

eNEWSLETTER

April 2023 No. 493

25-27 Walker Street, North Sydney NSW 2060

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From the desk of the President – John Perkins FRAS

The Annual Autumn Exhibition incorporating the Thora Ungar Memorial Award opening and presentation evening was enjoyed by all in attendance. Our Judge Steve Lopes gave an informative talk on Thora Ungar and the difficult task he experienced judging. He then announced and presented the awards and newly promoted Fellow, Teri Hiley was delighted to receive the Thora Ungar Memorial Award. Neil Hetherington and Susanna Chen Chow received commendations and I extended congratulations to these award winners.

The Fellows' Meeting and morning tea was enjoyable and informative, elevation nominations were put forward and some interesting topics discussed.

After consideration our AGM was held as scheduled with a small number of attendees. Unfortunately, we were unable to circulate the Financial Reports to members due to our Auditor Elizabeth Whittle contracting severe Covid. You will receive these along with the Annual Report as soon as possible. Our bookkeeper Diana Turner Robertson was in attendance to answer questions on the night.

We received two nominations to join Council for the forthcoming year and we will again be operating with 10 Councillors plus secretary, Christine.

Our new Council members are Susanna Chen Chow and Pam Luttrell. We welcome them to Council.

The high cost of maintenance, Council rates and insurance will present challenges for the new Council this year. We will look forward to again presenting a variety of interesting exhibitions for members to enjoy, so keep busy and don't let the paint dry on your brushes.

Happy Painting and Drawing.

From the Archives – Secretary Christine Feher

Quotes from the RAS Catalogues – To be continued in future Newsletters

1931

Art is international and enduring, but nevertheless the work of the great artists of each period is typical of the spirit of their own people, and of the country in which they live. This is the fifty-second exhibition of the Royal Art Society of NSW whose subject is to encourage the study of fine arts, and, by its teaching, and exhibitions, to inspire the rising artists with an earnest love for art in its highest form, so that their work may be imbued with the spirit of our Nation, and the feeling of our vast sunlit land.

Autumn Exhibition – Thora Ungar Memorial Award



Judge Steve Lopes with the winner Teri Hiley and President John Perkins



Neil Hetherington received a Highly Commended



Veronica and Sam Chuah



Genevieve Crocker with her painting



Left: Brenda Duncombe with her painting



Right: Sue Sharpe with Ania Zmijewska

Exhibition Judge Steve Lopes (Australian Figurative Artist and Printmaker)

Born in Sydney and studied at the University of New South Wales, gaining his Bachelor of Fine Arts in 1988. He is a painter and printmaker and known for his figurative landscapes.

In 2017 he travelled to the former battlefields of the Western Front in France and Belgium with 10 other well-known Australian artists and was invited to exhibit works in the touring exhibition 'Salient' – Contemporary artists at the Western Front.

He has won many awards and his works acquired in collections such as the National Art Gallery of Australia, Parliament House Art Collection, Canberra, Time Warner Collection in New York. He won the 2018 Gallipoli Art Prize in Sydney.

We extend our appreciation to Steve for generously giving his time to judge and open our Annual Autumn Exhibition this year. If you would like to know more go to his website.

Judge's Comments

Now I know every judge of an art award says this but this time it was incredibly difficult task-overall the quality of the works was very high.

It was hard to narrow it down and it showed the quality of this inspiring exhibition and the artistic health of this Society. It was really hard to separate a winner and all three works I'm about to mention jostled it out for the final prize.

I really enjoyed seeing what the members are choosing to paint, sculpt and draw. Subject matter is really important, and I found in each work a level of heartfelt connection between the artist and their vision and also a high level of technical skill and 'finish' which is really pleasing to see.

It's so great to see such a superb organisation as this championing the arts and its passion is inspiring. Art has never been so important as it is now and it's so great to see after all this incredible history the Royal Art Society of New south Wales is still going strong.

