



THE CRAFTY ARTIST

Newsletter of the
Ballina Arts & Crafts Centre Inc.

NOVEMBER 2023

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Hello everyone

How fast has the year gone past?

After another fabulous exhibition at the beginning of October, we can now spend the summer being creative.

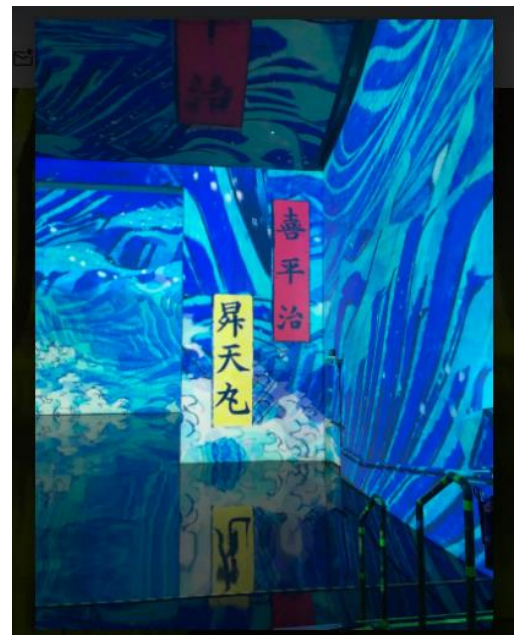
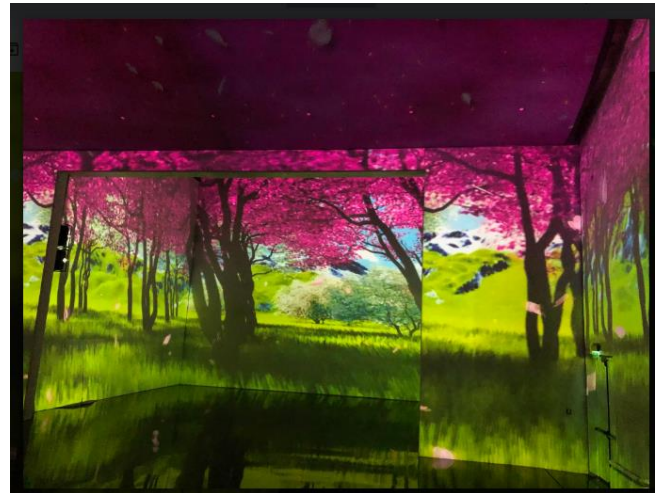
As I write this report I am in Dubai, visiting my daughter. We have spent two wonderful weeks catching up and experiencing one of the most diverse cultural mix of people in the world, all speaking many languages ... in comparison Ballina feels extremely white!

We were able to see a digital show of the works of Vincent Van Gogh and Japan one afternoon. While it was an interesting way to view and immerse oneself in Van Gogh's wonderful images of places and how Japanese Ukiyo-e style art works influenced him, it certainly cannot replace the actual physical paintings.

Dubai is a hub of creation of all the arts, music, paintings, sculpture, architecture, and it always feels as if everything is possible there.

Have a good safe month of November.

Thank you
Françoise Sauvère



WHATS COMING UP?

Monthly meeting:

Date: Monday, 6 November 2023
Time: 5.00pm for 5.30pm start
Location: Boardroom
Cherry Street Sports Club
Cnr Cherry & Bentinck Streets
Ballina

LENNOX NEWS

This is the third and last part of the copyright series. This is a small list of some of the sites that are currently available for artists to use, there are a lot more – Pixabay is popular and has good quality images.

FREE Reference Photo Websites for Artists

- Pixabay
- Unsplash
- Raw Pixel
- Jason Morgan
- Morguefile
- Paint My Photo
- FreePik
- Pexels
- Photobash

Facebook has a page “Free reference photos for artists” where you can ask for a photo to use of a particular subject.

To my mind it is always preferable, if you can, to use your own photographs. I have found that most photographers are more than happy to allow you to use one of their photographs, just ask for approval and give acknowledgement.

Copyright has become more complex with the introduction of AI (artificial Intelligence in art) the image below is an AI created watercolour painting.



Lesley Ryan

ARTISTS PROFILE

Alexa Grunner

I started to paint as a distraction from grief. This pastime became so self-absorbing, that life's problems are diminished – overridden by decisions I had to make regarding subjects, colours, and techniques. I love colours so much that I'm even excited by the shades I mix on my palette. I paint with oils, but practise with pencils and ink pens. I'm hooked on a pursuit that propels me to learn more and more, and I'm still only scratching the surface.

Birds are a common theme, their melodious songs reinvigorate me, although their calls warn of the fragility of nature.

In some of my works, a female is aligned with a bird, exemplifying her need to reflect the bird's beauty.

Where there is a confrontation, this recognises human intrusion, imitating the bird's form by identifying with it.

I also paint seascapes ... simply because I love the beach.

