



## Critique...

...and how to make the most of it.

As just a passive observer of artworks that pass by the critic's gaze in only a few minutes, you

might be just witness to a parade of more or less interesting artworks.

Like visiting a large gallery and losing your interest among the variety. It is important to remember that every artist and their art are unique. So it becomes not a matter of good or not-so-good, but something more personal.

The critic can point out technical failings that if rectified, will improve a picture. This may be colour or layout or tone or balance etc.

As an artist, and a more serious viewer, the first criteria might well be deciding if you *like* what you see and then looking for what it is that makes the image appealing for *you*.

This might be a visual effect of softness (low contrasts, soft edges), or of colour (strong and clashing or rhythmic), or shape (positive/negative balances), or design (the way the parts fit together).

Perhaps the most important thing though is the sudden effect of a viewing and liking or not liking on say, a scale of ten.

Of course it is important to critique your own work by utilizing the art elements, principles of design and use of art terminology. To make it a bit easier it is good to keep in mind the four main steps in art criticism.

1. Describe. ...what are we looking at?
2. Analyze. ...separation of elements.
3. Interpret. ...what is the meaning?
4. Judge. ...personal response -like/or not.

Monet's painting '*Impression Sunrise*' is considered to have begun the Impressionist movement, taking advantage of the new medium of photography to free artists from reproducing reality in their painting. With the camera now doing a job that had previously fallen to painters, Impressionists were able to use light, colour and innovative techniques to produce a unique view of the world.

Notice of Special General Meeting  
7.30pm, Thursday 3rd June, 2010  
Kogarah School of Arts

We need a big roll-up of membership at this meeting to help chart the Society's future.

Matters under discussion will include membership issues, how they relate to our activities and the possibility of introducing a multi-level membership system in line with other like groups. See the note on page two 'Your Evolving Art Society'.

The committee has worked over the details and motions will be put to the members for ratifying into the constitution.

It is a duty of every financial member to be there to vote.

May 2010

2nd Plein air: **Bicentennial Park**  
(note change of date)

3rd Exhibition: '**INSPIRATIONS**'

6th Critique: **Gwendoline Lewis**

13th Life Drawing (M)

14/15/16 **Meroo**

20th Demonstration **Richard Porter**

27nd Still Life

30th Plein Air: **Little Bay, Matraville**  
see location details on page 4

June 2010

3rd Critique with **Steve Ramsay**

10th Life Drawing

17th Demonstration **Steve Ramsay**

24th Still Life

25th Plein Air: **Towra Point**

## The Profiler

### Critique – GWEN LEWIS

Gwen's profile was mistakenly inserted in the April P'nP. Please refer to that for her profile.

### Demonstrator – RICHARD PORTER.

Richard Porter is a long standing Drawing Master at the Julian Ashton Art School. He has been awarded the Henry Gibbs Prize for Figurative Drawing and the Phillip Muskett Prize for Landscape. Besides being a highly respected tutor at Julian Ashton, he has taught at NIDA, Walt Disney, and Macquarie University.

Richard has demonstrated at St George Art Society on a number of occasions over the years, most recently in 2008. His return in May will be welcomed by veteran members of the Society, and will be a revelation for new members. He is not just a good artist, but a precise artist as well.



Ovid Art

*Veteran craftsman, 85-year old Frank Slip, has carved 956 emu eggs. And they sold for about \$300 each!*

*After the tedious job of blowing the whites and yolks out of the egg, he uses a simple Stanley knife to carve with. The interesting thing is that emu egg shells have as many as 10 distinct coloured layers. These range from green-black to teal and pure white.*

*Evidently emu egg carving was a popular pastime on stations and in Aboriginal communities from the mid 1800s to early 1900s. (Presumably, they started running out of eggs at the turn of the century.)*

## Your evolving art society

The Society's constitution has not been altered for a past a number of years. As a result, some anomalies have been discovered that do not reflect our current situation.

It is a credit to the enthusiasm of the newly elected committee, particularly minute secretary Jean Harrow, and questions from the floor at the AGM by Denis Wyr and Phil McKay, that will result a timely update.

The major features of the amendments will be the setting out more accurately the conditions of membership for 1. voting rights at the AGM, 2. entering the Society's Annual Art Awards, and 3. participation in other art exhibitions and events.

It is important for our expanding membership to be able to fully participate and it is hoped the new rules will make it easier for members to always be financial.