Commended – Susanna Chen Chow for Mt Sonder – Larapinta.

This is a great tough painting of Central Australia. It's filled with emotion and quite a powerful depiction of the Larapinta- a place which I've painted, and it captures the feel of that area. Her work has a rumbling energy to it and a great understanding of paint and its handling.

Highly Commended – Neil Hetherington for Coastal village – Cornwall.

This is a beguiling painting it stood out immediately from the very beginning. It had a confidence and courage to its simplicity. What appealed to me with it is its 'vibrancy' and atmosphere – it is just a beautiful painting and it transported me back to Cornwall.

Winner – Teri Hiley for Bubbling Up

This is a fascinating picture – it has great subject matter which is always important for me when looking at a work. There is an interesting level of layering going on and patterning. The paintings reduced colour tone and its complexity is what stood out for me and got it over the line. It's an alluring work that calls out at you after a few viewings and in the end, I thought it a worthy winner.

Congratulations everyone.

Members' News:

Kay McFarlane Smith FRAS – 1st Prize at the Newcastle Show in the Traditional Section.

Jane Wray is having a solo exhibition over the Easter Week in Kiama at the Old Fire Station Gallery Terralong Street from 7-12 April, 10am – 5pm daily, opening 3pm Saturday 8 April. Enquiries: www.janewrayart.com or 0418 665 164. Jane has also had her pastel selected from 1600 entries to be included in the prestigious International Association of Pastel Society's Spring Juried Exhibition.

Marlene Weaver FRAS was awarded a Commended in the Tradition Section of the 32nd Art of Sydney Awards Exhibition.

Allan Hansen Paintings

A large collection of Allan Hansen paintings is available including his only one modern artwork. Prices negotiable. Contact Diana Kraus, 32 Albura Road Epping NSW 2121.

Morning Tea in the Margaret Preston Gallery

We are trialling a morning tea once a month at the Society during exhibitions and our first one will be during the Art Ballot Fundraiser.

This is an opportunity to enjoy a relaxing morning tea and viewing the yearly Art Ballot Fundraiser, a truly magnificent exhibition and one that raises funds for the Society.

Date and Time: Wednesday 19 July, 10.30am to 12.30pm.

Cost: \$10 coffee or tea with a choice of slice of cake.

As space is limited, please make a booking by phoning Secretary Christine on 9955 5752 or email to lavender@royalart.com.au

Invitation to the Opening of our next Exhibition

*The Royal Art Society
proudly presents the*

Printmaking, Still Life & Sculpture Exhibition

*with Special Invited Artist
Michael Kempson*

Opener: Michael Kempson

Opening Friday 21st April 2023 6pm-8pm

Exhibition closes Sunday 21st May 2023

The Art School is within easy reach of public transport.

Close to North Sydney station, an easy walk brings you to lower Walker Street and the Royal Art Society's Lavender Bay Gallery and Art School

There is limited parking for cars at the rear of the building, plus street parking.

The RAS recommends the North Sydney Harbourview Hotel for dinner and accommodation (special rates for members)



THE ROYAL ART SOCIETY
OF NEW SOUTH WALES

25-27 Walker Street, North Sydney NSW 2060
Tel: 9955 5752 • Email: lavender@royalart.com.au

Our guest artist for this exhibition is Michael Kempson, master printmaker, director of Cicada Press, retired academic. His prints express very particularly, individual view of the subjects he considers.

RAS members have an opportunity here to express themselves uniquely in any of these three media, to explore how a print, a still life painting or a sculpture can show ideas in only ways they can imagine. It is a challenge to make something out of the ordinary, to look into a subject and interpret it thoughtfully or provocatively.

