

QUARTERLY
NEWSLETTER PROMOTING
ARTS & CRAFTS IN
SELWYN DISTRICT

Autumn 2019

Mark Your Calendar

Arts Heart Selwyn (Selwyn Central Arts Council Inc.) is excited to bring you the 16th Annual Art Exhibition 2019! After months of planning (on our part) and long hours worked by the artists themselves. We are proud to bring you another amazing exhibition bringing together quality art from artists from all over the Selwyn region. We hope you enjoy it as much as we have enjoyed putting this year's event together.



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Getting Creative in New Zealand's Big Backyard



Living in the Selwyn District we are well placed to access some of New Zealand's most scenic areas to get our creative juices flowing. With the right gear creating your art outside can be both enjoyable and thought-provoking. Some great areas to consider that are only a short drive away are:

- Castle Hill and Porters Pass
- Banks Peninsula
- The Port Hills
- Peel Forest

Why Create Art Outdoors?

Being on location challenges you to capture the feeling of a place. When you paint from photographs you tend to capture the surface features, but it is much harder to capture the experience or sense of being there.

Creating outdoors comes with its own challenges - wind, rain, ever-changing lighting, not to mention South Island's ravenous sandflies! On the next page we cover some of the equipment that could be useful if you decide to take up the challenge to create some art outdoors



Useful Equipment for Outdoor Art

Sketch Book

A sturdy cover and an elastic band to hold it secure when walking or tramping



A couple of different lead types can be useful and a small container or bag to collect your sharpenings in (pack in, pack out)



Ink Pen Set

Ink pens are great for fast sketching and capturing movement and feeling



Travel Art Set

Several companies produce small pocket sized watercolour sets that come complete with standard colours, a brush and built in palette. The restricted colour range is great to challenge your colour mixing skills. You may want to pack a couple of extra brushes as these sets usually come with only one which you may find a bit limiting.



Water

If you are painting take a small bottle that you can fill from your own water bottle. Travel shampoo bottles are a great size.

Tripod Stool

Often there is a comfortable patch of ground or a rock to sit on, but if the ground is wet or uneven, a \$10 Warehouse tripod stool is well worth carrying



If you sit still to sketch or paint for more than a minute or so, you will soon realise why this is an essential part of your outdoor art kit!



As in all outdoor activities, make sure you also have warm clothing, a raincoat, a first aid kit and tell someone where you are going and when you expect to return.

Art Class



Lakeland Gallery 80 High Street, Leeston

- A painting group meets every Wednesday 10am -2pm
- A non-tutored art group runs on Thursdays 7pm - 9pm
- Life Drawing classes (nontutored) run on Wednesdays 7.30pm-9.30pm

Enquiries for all these groups to Averil 027 820 3045



CentreStage Rolleston

Rolleston's own community theatre group. See their website or Facebook page for upcoming events.

www.centrestagerolleston.org.nz



Malvern Community Arts Council

Receive newsletters, invitations to previews and events. Membership forms can be found on the Selwyn Gallery website:

www.selwyngallery.co.nz/become-a-friend



Selwyn Creative Network

www.Selwyncreativenetwork.com



Nut Point Centre 222 Langdales Road, West Melton www.nutpoint.org



Arts, Culture and Heritage Selwyn

Facebook.com/ACHSelwyn



Down By the Liffey Gallery

1 James Street, Lincoln Open Weds – Sun, 10am – 4pm www.downbytheliffeygallery.com

Email artsheartselwyn@gmail.com if you would like to be featured on this page

Lakeland Gallery

80 High Street, Leeston
Phone: 027 820 3045 Email: lakelandart@yahoo.com

Selwyn has some fabulous community galleries and in this edition we have chosen to highlight Lakeland Art Gallery in Leeston. Many thanks to Averil Southward for preparing this profile.

Lakeland Art Gallery opened to the public on 19 May 2017 with funding assistance from Selwyn District Council of a "one off" payment towards rental and running costs.

The gallery is managed by a sub committee of the Ellesmere Art Group Charitable Trust. This Trust was set up many years ago by a group of talented local artists to further the arts within the Ellesmere district. The gallery is open Tuesday to Sunday 10am - 4pm and is run by volunteers who regularly do half or full days throughout each month. The Trust and Gallery Committee meet bi-monthly at the gallery.

The gallery is a well lit, welcoming space in the middle of the township shopping area, facing onto the main street and with surrounding parking adjacent to the Fresh Choice supermarket. We have wheelchair access and toilet facilities if required.

Artists are encouraged to become Members of the gallery and can place art, sculpture, ceramics etc. for sale throughout the year. All art placed into the gallery is subject to a selection panel. The paintings are changed over every 5 weeks and from time to time we also have Guest Artist exhibitions running in conjunction with the general floor display art. We welcome artists from throughout the Selwyn district and also have established artists from Ashburton and Christchurch areas placing their works for sale in the gallery. The gallery takes a fair commission from all sales. We also offer layby on goods over \$200 for a 2 month period.

We have an adjacent but separate large tutoring and workshop area where artists can gather to paint, share ideas and offer encouragement. Regular groups meet every Wednesday 10am - 2pm for painting, Thursday 7 - 9 pm for evening painting plus every Wednesday night Life Drawing from 7.30 - 9.30 pm with a different life model each week. The tutor room can be hired privately for arts or craft tutoring.

Tutored day workshops are held throughout the year in watercolour, oils, pastels, acrylics, etc. plus mosaic and felting tutoring available.