We welcome **Sue Severino** as the new manager of our extensive library of art magazines, books and CDs. Susan is conducting an audit and fine-tuning the collection to make it easier to find what you are interested in. The new pricing for the library is intended to provide for it's further development. Sue needs a seconder for when she is absent and would be happy to hear from anyone that would like to help.

## Art Tuititon available from SGAS members

- Yvonne Ferguson** Home Studio, 130 The Promenade, Sans Souci  
Phone Yvonne 9529 5536 **Monday 6.30 to 9pm \$25**
- Don Kibble** Ramsgate Life Saving Hall, Ramsgate Beach  
Phone Don 9547 2237 **Wednesday 10am to noon \$25**
- Ros Psakis** Kogarah Bay Progress Hall, Park Rd. Kogarah Bay  
Phone Ros 9587 8857 **Wednesday 10am to 2pm \$25**

### 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**

## Don't worry, think happy!

Feeling blue? If so, you are probably not performing at your peak level of creativity. Contrary to the popular belief that the majority of 'creative geniuses' suffered from depression, thus suggesting an implicit link between creativity and feeling sad, studies have shown that people are actually more creative when they are happy.



Complimentary tuition for new members is available on Still Life and Costumed Figure sketching evenings. Just mention when signing in that you would like some help.

STRUT YOUR STUFF AT THESE UP-COMING EXHIBITIONS

**Moran Portraiture Prize**  
Entry by 25th June

**Drummoyne A. S.**  
Entry by 4th May

**Oyster Bay P. S.**  
Entry by 10th May

For details about these art shows and others send an email request to Don at [kibbleart@optusnet.com.au](mailto:kibbleart@optusnet.com.au) or check sample forms in the front desk file at

**Awards & Achievements**

THE SOCIETY is featured in AUSTRALIAN ARTIST MAGAZINE No. 310 for April...right up front on page 2 is an article and pictures of our 2009 Art Awards.

Then see pages 32 to 39 for ROS PSAKIS's demonstration of how to paint from photos.

**LukesCare Exhibition:** (Little Bay) **DON KIBBLE**, 1st runner up in Oil/Acrylic section.

**Royal Easter Show awards:**  
**KRISTINE BALLARD** Highly Commended -Figurative Painting.  
**JAN SCHUSTER-CALLUS** Highly Commended in Silverwork.  
**BEVERLEY ALLEN** Highly Commended -Landscape

**Tumut 53rd Exhibition awards:**  
**ROS PSAKIS** 1st and also Highly Commended in Local Scenes  
**MITZI ALISON TILLEY** Commended in the Works on Paper section.  
Congratulations all and may the god of fine art visit you all again.

**St. George Art Society Incorporated**  
Kogarah School of Arts  
Cnr. Queens Ave & Bowns Rd Kogarah 2221

- President **Don Kibble** 042 747 2237
- Secretary **Jillian Jessen** 9546 6992
- Treasurer **Liz Wellings**
- Public Officer **Emil Dan**
- Auditor **Graham Hall C.P.A.**
- Web Master **Phil McKay**
- Paint 'n Palette **Don Kibble**

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*Combined Art Societies of Sydney*

Congratulations go to Ros Psakis for, once again taking home The Art Scene 'Best in Show' Award at the CASS Art of Sydney Awards held at the ArtHouse Hotel in the City! Great work, Ros! A brilliant painting! Myrle King was also fortunate to take home a Commended Award for one of her 'chook' Miniatures! Congratulations, Myrle!

There were other members who almost made it the podium, but unfortunately the finalists on the night were only recognised in the catalogue. But never-the-less it does not stop up from congratulating them here!

Ros Psakis was a finalist in the Oil Section, Susan Severino a finalist in the Works on Paper Section, Kristine Ballard in the Abstract Section along with Jillian Jessen, and both Myrle King and Gloria Ransom were finalists in the Miniature Section. Congratulations to you all! Those awards were so close – maybe next year!

The Opening Night was great success! The Governor of NSW, Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO officially opened the show and the night generally was one most

people won't forget. But, the sales at the ArtHouse venue left heaps to be desired, only 12 paintings sold during the whole month. Lack of communication between personnel at the ArtHouse did not help the show in any way. No doubt the CASS Delegates meeting on the 18th April will spend some time 'chatting' about the show and the venue!

