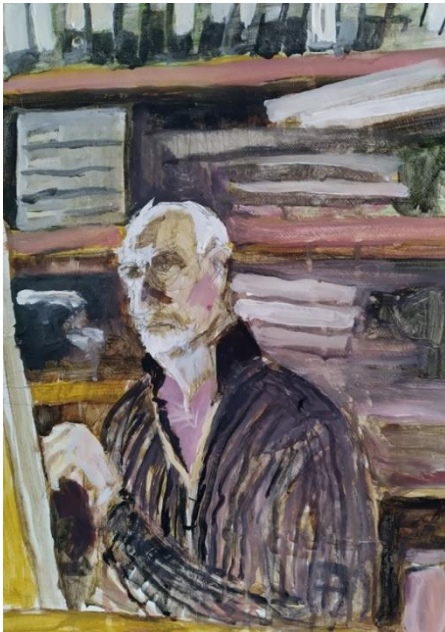
Members' Artworks



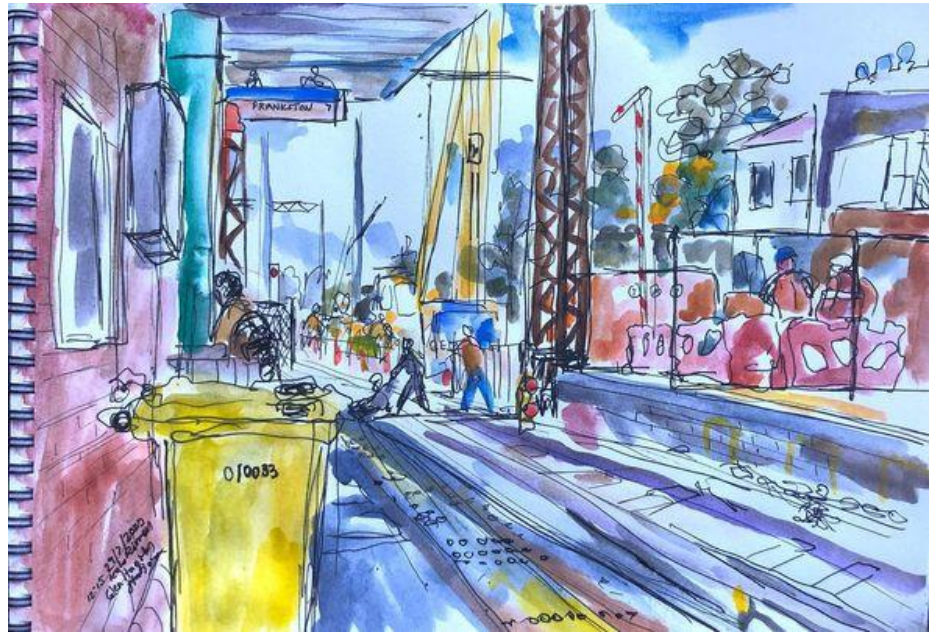
Kate Birrell – *Glen Huntly Station Gone*



