



THE CRAFTY ARTIST

Newsletter of the
Ballina Arts & Crafts Centre Inc.

FEBRUARY 2024

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Hello everyone and welcome to a new year of creative endeavours, may 2024 bring peace and joy to you, yours, and all of humankind.

These long summer days have brought a lot of heat and humidity and the conditions have felt difficult at times.

BACCI has a great year planned for the group, with two exhibitions, one in Autumn and the other in Spring, and, of course, The Grace Cruice exhibition over the winter months.

Over the summer I spent a lovely week in Sydney, and I was able to visit several stunning exhibitions.

One of these was at the Art Gallery of New South Wales – it was the Kandinsky retrospective; this was an exceptional exhibition. I loved seeing how his work evolved over the years until his death not long after the end of the WWII. He was a master of colour and geometry, and his work has a spiritual dimension.

The retrospective was accompanied by a study of colour by Desmond Lazaro. He associated the magical relationship between metal pigment colours and the seven visible planets. He also had made a study of the geometry of the movement of our solar system, and in many ways that study helped us to understand Kandinsky's work.

“Open your ears to music, your eyes to painting. And don't think! Ask yourselves.... Whether the work of art has carried you away to a world unknown to you before. If so, what more do you want?”



Reminder – our first meeting for 2024 is on Monday, 5 February at the Cherry Street Sports Club.

WHATS COMING UP?

Monthly meeting:

Date: Monday, 5 February 2024

Time: 5.00pm for 5.30pm start

Show & tell: Geoff Maclean – Geoff will be talking about marketing ideas and how everyone can effectively market their art, and also how those ideas can benefit BACCI

Location: Boardroom
Cherry Street Sports Club
Cnr Cherry & Bentinck Streets
Ballina

At our first meeting in a couple of weeks, I look forward to discussing our hopes and wishes for a creative 2024 and how we can all work towards making BACCI stronger.

Thank you
Françoise Sauvère



LENNOX NEWS

Happy New Year Everybody. I hope you all have a very creative and rewarding 2024.

Hint!

It has been very hot, and I'm finding my acrylic paints are drying very quickly. A wet palette will slow down the process and give you more working time and preserves colours you have already mixed without trying to recreate them. Paint can also be preserved by using weekly/monthly pill containers, these are usually watertight. Putting the wet palette and the pill containers in the fridge when you are not painting will help keep them from drying out as well.

"A stay wet palette is a palette that helps to keep your paints 'wet' and stop them from drying out. It is easy to make your own – it consists of a piece of baking paper that sits on top of a wet piece of paper towel in an airtight container."

Below are a few art prizes coming up to whet your appetite!

1. Ravenswood Australian Women's Art Prize 2024

*Entries close midday (AEDT),
Wednesday, 14 February 2024*

Entries are open for the annual acquisitive prize for Australian art by women artists working in any medium.

There is a total prize pool of \$47,000 across three categories, plus the People's Choice award.

An exhibition of finalists' works will be held at Ravenswood School for Girls, Gordon NSW 2072, from Friday, 11 to Sunday, 26 May 2024; email artprize@ravenswood.nsw.edu.au, or visit ravenswoodartprize.com.au



2023 Winner Ravenswood

2. 2024 National Works on Paper

The Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery's National Works on Paper (**NWOP**) was established in 1998 and attracts artists from across Australia working in the fields of drawing, printmaking, digital prints, and paper sculpture.

The 2024 National Works on Paper exhibition dates are from Saturday, 31 August to Sunday, 24 November 2024.

Your roving reporter
Lesley Ryan

FROM THE EXHIBITIONS DESK

During 2024 BACCI members can look forward to two exhibitions:

- Autumn Exhibition from Friday, 3 to Sunday, 5 May
- Spring exhibition from Friday, 11 to Sunday, 13 October

We can hope that everyone will be able to fully participate and make the year successful for all.

Article of interest **review by *Françoise Sauvère* in early January 2024**

Early in January 2024, I and my partner visited the newly renovated Artspace in Woolloomooloo, where we saw an extraordinary exhibition, called Untitled (Transcriptions of country) by Wiradyuri and Kamilaroi artist Jonathan Jones.

This exhibition drew us in with its eerily beautiful aesthetics and entranced us with an exploration of history that is at once both gentle and cutting. Much like the medicinal properties of some of the plants represented, this exhibition is much more potent than it first appears.

An expanse of long rows of hundreds (308) of delicate embroideries of native plants greet you as you enter the Artspace. Meanwhile, strong, and stoic illustrated portraits of Aboriginal elders are framed by stunning horseshoe-shaped arrangements of botanicals and natural objects; and intriguing sculptural assemblages are studded with carved emu eggs, masses of dried yellow paper daisies, piles of ceramics, and polished colonial furniture.

These handmade embroideries were created in collaboration with the ACE Embroiderers Collective, a group of migrant women organised through the Arts & Cultural Exchange in Parramatta.

Through this work the artist invites us to explore new perspectives on colonial history and provokes questions about ownership.

Jones considers the colonial transportation, trade and translation of Australian native plants and animals, and of Aboriginal portraits, objects, and music. The exhibition examines the French expedition to the southern lands that was commissioned by Napoleon Bonaparte, led by Captain Nicolas Baudin in the years 1800-1803. As part of this expedition, an extraordinary collection comprising countless Australian native plants and animals, along with the largest known ensemble of Sydney Aboriginal objects, were taken back to France, and kept at the private residence of Napoléon and Joséphine Bonaparte, the Château de Malmaison.

