

"My ambition is to construct a painting so that the whole of it's surface is alive, however I look at it. Each mark, and the interval between each mark must give something back on its own terms."

Andrew Forge, British abstract artist utilizing pointilist techniques

Welcome! to another year of great art adventures with your Society. To start, and as you can see, the editor has embarked on an adventure to change the format of the Paint 'n Palette. The reason, without going into too much detail, is to ease the transition between print and digital reproduction. Comments and suggestions for content and style should be in writing and left at the front desk.

The **first critique of the year is on Feb 7** and is always an interesting event. I am sure everyone has been 'out there' during the holidays battling away the summer flies and producing some outstanding artworks, and not just lying around drinking beer and eating chocolates. We will get off to a great start with an **Angelica Erbsland creative mixed media demonstration on February 21.**

Not long after, the always-popular **Paint Fest** is on again; this year on the second weekend in March, Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th.

Don't forget that other than March **every second Sunday of the month is now 'open house'**. Bring your paints to paint, your pencils to draw and some of the interesting litter from around your place to

create a still life display. Bring also artworks to sell; especially artworks to sell! Because now we have new display panels it will be much easier to look really classy.

Make your name -sell your painting

You may have noticed, in recent years, that offshore painters, mainly Chinese, are doing such excellent knock-offs that they present a real threat to our livelihood. The phenomenon may eventually destroy hard-won lifestyles in the Western world. "Free trade be damned," some say. "We need tariffs."

Copyright laws and tariffs don't work in this case. While cheap art in parking lots has always been with us, the Western artist who wants to stay the course has to realize that a name is also an asset. Art is not like shirts, where buyers may not care about name or brand as much as quality and price. Art is not like accountancy either,

which is now delivered over long distances by anonymous accountants in India. In art, the name is the name of the game.

Artists and the art they make are personalities within communities. It's a fact of life that one competently painted horse doesn't sell for the same amount as another competently painted horse. Reasonably decent prices are all about context and perception. Anonymous and "in the style of" work has little context and consequently low valuation.

Art suffers from Baumol's Disease, named for the economist who first described the condition. Some goods and services, he found, resist outsourcing because of their individualistic nature. Further, works by personalities, when they meet certain criteria, are condemned to grow ever more expensive. No matter the idealism or the art maker's joy, investment is part of our game. Just as common stocks are no fun when they don't go up, art needs to at least pretend. Pitching art down to a price fills only college dorms.

Professional artists who put their DNA into their work need not fear the offshore cloners. Even if the Chinese wizards succeed handily, a fake is still a fake. Art is not just art, it's a life, lived by an individualist with a personality, verve, and a deep respect for human relationships.

This story is edited from the original by Robert Genn of Canada. He is an artist and writer, who produces a twice-weekly newsletter. You can check it out at www.painterskeys.com.



**Notice of Annual General Meeting
of
St. George Art Society Inc.
is to be held at 7.30pm Thursday
March 6 2008
at the Kogarah School of Arts.
Notice is hereby given for the election of
office bearers in accordance with the
constitution as amended.**

Paint Fest 08

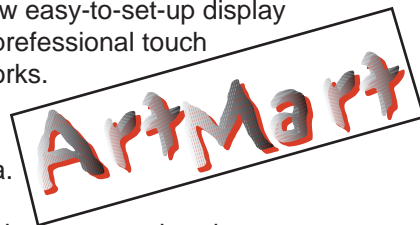
The second weekend in March is shaping up to be a great time. Popular **Paul McCarthy** will be shedding more light on his tricks with acrylics and colour. **Angelica Erbsland** will be doing mixed media on both days and **John Corby** will cater for the oil painters.

If you haven't been to **PaintFest** you haven't lived. It is the one occasion in our art year where you can really feel at one with your fellow members over the two days of learning in such a convivial atmosphere. Make sure you don't miss out. Registration forms are available now; or contact Jillian on 9546 6992 or Mitzi on 9529 3423.

