NEWSDEWER

Produced by the Friends of the Cowra Regional Art Gallery

2009 CALLEEN ART AWARD

The winners of the 2009 Calleen Art Award and inaugural Central West Regional Artists Award where announced at the exhibition opening on Friday 20 March at the Cowra Regional Art Gallery.

The exhibition was opened by Cr Bill West, Mayor of Cowra Shire Council and the announcement of the awards was made by the Awards Judge Peter Haynes Director, ACT Museums and Galleries to a packed Gallery of visitors and finalists.

The winner of the 2009 Calleen Art Award worth \$10,000 went to Rowen Matthews from Blackheath for his work *Rain*

Break (2009) oil on canvas. Pictured above is Rowen with his work. This is an acquisitive award and the work will join the Calleen Collection which is housed at the Gallery.



2009 Awards Judge Peter Haynes

Judges Comments

- This work has immediate impact
- Powerful use of paint to create textures of wild nature/ nature untamed
- Bold, gestural brushstrokes capture energy & vitality of scene depicted
- Excellent use of impasto
- Simple yet striking contrasts (e.g. central band of the waterfall and the "triangular" masses of the rock formations to either side)
- Tightly structured composition
- Astute use of spatial planes and interactions to underscore the resolution of the pictorial structure

The judge also gave a Commended award to

Canberra based artist Stephanie Haygarth for her work *Too late in the day* (2009), acrylic on watercolour paper, and a Commended award to Illawarra based artist Greer Taylor for her work *Echo* (2009), acrylic and oxides on board. Both are pictured overleaf.

The Central West Regional Artists Award (non acquisitive) worth \$2,000 went to Oberon based artist Joanna Logue for her work *Conifers – Essington* (2009) oil on canvas - shown at right with Joanna receiving her Award from patron David Henley.

Highly Commended awards in the Central West Regional Artists Award went to Cowra based artist Greg Daly for his work Glaze-on-glaze platter with gold and silver (2008) thrown stoneware; Woodstock based artist Peter Larsen for his work The Junction — where the Belubula River joins the Lachlan on its way westwards (2009) watercolour; and Morpeth based artist Aida Pottinger for her work Leaving Lancashire (2009) oil on canvas. Works are pictured overleaf.

As winner of the Central West Regional Artists Award Joanna Logue will also have an exhibition at the Gallery in 2010.



Artist catalogue statement from Rowen Matthews.

In December 2008 I was fortunate to have a residency at the Kings Bridge Cottage on the Cataract River, just outside Launceston, Tasmania. I enjoyed the dramatic weather and dark drama of the place, painting the strong deep V shapes of the rocky gorge and the rough upright cliffs that seem to squeeze a triangular piece of sky. In the evening, the strong shadows in the gorge allowed me to make the hard tonal work in this painting, Rain Break.



Judges Comments on Joanna Logue's Conifers - Essington (2009)

- Mysterious, enigmatic picture
- Traces of memory
- Beautifully nuanced combinations of colours, shapes and lines
- Clever contrasts and simultaneous elisions of the organic and the abstract (puffs of white, swathes of green)
- Layered forms and brushstrokes highly evocative of the movement of light through trees
- · Quiet and dignified structural rhythms give lyrical almost musical quality.

CALLEEN Art Award 2009

Commended



Stephanie Haygarth, Canberra Too late in the day, 2009

Acrylic on paper The Judge said:

- · Beautiful use of chiaroscuro (light and shade)
- Seductive contrasts
- Soft, muted palette captures afternoon



Greer Taylor, Illawarra Echo, 2009

Acrylic and oxides on board The Judge said:

- Simple, direct palette
- · Dramatic tonal and formal contrasts
- · Intriguing possibilities for interpretation



Ruth Stone. Millthorpe London girl, 2009



Meredith Cooper. Leura Burramoko Head, Grose Valley, 2008



Shane Hetherington. Canberra When the Blue Wrens arrive, 2008



Above: Portion of the opening night crowd.



At left: Cr Bill West, Mayor of Cowra, who Opened the Exhibition before an excited crowd that included twelve of the finalist artists and their supporters.

Lower left: Awards Patron Jenni Fagan speaking on behalf of the Calleen Trust.



ARTISTS PRESENT ON OPENING NIGHT

t was gratifying to see so many of the artists present who were finalists in the Awards. Some of them travelled a considerable distance, and their attendance was appreciated.

Below are ten artists with their works in the exhibition. Some were finalists in the Calleen; some were finalists in both the Calleen and the Central West Regional Artists Award, and two were finalists in both as were Joanna Logue and Aida Pottinger.

Congatulations to them all. Don't forget to vote in the Gallery for your favourite to win the Friends People's Choice Award.