"I'm curious about how we come to terms with objects that were collected and are now lost to the archive; how these objects can morph into new forms of dialogue, become tools of reciprocity and repatriation within the framework of decolonisation," said Jones.



ARTISTS PROFILE

Rosie Kaplan

Rosie has been engaged with art all her life – art is her personal growth tool.

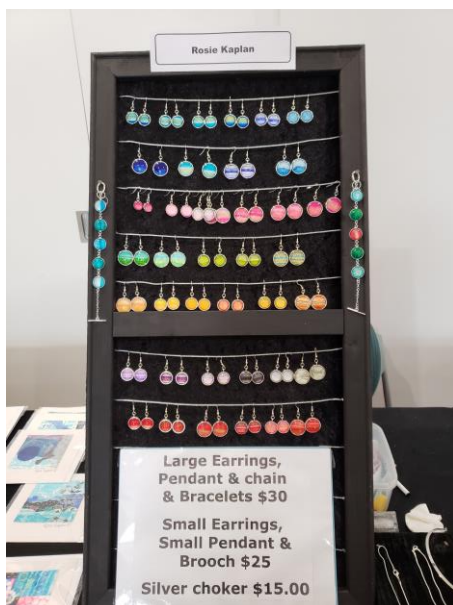
Fifteen (15) years ago Rosie set up the first of a number of studios, these studios have allowed her to become deeply involved in an experimental art practice.

Rosie tries things ... some work, some not so much, they all contribute to the journey towards her acceptance of life's calms and storms. The art she makes other people enjoy adds to Rosie's delight.

Like her, all Rosie's work is filled with colour ... the more the better!

She also makes Works of Art earrings, each earring its own work of art.

Rosie has exhibited three (3) times with the Lennox Art Collective (LAC) and has been a part of a number of shows with Ballina Arts and Crafts Centre Inc (BACCI), where she is currently the secretary.



CREATIVE ARTISANS GALLERY NEWS

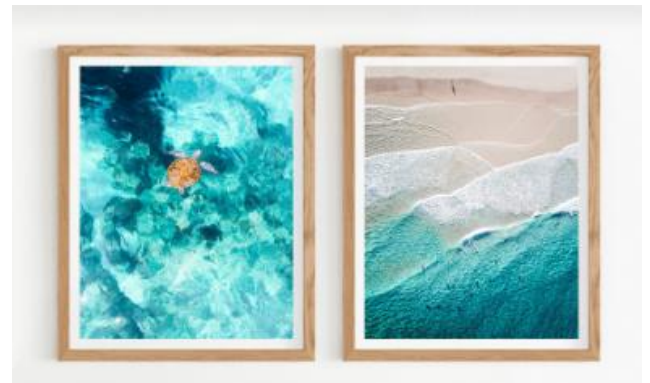
Featured artist(s) for February are:

1. Ines Goret - Photographer

Ines is based in Byron Bay and specialises in aerial photography. She began her love for photography when she discovered the new perspective the drone had to offer, how it changed our point of view.

“All my photographs tell a story, an emotion, an action captured. I never know what to expect. I get a huge sense of freedom when my drone is up, that’s when my creativity is at its highest. I never think about the techniques, I just let my eyes and heart guide me. Playing around with the colours, patterns, light, unexpected wildlife, a shadow, a wave and so much more....”

Welcome to my world, I hope you will enjoy the feeling of flying, even for an instant.”



2. Stedroy Farrell – Timber objects

Stedroy has always had an affinity with timber, enjoying the medium since he was a boy. He was to find endless inspiration in the diversity of shape and texture each piece offered and was led to make his first guitar as a teenager.

“As a retired Software Engineer, the thought of retirement without a plan worried me, hence my workshop was born. Here I spend my days creating objects from salvaged timber. I let the wood talk to me to determine the article I will create. It might be a box, a chopping board, a chess set or a lamp stand.....waste not, want not is my mantra.”



**Cheers
Pauline Rutten**

Ballina Wave Magazine **re 'Artist of the Month'**

Ballina Wave have kindly agreed to give a monthly space to a BACCI member, titled 'Artist of the Month.'

Details needed for article are:

- First come first served!
- 200 words about you and your work (it would also be great if you could mention BACCI)
- 2 x JPEG photos (these can be of you and your work or just your work)
- email your pictures and your Ballina Wave artist profile to Rosie (ballinabacci@gmail.com), as a WORD DOCUMENT please, **not** a PDF by the 1st of the month.
- if you don't know how to do the above, a family member could help you
- also please email to Maria (mariaheaton@hotmail.com) as she will post this on BACCI's [Facebook](#) page
- email to Andrew Watson (bacciexhibitions@gmail.com), he will update our artists profile book which is on display at our exhibitions
- to take advantage of this opportunity you need to email something to Rosie (ballinabacci@gmail.com), please!

Do you have anything to share, (eg art info, travel adventures and/or photos)?

It would be great to feature one of your stories, and pictures, in a 2023 newsletter.

Please contact Andrew or Rosie about your story – please email your story and photos, (remember to include your name) to:

The Secretary
BACCI
PO Box 111
Ballina NSW 2478
E ballinaartsandcraftscentre@gmail.com

Also, any correspondence relating to BACCI exhibitions, etc, please use bacciexhibitions@gmail.com