RAS EXHIBITORS ENTRY FORM

'PRINTMAKING, STILL LIFE, SCULPTURE EXHIBITION'

With special invited artist Michael Kempson

Send in Monday 17 April between 10am and 3pm or the week-end before
Opening night 21 April, (6pm-8pm) Close of Exhibition Sunday 21 May at 3pm

NAME: _____

EMAIL: _____

CONTACT NUMBER: _____

STATUS: FELLOW ☐ ASSOCIATE ☐ EXHIBITING ☐

GST REGISTERED YES/NO

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Open exhibition – all subjects, sizes, mediums and price.

Members are allowed 2 paintings of any size at \$15 each.

Cash on the day only or Direct Deposit: BSB: 062-217. Acc: 0000 0203.

All works must be signed and must have a standard hanging cord.

Old and damaged frames not accepted.

Title of Print/Sculpture/Painting	Medium used	Aus \$

- Artists are advised that the paintings to be hung are selected by the Council of the Royal Art Society based on quality of work and space limitations and that this decision will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- The Royal Art Society does not accept responsibility for any art works on the premises
- The commission rate for members is 30%.
- Unsold paintings must be collected at the conclusion of the exhibition. *Country members excepted.

I give permission for the Royal Art Society to reproduce an image of my work for the purpose of advertising the exhibition. YES/NO.

I AGREE WITH THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS SET OUT ON THIS FORM:

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

Please leave your bank details if painting sells. A/C Name, BSB No and A/C Number.

ROYAL ART SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

'2023 RAS MEDIEVIL BALLOT COCKTAIL PARTY'



*(An exclusive evening for the artists who donate a painting/s to the
Art Ballot
Tuesday 11 July 2022
6pm-8pm)*

*We are in Medievil times -with King Arthur and Guinevere, Excalibur,
Sir Lancelot and the Knights of the Round Table; goblets, Crowns,
great costumes - join in the fun or your head in the pillory!!*

You are invited

(RSVP to Secretary Christine is a must)



From the RAS Collection – by Secretary Christine Feher

William Grunstein FRAS

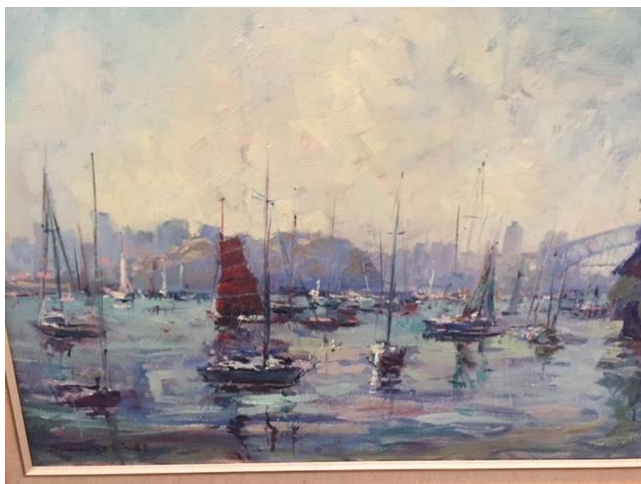
William Grunstein (Bill) was born in Warsaw in 1921 and died in 2013 in Sydney.

Bill survived WW11 as he was sent from one concentration camp to another – in fact 14 altogether, including Dachau, surviving by both his resilience and by being given odd jobs, including making aeroplane parts, drawing, writing but mostly because of his artistic talent. He was handed around by the Nazis to paint portraits, the faces of history.

As a small show of defiance, risking his life each time, Bill engraved the name of each camp he was in on to his metal cigarette box, along with the dates he was there. The box, made out of metal scraps of aeroplane parts, was shared between him and his friend Joseph Koplewicz. If it had been found by the camp officers, neither man would have survived. It is now at the US Holocaust Museum in Washington.

Bill arrived in Australia in 1949, followed shortly by Hania, his fiancée, and they married in 1951. Bill studied fashion design and art at East Sydney Technical College. Over the years Bill established a dress factory in Surry Hills which became extremely successful.

