



# Society of Mountain Artists Inc.

Featuring the works of Artists from the Blue Mountains in New South Wales, Australia

Oct 2015

NEWSLETTER

Issue No 299

Mail P.O. Box 76 Wentworth Falls 2782—Email [secretary@mountainartists.org](mailto:secretary@mountainartists.org)

Monthly Meetings at Wentworth Falls School of Arts Great Western Hwy Wentworth Falls

Website / Gallery [www.mountainartists.org](http://www.mountainartists.org)

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Articles required by 2nd Monday of month

## President's Message

It seems hard to believe that our recent heatwave followed the plein air outing to Yarramundi where a very small group braved a very cold wind by the river. Hopefully our next outing to Govetts Leap Lookout on 22 October will be under more favourable conditions. At the time of writing the Society's Spring Exhibition is well underway.

The judge Graham Marchant spent a lot of time looking at the works displayed and making notes on his selections for awards. For information and future guidance these notes are included in the newsletter. Congratulations to all of those awarded prize certificates especially the 'first timers'—well done everyone.

Thanks to all concerned who put in many hours of work setting up the exhibition and the formal opening function. Although it is a very busy time of year it appears that a number of you also managed to fit in some painting in the gardens that were open for the Festival. We look forward to a good show which will be judged by local artist Robyn Collier.

The final demonstration of the year by Mischa should be interesting as I have seen some excellent still life works by her on show in Mt Victoria. Thanks to Jane Canfield for a breathless demonstration last time- I lost count quite how many gouaches she managed to cram into an hour.

November sees our last members meeting of the year so bring those 'fabulous fakes' of your favourite painting and a small plate of goodies to share. A week later we will have our Christmas luncheon at WF Golf Club so please add your name to the list if you want to come or email me asap  
[ayres42@bigpond.com]

*Peter Ayres*

## Country Club Brasserie



### Christmas Function Menu



**Traditional Buffet \$36.00 per person**  
*Minimum 35 people*

*Ham, Pork, Turkey, Prawns  
Roasted Vegetables- Potato, Pumpkin,  
Sweet Potato & Parsnip  
Green Vegetables.  
Salads- Coleslaw, Potato & Garden*

#### **Desserts**

*Christmas Pudding with Butterscotch sauce  
Hot Apple Crumble  
Cake Tray  
Cream*

*Bread Roll, Tea & Coffee & Bon Bon*

**Thursday 26th November 12noon for 12.30**



## MELBOURNE CUP LUNCHEON

1pm Ann Warnes' Home  
26 Lawson View Pde Wentworth Falls

Bring a SMALL plate of food to share  
and Choice of Beverage.  
Prize for best painting of Theme "Heads  
or Tails"  
Prizes for best Fancy Hat



**GO ON LINE AND CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE**  
**JOIN THE ONLINE GALLERY** *Forms on the Website*

*Once off Joining Fee \$20 then yearly  
Admin fee \$10 for each subsequent year  
Gallery Exhibitors are now featured monthly  
on the Home Page*

**[www.mountainartists.org](http://www.mountainartists.org)**



### STOP PRESS





As we go to press some final information about the Spring Exhibition.

Despite building activity around Fairways and construction vehicles blocking parking  
from all aspects we had a very successful exhibition.  
Final result was a grand total of 26 sales .

Leura Garden Festival Plein Air Competition showed most Gardens being represented in the paintings.  
First prize was awarded to Peter Ayres with second to Ruth Dengate.

A great effort from all who contributed in both exhibitions.

## Activities Diary

Oct Thurs 15th	<b>MONTHLY MEETING</b> <b>Mischa Borowski</b>	1.00 pm Wentworth Falls School of Arts	NO
Oct Tues 20th	<b>Paint Together</b> <b>No Oils</b>	10am <b>Wentworth Falls Country Club</b> Blaxland Road Downstairs Meeting Room	Social Mem- ber ship
Oct Thurs 22nd	<b>Plein-Air Painting</b>	Govetts Leap Lookout Blackheath 10 am Parking Area	NO
Nov Tues 3rd	<b>Melbourne Cup Luncheon</b> 	1pm Ann Warnes' Home 26 Lawson View Pde Wentworth Falls	NO See Page 2
Nov Thurs 5th	<b>Paint Together &amp; Morning Cuppa</b>	10am <b>St. Andrews</b> Presbyterian Church Hall Falls Rd Wentworth Falls	\$5 cost
Nov Tues 17th	<b>Paint Together</b> <b>No Oils</b>	10am <b>Wentworth Falls Country Club</b> Blaxland Road Downstairs Meeting Room	Social Mem- ber ship
Nov Thurs 19th	<b>CHRISTMAS MEETING</b> <b>Member's Choice Fabulous Fakes</b>	1.00 pm Wentworth Falls School of Arts BYO Small Plate	NO
Nov Thurs 26th	<b>Christmas Buffet Luncheon</b> 	Wentworth Falls Golf Club 12 noon for 12.30 Menu Page 2	Yes
2016 Jan Thurs 21st	<b>New Year Start</b> <b>Annual Picnic</b> 	11am Falls Picnic Area National Park Falls Rd Wentworth Falls 	NO
2016 March Thurs 17th	<b>ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING</b> <b>Election of Committees</b>	1.00 pm Wentworth Falls School of Arts	

### Exhibition calendar

#### Lost Bear Gallery Lurline St Katoomba.

Jo Ernst paintings and Keith Rowe glass start 29 August until 21 September.