Tamar Dolev – *Finding Colour Energy*



Andrew Inglis – *Self portrait*



Kate Birrell – *Glen Huntly Station Upgrade*



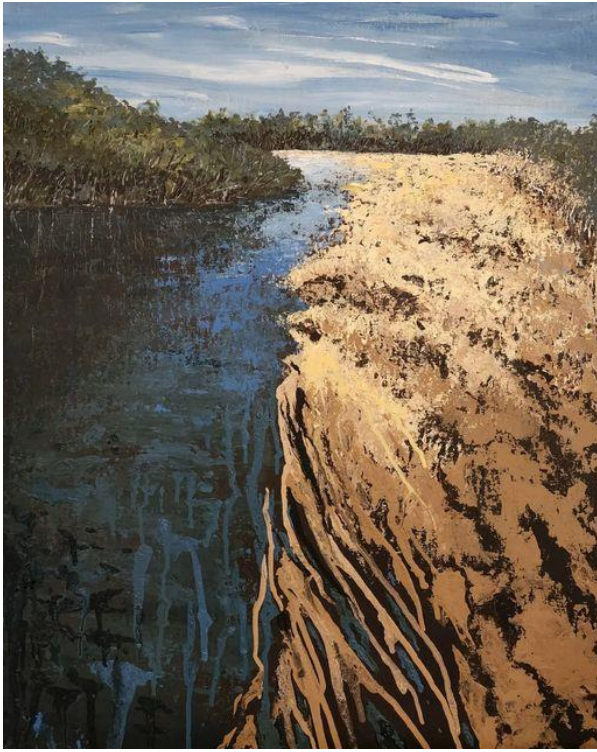
Lara Moisi – *God of Light*



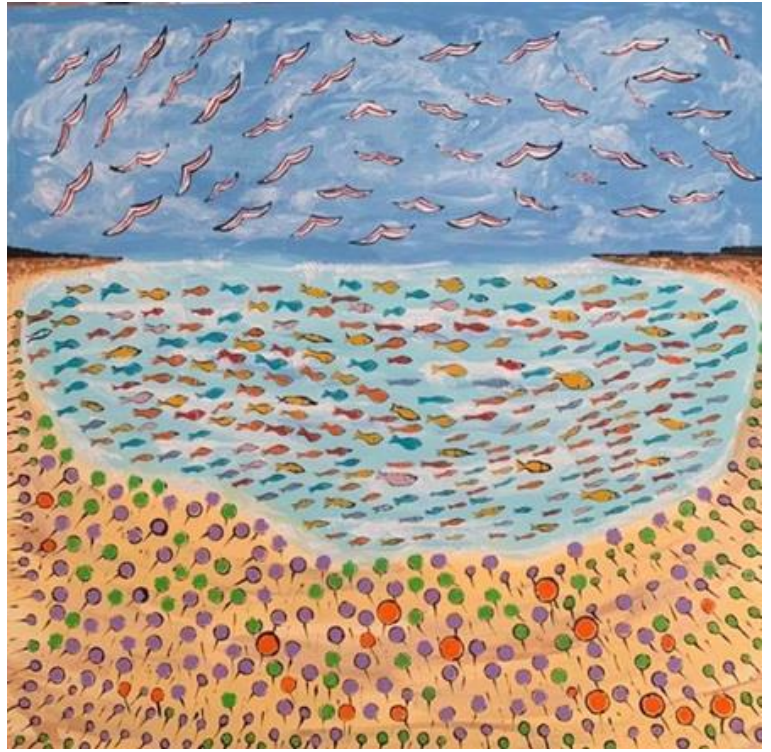
Susan Fajnkind – *The Friday Lunch Girls*



Ben Sullivan – *Parkes Radio Telescope*



Angeline Bartholomeusz – *River of Life*



John Selan – *Holidays*



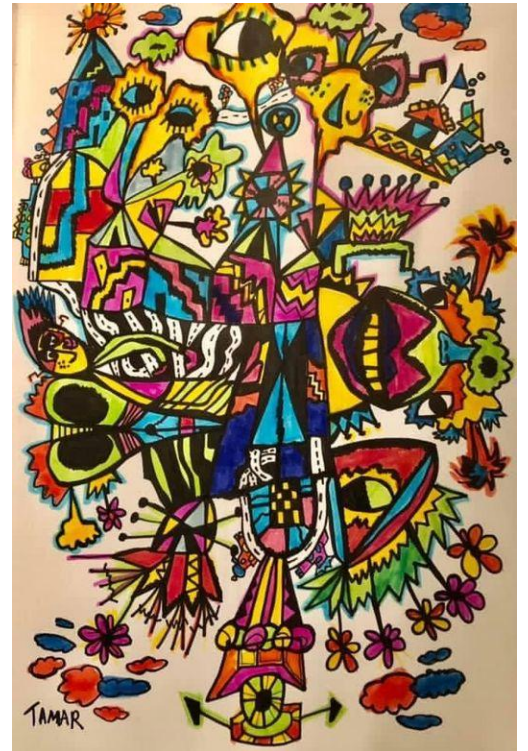
Melissa Parkinson – *The Genesis Part 1*



Melissa Parkinson – *The Genesis Part 2*



Nita Jawary - *Dawning*



Tamar Dolev – *Art Fun*