I joined BACCI earlier this year, and I was able to take part in the May 2023 exhibition.



FROM THE EXHIBITIONS DESK

I can't believe it is nearly the end of October and as I write this on the 23rd, only 4 sleeps left till I depart for Japan.

As a group I feel we can be very proud of our 2023 BACCI exhibitions. Both exhibitions were beautifully presented by all those that worked hard with the hanging team led by Angie Parr. The team should be commended as both exhibitions were so well presented and so many positive comments exchanged.

The Team in the POP-UP café excelled again. Thanks for your hard work and integral part of the exhibition, not to mention the delicious treats that members donated.

To the Set up and Pack down team, we couldn't do it without you.

There are of course people that work tirelessly and selflessly to pull this together, you know who you are, and we all thank you, you are the rock that keeps us stable.

Finally, to YOU, the members that volunteered for a shift of two and displayed your wares and works, thank you over and over.

Our October exhibition, in case you have been hiding under a rock, was met with intermittent deluges. Some might say it was bad it was raining; however, I personally think the rain brought people into view the exhibition.

Something for the committee to think about next year, Paradise FM announcements on the days of opening – I heard lots of Byron Market reminders but nothing of BACCI.

Overall, the show was successful with 11 (?) paintings sold, and. I believe, almost every display table sold something also.

As I mentioned at the last meeting this would be my last for now, as I would be stepping back to look after a health issue ... who knows what 2024 will bring.

Hope you all have a wonderful November meeting, apologies in advance ... not sure I should remind you, but I will ... I will be in Kyoto.

**Thanks
Andrew Watson**



A note from Rosie – with input from Kim Toft

I attended the Australian Seabird and Turtle Rescue Charity (ASTR) Auction event on Friday, 13 October. Approximately 70 supporters attended. Kim Toft did an AMAZING job of getting artwork and other prizes, about 75 in all, for both the live and silent auctions, and making the room look very inviting.

All the items received a bid, so most people took something home with them – \$15,000 was raised.

I was also there to hand over the \$1,000 “cheque” to Anna Dicker, ASTR President.



Anna Dicker, President, ASTR and Rosie Kaplan, BACCI

It was the evenings biggest contribution.

The MC for the evening was Mandy Nolan, and she kept us all entertained and engaged, she was very impressed with our raffle effort.

All funds will go directly to ASTR to help care for injured turtles and seabirds.

I believe that bidding wasn't as brisk as past years, possibly due to everyone tightening their belts.

I enjoyed seeing that ALL the BACCI contributions to the Live Auction sold – I think Lesley Ryan's was the only piece of art in the whole action that sold for the full suggested price.

Thanks again to all the artists from BACCI who donated their artwork for such a worthy cause

Rosie Kaplan

*(photo credit – MATCHA –
JAPAN TRAVEL WEB*

CREATIVE ARTISANS GALLERY NEWS

Featured artist(s) of the month are:

Janice Crouch

Janice is passionate about Christmas and started creating Christmas ornaments for the tree, walls, and doors over 40 years ago. She loves creating, designing and handmaking her ornaments out of simple materials, such as pegs, shells, nuts, etc, whatever she can find - she also adds bling!

These unique, individual one-off handmade ornaments make great wall and/or door hangings.

It's safe to say that in Janice's home it is Christmas all year round!



Lesla Kennedy

This November, the Creative Artisans Gallery (CAG) proudly shines a spotlight on Lesla Kennedy, the gifted artisan behind 'Tay La Made Designs,' a creative endeavour named after her daughter Tayla, her heartwarming creations have great appeal and charm.



Lesla, with her passion for beautiful crafting of baby and toddler clothing, has become the embodiment of love stitched into every fabric.

Walking into the CAG this month visitors are greeted by an array of spring colours and florals and classic simple designs that whisper tales of childhood innocence and warmth.

Lesla's journey as a textile artist began with a simple desire to create clothing as gifts or special sentiments for those close to her. Over the years, this dream has blossomed into an amazing following, renowned for its quality, creativity, and individuality. Her Christmas collection each year has grown, and this year's designs and prints will be in store soon ready for the Festive season.

One cannot help but be struck by the passion Lesla infuses into her work. Each creation is "made with love." This love is not just for the craft itself but also for the families who will cherish these garments, creating cherished memories along the way.



Tay La Made Designs has gained a dedicated following not only for the quality of the clothing but also for its uniqueness. Lesa's artistic flair and desire to create one-of-a-kind pieces provides a special little gift for that someone special.



As Lesa takes centre stage at the CAG this November, she brings with her a collection of dreams sewn into fabric, a testament to the enduring power of creativity and craftsmanship. Her journey, from a loving mother to becoming a cherished local artisan, is an inspiration to us all. 'Tay La Made Designs' reminds us that beauty and love can be found in the smallest of stitches, and that, sometimes, the most meaningful artistry is created right from the heart.



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