Bill became a member of the Royal Art Society in 1968 and over the next 40 years was a teacher, Fellow and Director of the Art School. His paintings were frequently exhibited at the Society and the Holdsworth Galleries. His works are held at the Sydney Opera House, the Sydney Conservatorium and in many private and overseas collection.

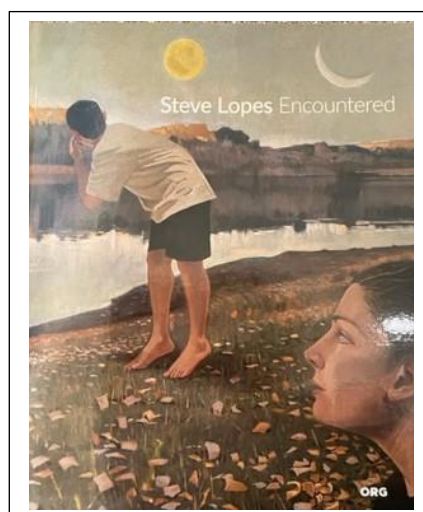


'Birchgrove' by William Grunstein FRAS
forms part of the RAS Collection

the art scene
Art Materials and Custom Framing
abn 95 001 966 472 914 Victoria Rd
West Ryde 2114

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Fax: 02 9809 6548
Web: www.artscene.com.au
email: sales@artscene.com.au





The Society wishes to thank The Art Scene
for all their support.

Steve Lopes book Encountered is for sale.
Copies are available in the Gallery at \$45

2023 Program of Events

<u>April</u> Sunday 2 End 1 st Term Friday 7 Good Friday RAS Closed Saturday 8 Sunday 9 and Monday 10 Easter Closed. Friday 14 Council Meeting 4pm Sunday 16 Finish Annual Autumn Exhibition. Monday 17 Send in Still Life with featured artist Michael Kempson 10am- 3pm Monday 17 Term 2 starts Friday 21 Opening Still Life 6-8pm Tuesday 25 Anzac Day RAS Closed	<u>May</u> Friday 19 Council Meeting 4pm Sunday 21 Finish Still Life Exhibition Monday 22 Send-in 'Flights of Fantasy' Exhibition 10am-3pm Friday 26 Opening 'Flights of Fantasy' Exhibition (6pm-8pm)
<u>June</u> Monday 12 King's Birthday Gallery Closed Sunday 25 End 2 nd Term Sunday 25 Finish 'Flights of Fantasy' Exhibition. 3pm Monday 26 Last send-in for Ballot paintings Friday 30 Council Meeting 4pm	<u>July</u> Saturday 8 1 st Viewing Ballot paintings Monday 17 3 rd Term starts Friday 28 Council Meeting 4pm
<u>August</u> Sunday 6 Ballot Draw 12 noon Monday 7 Closed Tuesday 8 Closed Friday 25 Council Meeting 4pm Monday 28 Send-in Annual Spring Exhibition (Medal of Distinction) 10am-3pm	<u>September</u> Friday 1 Opening Spring Exhibition 6-8pm Friday 15 Council Meeting 4pm Tuesday 19 Fellows Morning Tea 11am and meeting 11.30am Sunday 24 Term 3 finishes
<u>October</u> Sunday 1 End Annual Spring Exhibition Monday 2 Closed Labour Day Holiday Monday 9 4 th Term starts Friday 20 Council Meeting 4pm Monday 30 Send-in RAS Art School Exhibition 10am-3pm	<u>November</u> Friday 3 Opening RAS Art School Exhibition 6-8pm Friday 17 Council Meeting 4pm Sunday 26 End RAS Student Exhibition Monday 27 Send-in Christmas Exhibition 10am-3pm
<u>December</u> Friday 1 Opening Christmas Exhibition Thursday 14 Council Meeting 4pm Sunday 17 End 4 th Term Friday 22 RAS closes at 2pm	

President: John Perkins FRAS

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Deadline for the next Newsletter is 25 April 2023