It will come as no surprise that all of our activities require some planning and promotion. For this reason members are urged to join the committee this year. The only way for the Society to continue going forward as an exciting group for people interested in art is to help make it happen. You would be surprised how little it takes when the organisation is there. Be sure to come to the AGM on March 6 prepared to hold one of the many reins of control. **You will be glad you did!**

Art Mart is another exciting activity and this year will be better than ever with new easy-to-set-up display screens that will add a professional touch to presentation of art works.

There will be leaflets available for members to distribute in their area. If nobody knows, nobody will come. So be sure to do what you can to publicise this activity.



"Great art is deeply ordered. Even if within the order there may be enormously instinctive and accidental things, nevertheless they come out of a desire for ordering and for returning fact onto the nervous system in a more violent way." Francis Bacon



Congratulations to Jean Harrow and Jenny Wassell. Jean's painting "Kandos Cliffs" was selected artwork of the month and Jenny's 'Kakadu Reflections' was the People's Choice. Both are oil paintings.



Artists do well to supplement trial and error by relearning and rethinking the order of the masters. The good books are everywhere. The mere expedient of change and variation can transform chronic mediocrity to unique accomplishment. Apart from the artistic values of disobedience and intransigence, art thrives on "backwards thinking." These days, "beauty" is an unappreciated word, but it's in an understanding of order that beauty is often rooted out and exposed. "Order is the shape upon which beauty depends." (Pearl S. Buck)

Art Tuititon available from SGAS members

- Don Kibble** Ramsgate Life Saving Hall, Ramsgate Beach
Phone Don 9547 2237 Wednesday 10am to noon \$20
- Myrle King** Rockdale Tennis Club, 71 Chapel St. Rockdale
Phone Myrle 9587 5609 Wednesday 10am \$10
- Ros Psakis** Kogarah Bay Progress Hall, Park Rd. Kogarah Bay
Phone Ros 9587 8857 Wednesday 10am to 2pm \$25
- Yvonne Ferguson** Home Studio, 130 The Promenade, Sans Souci
Phone Yvonne 9529 5536
Monday & Wednesday 6.30 to 9pm \$20
- Friends Painting Group (no tuition)**
- Pat Buckeridge** Rockdale Tennis Club, 71 Chapel St. Rockdale
Phone Pat 9529 7727 Wednesday 9.30am to 3.30pm \$2

The Festival of St. George

is on Sunday April 6 from 6.30am (!)

at Olds Park off Forest Rd Penshurst

If this sounds like another Art Society project you would be wrong! We have two stalls booked for this Hurstville Lions event. Members can take this opportunity to sell artwork, promote the Society and maybe most importantly promote yourself. So bring lots of cards to hand out as well as paintings. This event promotes the St George area and is well catered for with many types of stalls.

Don't forget to fill in the membership renewal form overleaf. **ONLY FULLY PAID-UP MEMBERS** can participate in special activities like the St. George Festival, and we know you wouldn't want to miss these for quids.

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It's give and take Drawing is more like a shared experience... by contrast, if you photograph someone, they feel you're 'taking' something.

The camera can be cruel, whereas the pen - in theory at least - is kind. The click of a shutter captures appearances with brutal objectivity, whereas a drawing is always an interpretation of reality. Ugliness and error may be ascribed to the incompetence of the draftsman, not the whims of nature.

Good Grief! Is this for real??

The process of mixing a loved one's ashes with inkjet ink and then printing an image with the mixture can give relatives an unusual gift of remembrance. Developed by inkjet cartridge recycling entrepreneur Ben Bohannon after his grandparents passed away last year and were cremated. Wanting something to remember them by, he developed the new technology and he is offering the service worldwide. Customers are sent a vial in which to include a small portion, typically about one ounce of the ash as well as the image. It takes about 4-6 weeks and each photograph is a custom work of art created by carefully blending the perfect amount of ash with a special ink formulation.

Using specially designed equipment at the companies state of the art facility the blended ink is injected into a special inkjet cartridge which is then used to print an unforgettable memorial photograph of various sizes and on various mediums. As an example, the company can print a portrait photograph on canvas that will resemble a painting or wallet size print on glossy photo paper.



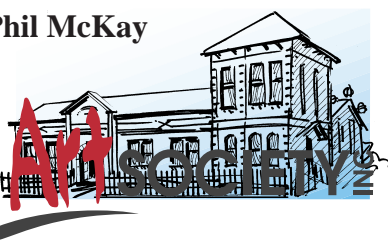
Two views of end of the year activities: 'the last supper', above and 'celebrating Christmas at GiGi's', left. We are as good at eating as we are at painting and that is not a bad thing, eh.

Paint 'n Palette can be posted to youjust send post-stamped, self-addressed 'DL' envelopes -one for each month- to:
 Paint 'n Palette : St. George Art Society PO Box
 123 Kogarah NSW 1485

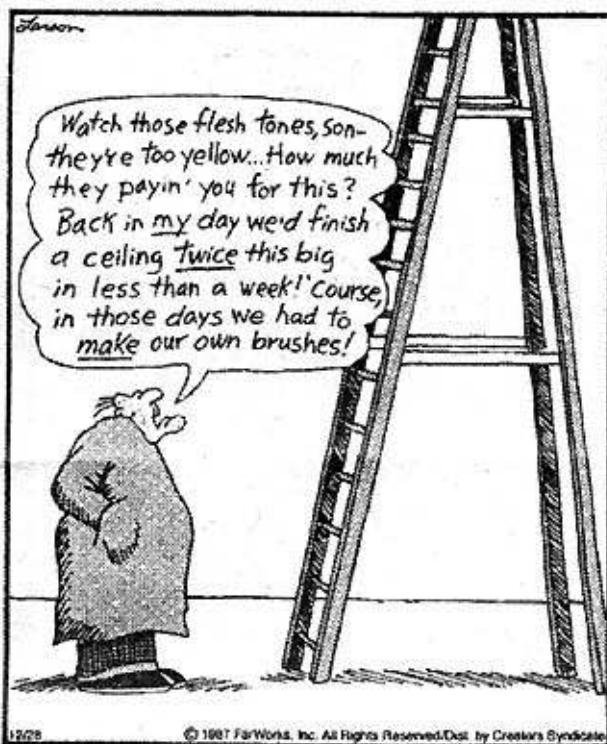
Kogarah School of Arts:
 Cnr. Queens Ave and Bowns Rd, Kogarah 2221
 Payphone No. on premises is 9588 6724.

St. George Art Society Incorporated

- President** Don Kibble 042 747 2237
- Secretary** Jillian Jessen 9546 6992
- Treasurer** Lorraine Sweeny 9546 1162
- Demonstrators** Jillian Jessen 9546 6992
- Honorary Auditor** Graham Hall C.P.A.
- Web Master** Phil McKay



THE FAR SIDE® BY GARY LARSON



MICHAELANGELO'S FATHER

It is important for the Society that members renew their membership early in the new year. This helps with planning for both regular and special activities, and provides for legitimacy of membership for the incoming committee.

Cut and return with payment

This form is also available on the Society's web site

MEMBERSHIP FORM



***** PO Box 123
 KOGARAH NSW 1485
 www.stgeorgeartsociety.com.au

PLEASE PRINT _____ DATE: _____

NAME: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

SUBURB: _____ POST CODE: _____

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PHONE: H _____ W _____

MOB: _____ FAX: _____

EMAIL: _____

ANNUAL FEES

- Single \$20
- Family Couple \$25
- Pensioner \$10
- Pensioner Couple \$15
- * Postage \$5

TOTAL _____

PAYMENT METHOD _____

PAID \$ _____

* Please indicate if you prefer to have the Society's monthly newsletter, Paint 'n Palette, posted to your address for the cost of \$5 or supply the Society with 10 stamped, self addressed DL envelopes OR if you prefer to read or download it from the website.