One thing that must be remembered when we talk about the Art of Sydney Awards is that it costs a heap to hold the show in the City of Sydney. Most individual societies would not have the money, the time or the manpower to organise a show such as the Art of Sydney, and that is where our societies have chosen to join together to make the Art of Sydney Awards Exhibition work.

But, what really makes the exhibition work is the CASS Art in Action event that is held at the Merroo Conference Centre, at Kurrajong, in May each year. This is where the money is made so the Art of Sydney Awards Exhibition can be held annually. It is a major fund raising event that offers all artists the opportunity to get together in workshops, (this year 51 workshops) with tutors from all over Australia. You are accommodated at the same venue as the workshops and it is a brilliant weekend of art and fun!

Time is running out for making bookings, but there is still plenty of space left in most workshops. The only workshops that are full as at 1.4.2010 are Nos. 2, 22, 32, 37 and 51. Check out the CASS website – [www.combinedartsocieties.com](http://www.combinedartsocieties.com) where you can check the workshops, and download a Booking Form. Hopefully we'll see you there! If you have not been before – make this the year!



**STGEORGE ART SOCIETY INC**



Foundation Member

CASS Combined Art Societies of Sydney [www.combinedartsocieties.com](http://www.combinedartsocieties.com)

Sketch of the month



**Marlene Weaver** regularly produces some lovely free-form, but well-proportioned drawings, with an economy of line, a minimum of tone and a strong sense of design. Quite something to be emulated.

**Plein air 1**

The visit to Bicentennial Park on West Botany Street has been moved forward a week to **May 2** to accommodate other activities on the prior Sunday. It is easy to find and there is lots of parking + washrooms. Views include a shaded waterway, tree filtered light and a bushy pathway.

**Plein air 2**

At the end of May, the 30th, is a visit just down the road from the big house where the bad guys are. Little Bay, at Matraville is a little trickier to find. Follow Anzac Parade, turning left into Napier St, left again to Howe St, and left again past the Randwick Golf Club onto Bay Parade. There is an imposing view of the rock face on the far side of the bay. We meet at the park/beach across the road from the cafe.

**Paint 'n Palette** can be posted to you.....just send post-stamped, self-addressed 'DL' envelopes -one for each month- to:

Paint 'n Palette :

St. George Art Society PO Box 123

**The wit!**

- 6. A chicken crossing the road: poultry in motion.
- 8. With her marriage she got a new name and a dress.
- 9. Show me a piano falling down a mine shaft and I'll show you A-flat miner.
- 10. When a clock is hungry it goes back four seconds.

**Bits 'n Pieces**

**New Gallery, New Opportunity**  
*Showcase Art Gallery* opened on April 15 for a one week showing of works by Joe Bezzina, Robyn Gosbell, Catherine Harry, Janis Stapleton, Robert Stuart and Freda Surgenor. The gallery is located at 2/123 Como Road, Oyster Bay. Phone 0401 719743.

**Free Fiji Art Retreat!**  
All you have to do is drop \$25 at your nearest Eckersley shop to be in the draw for the \$6,000 prize. But better be quick, entry ends Friday 16th April.

**The Importance of Supper**  
If you don't eat, you can't breathe and if you can't breathe, nothing else matters!  
So, see George ASAP if you haven't got your name on the suppers list. Just pick a partner and do it together. Easy, and the hungry hordes at critiques and demonstrations will be forever in your debt.

**IMPORTANT!** If you have any pictures or news of interest to members you can send as an email reply to the digital weekly members news or directly to the P'nP editor at

kibbleart@optusnet.com.au

**Kogarah Heritage Exhibition**

Now on. Go on. Have a look. There are a number of very interesting artworks and old to very-old photos on display. It will be on for several weeks. The Society, I am happy to say, has a major presence; so it is big plaudits to those members that got out of their comfort zone and came up with the goods. The organiser, Clinton Johnon, conducted the official opening of the exhibition to a crowd of about fifteen people. See website for views.



**A recap for your inspirations**  
Where: Kogarah Library  
When: May 3rd 'til May 24th  
**Entry: Thursday 22nd April (!!!!)**  
Remember, this is a \$5 per painting investment on your own part as there is no commission taken on sales. Also, there is the opportunity to promote your own sales, and the Society, by spending time at the library demonstrating your art skills. The 'hanging' will be conducted by specially selected members; all you have to do is drop off before 11am on the Monday, 3rd May. Collection of unsold artworks is 5-7pm Monday 24th May, or advise if you want to have your work returned to the 'Hall' for collection there.