Neil Cuthbert, Borenore Looking for Elijah, 2009



Billy Denis Taylor. Bathurst Acquirement, 2008 Relief Print



Margaret Aalders. Little Hartley Dawn to dusk, Kanimbla 2008



Peter Smith Canberra Equator 1X, 2009



CENTRAL WEST REGIONAL **ARTISTS AWARD 2009** Highly Commended



Greg Daly, Cowra Glaze-on-glaze platter with gold, silver 2008

Thrown, stoneware

- The Judge said: · Striking example of absolutely appropriate combination of form and
- decoration • Simple shape + Simple decoration/ colour equals plastic elegance



Peter Larsen, Woodstock The Junction - where the Belubula River joins the Lachlan on its way westwards, 2009

Watercolour

The Judge said:

- Technical virtuosity
- Marvellous control of the medium
- Beautifully evocative sky
- Simple yet effective and dramatic composition



Aida Pottinger, Millthorpe Leaving Lancashire, 2009

Oil on canvas

- · Highly atmospheric, dream-like presentation
- · Air of mystery and nostalgia
- · Capturing the veils of memory



Above Kellie Leigh. Blackheath Parched flow, 2009

At left Linda Chant Cowra The gate was almost impenetrable but her face told the story, 2009 Drawing and collage

A Summer Holiday in the Cowra Regional Art Gallery!







The National Archives of Australia exhibition called **Summers Past: Golden Days in the Sun 1950 – 1970** combined with **Second skin**, an exhibition of recent works by south coast based artist Tim Moorhead including paintings, prints and ceramics, proved to be an entertaining and happy experience for visitors to the Gallery for the five weeks it was on show.

Guest speaker at the opening of these exhibitions on 6 February was Therese

Kenyon, Director Manly Art Gallery and Museum, who spoke of the beach culture of Manly and its influences on the art produced in the area. Therese is shown at right.

Below are some of the fun (sometimes nostalgic) items that formed part of the display. A gathering of colourful thongs and 'cossies' sat proudly with historic photographs celebrating the time, reminding us of happy days gone by.





Robin Ryan (below studying a photograph) was the winner of the Lucky door prize on Opening night.



bove is **artist Tim Moorhead** with some of his fun ceramic 'fragments', and behind him is one of the decorated pots from a previous series that triggered his enthusiasm for the current collection in which Tim aimed to express the pure joy of going to the beach. He was certainly successful in that intention.

We were treated to a glimpse of the man behind the artist when Tim Moorhead gave an illustrated talk *Beach Culture Images in Australian Art* on how artists of renown such as Tom Roberts (eg *Slumbering Mentone*) have used the beach as imagery for their paintings. A more affluent class of people who painted in the 1800s resulted in works of a different time - a different history. Beauty spots such as "Rickets Point" were often painted. Artists became 'freer' after the industrial revolution.

Tim then presented a Floor Walk around the exhibition. He has been a professional artist for over 40 years. This particular collection has been 'traveling' for 12 months. It started out some time ago now revisited - the two decorated pots in the exhibition were the last of the previous series. Tim always works in a series, and usually has 3 or 4 going at once.

He has always worked with 'fragments' (as above) - little 'snapshots' of beach activities. He began working large scale after workshops with artist Cherry Hood. He uses paper board - paper glued on board, and focuses on facial gestures - mouth, teeth, eyes to achieve the result he wants. Cars are a part of kids culture so were included in the series. Attitudes and mentality changes when people hit the beach and become anonymous behind dark glasses, and Tim wanted to show this in the series. He also enjoyed working with lino blocks - the work produced complemented the rest of the series, and the Gallery was very pleased to accept his gift of a print for our Gallery collection. Tim was happy to answer questions about his art practice

PUBLIC PROGRAM - 21 February 2009

Photographic Conservation Workshop and Clinic

very topical and enlightening workshop was presented by **Peter Shaw, Conservator National Archives of Australia** in association with the exhibition Summers Past: Golden Days in the Sun 1950 – 1970 a National Archives of Australia touring exhibition.



Peter came armed with a comprehensive slide programme reinforced with excellent handout reference material. His appreciative audience found Peter an interesting and knowledgeable tutor as he explained the history of the development of photography and the "do's and don't s" of handling, home printing, and most of all storing, our precious photographic images. He had many practical hints such as "Always handle a print by the edges"; "Be careful not to touch the surface of your printing paper before printing"; "Don't laminate a photo, as the adhesive pastes degrade over time"; and "Cheaper inks are OK for everyday use but you tend to get what you pay for. "

After the presentation, Peter made himself available to those who had brought photographs to show him and ask his advice. Some were very old photographs of historical interest, and many were precious family keepsakes. Photos: Left - Peter at work.

Below - Peter and his attentive audience share a joke at the photographer's expense.





COMING UP

GALLERY CALENDAR April / May 2009





EXHIBITIONS

SPECIAL NOTE:

Friday 24th April, at 5.45pm Prior to the Opening of the Exhibitions (noted below) by Richard Perram Director, Bathurst Regional Art Gallery, there will be an Exhibition floor talk by Anthony Browell.

He will discuss his work in the exhibition and his career spanning four decades.

25 April to 24 May 2009

A Generous Gift: works from the Gwen Frolich Bequest.

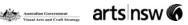
Paintings, drawings and prints from the Gwen Frolich Bequest featuring many of Australia's most respected artists including Charles Blackman, Robert Dickerson, Leonard French, James Gleeson, Rosemary Madigan, Barbara McKay, John Olsen, Norma Redpath, William Robinson, Jan Senbergs, Jeffrey Smart and Fred Williams.



A Bathurst Regional Art Gallery touring exhibition.

"WHO YOU ARE" / Pinhole Portraiture: by Anthony Browell.

For the last four years, Sydney photographer Anthony Browell has been making black & white photographs with a large-format, home-made, everything-from-the-hardware-store, wooden



pinhole camera. This exhibition will feature a selection of Browell's portraits and illustrate the value, and the thrill, of using primitive and simple ways to arrive at unusual and satisfying portraits. The long exposures allow the subject to show who they are, how they feel, and more, to the camera.

29 May - 5 July 2009

Marian Hosking – Jewellery

This is the third exhibition in Object's widely applauded Living Treasures: Masters of Australian Craft exhibition series which celebrates the achievements of senior craft









practitioners. With a career spanning almost 40 years, Hosking is one of Australia's foremost contemporary jewellers and silversmiths. Marian Hosking: Jewellery is an object touring exhibition and is part of the Living Treasures: Masters of Australian Craft series.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Friday 24 April 2009 Exhibition floor talk by Anthony Browell - 5.45pm (prior to the opening—see above) Saturday 16 May 2009 - 11am Exhibition floor talk by Artist Barbara McKay - FREE

Join one of Australia's leading painters as she discusses the exhibition A Generous Gift: works from the Gwen Frolich Bequest.

WORKSHOPS

Wednesday 22 April to Friday 24 April 2009.



Pinhole Portraiture and Landscape Photography with Anthony Browell

A special photography workshop project will take place at the Cowra Regional Art Gallery from Wednesday 22 to Friday 24 April 2009. The workshop is open to school students over 16 years, teachers, artists, photographers and art enthusiasts. Cost Adults \$88 (incl GST) Students/Cons \$66 Friends of the Gallery 10% discount. Register early as places limited.

Photo by Anthony Browell Rosy at Elkington 2007 fibre-based silver gelatin print 46cm x 38cm (unframed)





Sunday 17 May 2009 10am to 4pm

Landscape Painting Workshop with Barbara McKay

Artist Barbara Mackay is an internationally renowned Australian painter who is represented in the exhibition A Generous Gift: works from the Gwen Frolic Collection. This unique art workshop



has been developed with the aim to encourage participants to be confident in the handling of their materials so that they can feel free to develop their imaginations. Participants will explore the theme "where I live" through a process drawing and painting (including collage) as well as through group discussion and critical appraisal of their work.

Incidentally, Barbara was a finalist in this year's Calleen Art Award with a work entitled Mist of the falls, 2008 Acrylic on canvas. Cost Adults \$55 (incl GST) Students/Cons \$44.00 (inc GST) (Friends of the Gallery 10% discount).

Hours: Tuesday to Saturday 10am - 4pm, Sunday 2pm - 4pm (Closed Good Friday) Cowra Regional Art Gallery www: cowraartgallery.com.au Ph. 02 6340 2190 Fax: 02 6340 2191 77 Darling Street, Cowra NSW 2794 Email: cowraartgallery@cowra.nsw.gov.au

"The Friends" is a volunteer organisation formed to support the Cowra Regional Art Gallery, and operates as a committee of Cowra Shire Council. Meetings are held on the first Friday of each month at 5.30 pm in the Multipurpose room adjacent to the Gallery except when the date clashes with a Gallery Opening night. All welcome.

Newsletter Editor Catering Officer President Secretary Jack Mallon Ph 63450363 Gwen Clark Ph 63423995 Jenny Thompson Ph 6342 9331 Wendy Quilter Ph 63421652

> Core of my heart, my country! Land of the rainbow gold, For flood and fire and famine She pays us back threefold. All you who have not loved her, You will not understand - Dorothea Mackellar