#### Everglades Gardens Gallery Leura.

'Elevation' and exhibition of watercolours by Owen Thompson from 5 to 27 September.

#### Mosman Art Gallery

'An unending shadow ' works by Sophie and Ann Cape until 29 November

'Mythical Truth' Korean artist Yiwon Park until 10 January

'Dream Merchant'-contemporary works after Norman Lindsay until 25 Oct

'Safe from the city's haste' Mosman vistas from 1880 -1955 10 Oct until 29 Nov

#### AGNSW

'The Greats' masterpieces from the National Galleries of Scotland . Starts Oct 24 until Feb 14 2016

**Sculpture by the Sea;** Bondi to Tamarama Coastal walk .Starts Oct 22 until Nov 8th

# SPRING EXHIBITION

## Graham Marchants' Comments on the prize winning paintings

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### Section 1: Oils

#### 1st Prize: "Golden Hills" by Marie Morris

I could feel the crisp dry grass snapping as I looked at this Dry Arid Hillside. It reminded me of Lloyd Reess 'Road to Berry' in the AGNSW with the hills suggesting anatomical form. I love the contrast with the beautiful Monet sky, with the manganese blue sky playing off the cold greys in the clouds.

#### 2nd Prize: "End of an Aussie Day" by Phillip Budge

Of Phillips' four paintings 'End of an Aussie Day' was the simplest with the fewest ingredients. Yet it was immediately apparent why Phillip had painted it and looking at it I was transported to that landscape, the metaphor Phillip chose in paint described the landscape so admirably. Again, the sky was exquisitely painted.

#### Highly Commended: "Lion's Head" by Patricia Carruthers

What distinguished this painting from those of a similar subject matter was that, although small, it managed to convey the infinite distance we are all familiar with. The economic flicks of paint of paint described the texture and the space. There was a timelessness about the image, yet so essentially the Blue Mountains.

### Section 2: Acrylics

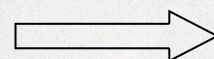
#### 1st Prize: "Gull Flight" by Alfred Blakers

Strong composition, and the brittle light was very well handled, particularly the cool grey shadows on the bird against the warm violet flicks on the ground. Reminds me of Winslow Homer, the 19th Century American watercolourist who lived on the East coast in Maine and utilised his pioneering passions as his subject matter.

#### 2nd Prize: "April Showers" by Eve Kennedy

Simple but very effective, the sky is beautifully painted and I enjoyed the way the distant mountains dissolve into a rain laden sky. Quintessential Australia.

#### Highly Commended: "Wyangala Guardians" by John Marsh



'Wyangala Guardians' has a fractured stark presence to it. I liked the collage technique which suggested the encroaching of the built environment into the landscape. Similar to English artist Paul Nash with his "Monster" field paintings following the battlefields of the 1st World War.

### Section 3: Watercolour

1st Prize: "Window on a Courtyard - Everglades" by Mara Jordan

A beautiful arrangement of manicured nature, which gardens are. I enjoyed the preoccupation with human intervention in the courtyard pavers and the suggestion of order. It is a symphony of greens, well handled and varied.

2nd Prize "Botanical Gardens" by Dennis West

Very clever interpretation of the Botanic Gardens with the suggested skyscraper in the distance. I am very familiar with these gates having seen them innumerable times and they are very convincing. A good use of the medium particularly in the contrasts between the pillars and the warm crimson hint of the foreground wash.

Highly Commended: "Snowfall" by Marie Morris

Reminiscent of the Impressionist's painting of snow. Very good use of the white paper and whilst the trees weave and tangle we are still aware of each one rather than a birdsnest. Great use of the medium.

### Section 4: Works on Paper

1st Prize: "Hartley Valley from Mt. York" by Lia Johnston

Beautiful light and conveys the majestic quality of the valley. Although describing one place it acts as a catalyst reminding us of so many similar vistas available in the Mountains. Tremendous variety with use of the pastels and an immense range of applications.

2nd Prize: "Cat Cool" by Richard Grammer

'Cat Cool' has remarkable presence, beautiful and economic handling of the medium. Such is the intensity of the cat one could imagine it moving if one turned away. A similar delightful control of the medium was demonstrated one of Richard's other works, 'Presence'.

Highly Commended: "View from Observatory Hill" by Peter A Ayres

Very well controlled, demonstrating a wonderful command of perspective. It reminded me of Lloyd Rees' drawings of the 1930's and this image has a timeless serenity about it.

Section 5: Small Paintings

1st Prize: "An Affair to Remember" by Dixie Willmott

A delightful image showing a mischievous sense of humour. I enjoyed the cutout and how the frame of the image was repeatedly broken. Some delightful moments of watercolour e.g. the false teeth and toothbrushes; The image will be with me every time I clean my teeth.

Section 6: Beyond Reality

1st Prize: "Friendship" by Shirley Williams

It poses all sorts of questions about how we construct paintings; it is full of surprises and the way the figures form a flower is very inventive and delightful. It suggests friendship but suggests nature and landscape as well. A delight.

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If Not Delivered Return to  
Society of Mountain Artists Inc.  
PO Box 76  
Wentworth Falls 2782