We have been fortunate to receive funding assistance from Creative Communities towards our tutoring workshops and classes, Rata Foundation towards rental and running costs, Pub Charity for computer and printer, plus power expenses, along with donations from our local Lions Club, Fresh Choice and local business. This assistance is essential to the continuance of the gallery.

If you haven't visited the Lakeland Gallery yet, we encourage you to make the journey and check out this vibrant community gallery in the Selwyn District!



Preparing your Art for Display

One of the most important things next to creating unique & interesting art, is how the art is presented and how you take care of the art when it is shipped to galleries and buyers. Presentation is a factor that is present in everything we partake of, whether it's buying a new guitar, dining at a restaurant or staying somewhere while on vacation. If your dinner was just thrown down in front of you, and the place was dirty and the people rude, would you feel comfortable about spending your money there? Or if the hotel room clearly hadn't been cleaned and was run down, or that special guitar you bought was shipped in a cheap box and poorly treated. You would no doubt question your purchase and steer clear of those places in the future.

Buying and owning art is a luxury, and should be an enjoyable experience throughout. Especially when to many artists, the sale of original works of art means paying some bills, purchasing more supplies and eating a little better. There have been too many occasions where I have gone to art shows and witnessed art that was presented in a way, that it gave the impression the artist had little respect for the work they were showing. So hopefully this guide will be able to help in showing some of the best ways to have your art presented and prepared, as well as shipped.

Works on Canvas

Any paintings that have been done on canvas should have the sides of the canvas finished off. The most common way to do this is the just paint the sides. You could either paint it solid black, or one of the dominant colors of the painting. Or carry the work off on to the sides of the painting.

The other method is just framing the canvas. The frame should be deep enough so that the canvas fits in flush with the frame. There are also canvas "floater" frames, where it looks like the canvas is floating within the bed of the frame.





Works on Canvas Board

Any type of work that is done on canvas board, hardboard or similar surfaces should really just be framed. These types of materials are usually thin so it's best to add the support a frame can offer.

Sculptures

This is an easy one. Any type of sculpture or 3d dimensional work should be wrapped like it's going be handled by a Rugby team. Wrap the work in tissue then bubble wrap. Get a good size box so that you can place this wrapped item in a bed of Styrofoam peanuts, or any other soft material that will protect it. It's good to recycle and use different materials for packaging, just make sure that the material will provide enough support and not inflict any damage on the work.



Prints

Fine art prints are a great way to earn some extra income, as well as allow users to collect your work. Once a painting sells, thats it, it's gone. But prints allow fans to have that image of your work they may have missed out on. So any prints shipped to buyers should be prepared for shipping so that they can withstand anything. It's too easy to damage them, and once they have folds or nicks, they are worth far less. So you can either ship them flat, or in tubes. If you opt for tubes, make sure you use really sturdy tubes not flimsy Christmas wrapping tubes, or to save money you can even buy strips of plastic pipe.





Works on Paper

Paintings, drawings, collages or any other medium on paper always look amazing. So you can either mount the paper onto board, or frame it. If your using a thin paper with straight edges it's a good idea to have the work behind matte board in the frame. It looks classy too. If the paper is thicker and if you have the edges deckled, you can attach the paper to a board or matte so the work is floating there in the frame. Do not use any non-archival sprays or adhesives to mount the paper. It will ruin the paper over time. You can use mounting corners, clear plastic mounting wires, or even use dabs of wax. The most fancy being rice paper hinges, but if your paper is warping the hinges will not stop this. So if you have heavily warped paper, you can use an archival quality glue to mount it. You don't want to do anything permanent that will be hard to change, or anything that will alter the back of your work. Make it easy for the work to change frames if need be.



Try to stay clear of...

- ..using plastic or paper envelopes to ship your work.
- ..using boxes that have been shipped far too many times. Recycling is good, but don't go overboard
- ..using any kind of non-archival glues or adhesives.
- ..permanently mounting prints or paper works on to a matte or foam board.

Make sure to...

- ..clean up any pencil marks that were used as guides for mattes and cutting.
- ..use a good, strong tape to seal your boxes.
- ..be clear enough in descriptions so that the buyer knows exactly what they are getting.
- ..seal up any holes, and tape off any loose hanging wires.

Do something special & unique

So now that you have some amazing art that is presented in professional way and will be wrapped up for shipping the best way possible, what about something unique? You can do something special in the presentation, it might be a unique frame, a certain way you cut the wood you paint on or materials you use. It could be something as simple as putting a thank you note in the box you ship, or throwing in some stickers. A lot of artists put in upcoming or previous show cards in the box. This is good for advertising, and many people like collecting show cards.

(Extracts taken from http://www.creepmachine.com/articles/how-to-prepare-your-art-for-show-and-sale, April 2008. Follow this link to read the full article)

Arts Heart Committee

Chairperson / Treasurer:

Wendy Rockhouse 027-434-7681

Secretary:

Suzanne Pickford

Committee Members:

Judith Wenborn Hilary Barrer Jill Pickford **Prue Thornton** Janis Wasserman Margaret White Tessa Rait

The Arts Heart Committee meets every 2nd Monday of the month at 6.30pm in the Rolleston Library.

Contact us:

secretaryartsheart@gmail.com artsheartselwyn@gmail.com

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If you wish your art or organisation to be featured in a future issue of this newsletter send us an email!

NEXT EDITION



Winter Inspiration

It's cold out there. Here's some inspiration for getting creative when you have got the Winter blues



Highlights from the Annual Arts Heart Exhibition

A snapshot of what went on at the 16th Annual Arts Heart Exhibition



groups/Artsheartselwyncentral /ArtsHeartSelwyn Facebook Group: Facebook Page: