



# THE ARTISTS SOCIETY OF CANBERRA

*A supportive creative community for visual arts and artists*

Founded 7 October 1927

The Artists Society of Canberra Inc  
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# NEWSLETTER

ISSUE No 426

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2010

## Workshop Tutors

27-28 February  
**TIM MILLER**  
 Pastel/oil

27-28 March  
**ANGELIKA ERBSLAND**  
 Watercolour/acrylic as watercolour

See Pages 4-5 for Details

## MEMBERS' MONTHLY MEETINGS

### CHANGE OF VENUE! CHANGE OF DAY!

Our monthly meetings for 2010 will be held on a FRIDAY, and at the YARRALUMLA UNITING CHURCH HALL,

Denman Street (close to Adelaide Avenue),

Yarralumla

Commences 7 pm      Entry \$2

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Feb	
26	General meeting: Tim Miller pastel demo
27-28	Tim Miller workshop
Mar	
19	Newsletter Deadline
26	General meeting: Angelika Erbsland demo
27-28	Angelika Erbsland workshop

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



What a summer it has been so far. Extreme weather, which at times has not assisted in getting paint onto paper or canvass

2010 SAE has been a tremendous success. I have heard so many positive comments from tutors, students and others involved. It had a lovely ambience and we formed a great art community at the Bruce CIT. The weather was dreadful for set up and take down and I was very impressed with those people, many of whom were not actually attending workshops, who gave up their valuable time to work hard in such hot weather, to ensure the event was a success.

As is tradition, the weather was incredibly hot for much of the week. If at times we doubted the rooms were air conditioned, we only had to walk outside to realise that the rooms were actually quite cool.



I really can't thank Ann Hand, the SAE Coordinator, enough for the hard work she has put in to the event. Ann worked tirelessly for months beforehand, and no stone was left unturned, to ensure everything went smoothly and as planned. Above all I admired Ann's patience and resilience, as no matter what was thrown at her, she coped admirably. I have learnt that Ann is one of those quiet achievers who absolutely hates being in the limelight and will shun all sorts of publicity. I did manage to get one photo of her on the website - but even in that she was trying to hide with her head down.

The great thing for me was to meet so many of our members. Generally I only get to meet those who attend monthly meetings so it was good to meet a lot more at the SAE.



Far from now having a well deserved rest, the Committee is busily organising the rest of the year – there is still much to do with the Workshop Program, Spring Exhibition and other events.

On top of all this the Management Committee (MC) has been busily trying to organise more permanent accommodation for ASOC. Whilst it would be good to have our own premises, this must be achieved within ASOC's budget and meet our more urgent requirements, e.g. workshop and meeting facilities. The MC is currently investigating several options and hopefully will have more information, including a proposal, to put to members in the near future.

We still need lots of help and volunteers to run ASOC activities, as you will see later in the newsletter. Please don't be shy – we need your help to keep ASOC developing.



Until next time – Happy Painting!

Jenny Millett  
President



## ASOC NEWS

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### ART-2-GO

You may recall that ASOC took a stall at the Multi-Cultural Festival last year, to promote ASOC and sell small works of art. The temperature on the day reached 40 degrees and was most uncomfortable. As a result crowds were down and we only sold one art work.

Whilst Joan Gotthard really enjoyed chatting to potential members last year, the Committee has decided not to take on a stall this year. The weather is likely to be equally hot and the Committee has such a high workload that it has decided to concentrate on more essential activities.

### WANTED - WORKSHOP COORDINATOR

Ann Hand has managed to secure some great tutors for workshops this year. We now need someone to volunteer to manage the workshop program, coordinating registrations, venues, etc. Ann is happy to be there to support whoever takes on this role. If you are interested please contact Ann Hand on 6238 1629. This is a great job for a volunteer with some computer skills, and who would like to expand their skill set to include coordination of events. It is not difficult work and not an onerous task as only about 5 - 6 workshops are to be held this year.

### WANTED - SPRING EXHIBITION COORDINATOR

The Spring Exhibition is one of the premier events in the ASOC calendar and a great opportunity for someone to work with the Management Committee to make this event a success.

This person will manage a committee to organise the ASOC Spring Exhibition to be held in early October in con-

junction with Floriade. This also requires someone with email and some computer skills. The Management Committee will support this person and assist them to develop new skills, if required.

If you are interested or require further information please contact Tim Hardy on 6258 7178 – we look forward to hearing from you!

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Annette is now in her fourth year as Newsletter Editor (having undertaken to do it for three) and feels that it is time to hand over to someone with new ideas. She will be out of the country for the period when the June/July newsletter needs to be produced so that will be an ideal opportunity for anyone interested to see what it is like before committing. It is not a difficult task for anyone with computing skills as virtually all information is supplied and it is just a matter of formatting. Internet access is essential but attendance at meetings is not. If interested or for more information, contact Annette on [asadler@grapevine.com.au](mailto:asadler@grapevine.com.au)

### INVITATION

ASOC have been invited by ACT Heritage to participate in an Open Day at Elm Grove in Bonner, Gunghalin as part of the Canberra and Region Heritage Festival during the April school holidays. Please contact Jenny Millett if you are interested in a paint-out or have suggestions as to other possible activities.

### NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to all our new members. We hope to see you at our next General Meeting.

### WANTED: A VIDEO CAMERA OPERATOR

ASOC owns a Sony Handycam (HDD) which it has used to project images of demonstrations at our monthly members meetings so that everyone has a good close up view. We also have recorded demonstrations with the artist's permission, for inclusion in our Library. ASOC also owns the Toshiba Projector to which the video camera is connected at demonstrations.

We are looking for a member who enjoys using a video camera and who would be willing to set up the equipment at those meetings where we have a demonstration. A set of instructions has been created for use by the person taking on this role which will ease you into the job.

This is an important service for our members, and you would earn much gratitude for taking on the role. If at all interested, please contact Tim Hardy, 6258 7178 or [timahardy@hotmail.com](mailto:timahardy@hotmail.com)

### GENERAL MEETING SUPPER WELCOME DESK ROSTER

Volunteers are required to help serve tea and coffee and also to look after the welcome desk. Both are very simple tasks and it is a great way to meet other members. If you can help with this, our roster coordinator, Maggie Eibisch would love to hear from you.

[meibisch@pc.gov.au](mailto:meibisch@pc.gov.au) or ph. 6231 4507(home) or 6240 3206 (work).

## EMAIL UPDATES FOR ASOC MEMBERS

Since early December email Updates have been distributed to all 243 ASOC members who have given us an email address. These Updates are focused primarily on news and reminders about, and changes to ASOC events. They also include items about exhibitions, courses and other arts news of relevance to our members. These emails complement the information in our newsletter distributed every two months and information on our website.

The Updates are being sent out by Tim Hardy on a regular basis, usually fortnightly. If you have an item for the Update, if possible get it to Tim a couple of weeks before the event. Send it to [timahardy@hotmail.com](mailto:timahardy@hotmail.com)

If you have given us an address but have not received an email Update please contact Vivien Pinder, our Membership Secretary, 6242 9699 or email [vpinder@homemail.com.au](mailto:vpinder@homemail.com.au) Maybe your email address in our system is incorrect or has changed.

(Apologies for the recent double emails: we are trying to get the system to obey us!)



## ASOC ACTIVITIES

### FIRST TWO WEEKEND WORKSHOPS FOR 2010

#### FEBRUARY 27/28

**Tim Miller** - Pastel or Oil

Our first workshop of the 2010 year will be Pastels - with Tim Miller. Tim runs a gallery and workshop at Rockley NSW just south of Bathurst and teaches there regularly. You may be familiar with his work as featured in Australian Artist magazine over the years and he also teaches at the Julian Ashton School in Sydney. You can view his work on [www.rockleystudio.com.au](http://www.rockleystudio.com.au)

Make sure you check out his daily painting of sunsets around his home, one for every day of the year so far. A monumental feat! Having attended a workshop with Tim at Rockley last year I highly recommend him as a tutor and artist, his work is really brilliant.

The two-day workshop will be held 27 and 28 February 2010 and as a bonus Tim will also present a short demo at the February General Meeting on the Friday night prior to the workshop. In the workshop Tim will be doing landscapes and you can use either pastel or oil (using low odour turps please). Price for members is \$220 for the two days and is Intermediate to Advanced participants only.

#### MARCH 27/28

**Angelika Erbsland** - Watercolour or acrylic used as watercolour



The second workshop will be by Angelika Erbsland, a two-day workshop on 27 and 28 March, with a demo at the Friday night meeting the night before. The workshop will be in watercolour and acrylic used as watercolour, land and cityscapes, using vibrant colours with a contemporary style.

Angelika is a well known and respected tutor in many mediums and subjects.



Price for members is \$165 for the two days and is Intermediate to Advanced participants only

Find out more about Angelika on <http://www.angelikaerbsland.com>

Please see ASOC website to download a form to post in, or put your application in at the general meetings.

For more information or to register for either of the above workshops, contact Ann Hand on 6238 1629 or email [ahand@bigpond.net.au](mailto:ahand@bigpond.net.au)

**More workshops will be advised soon.**



## SUMMER ART EXPERIENCE 2010 REPORT



The 2010 SAE was the tenth SAE run by ASOC and a huge success all round. We had 13 workshops with approximately 150 students attending. As usual the weather was really hot, and we were glad of the air conditioned premises. The only complaint was those stairs – by the end of the week I could barely crawl up them and I'm sure they grew higher during the week!

The tutors were excellent, and won many fans among the students. They were not only extremely talented, but freely shared their knowledge and skills with their students. The students also had a great time, listened carefully and produced some wonderful work.

Eckersley's maintained a well stocked shop with many good specials – I heard quite a few comments on the bargains that shoppers managed to bag, and most are well stocked for the near future.

As mentioned above Ann Hand did a marvellous job as 2010 SAE Coordinator and was exhausted by the end of the week.

A big thank you to the many volunteers who willingly gave up their time to help Ann, especially in registering students, setting up and taking down classrooms, and the exhibition. The Class Coordinators should also be thanked for ensuring that their workshops ran smoothly and everyone was informed of what was happening.

One of the great things about the 2010 SAE was that there was always something happening – the Exhibition opening on Monday; the SAE Dinner on Tuesday; the Winsor and Newton presentation on Wednesday; the 'Look and See' on Thursday and the Bar-be-Que on Friday.

The Exhibition was of a very high standard and congratulations to those who sold paintings. Being the tenth SAE, it was very opportune to have the Exhibition opened by David Hatton, a former ASOC President, who had the foresight to start the SAE ten years ago.

John Myatt has donated two paintings to ASOC and Peter Griffen one. We thank them both for their generosity and will raffle these at some stage in the future.

It was lovely to see both tutors and students happily chatting at the SAE dinner – everyone seemed to be really enjoying themselves.

Natalie O'Connor, the Australian Winsor and Newton representative, gave a very informative talk on Wednesday lunchtime. Those who attended were given the opportunity to enter a draw for some great painting prizes. The major prize of acrylic and watercolour sets was won by ASOC member Diane Alder.

The standard of student work at the 'Look and See' on Thursday was amazing. This was not only due to the Tutor's teaching skills, but also to the skills of the students.

The Friday Bar-be-Que was great. The CIT put on a lovely spread and it was a good opportunity for us all to gather one last time in a relaxed atmosphere. Congratulations to those who won prizes from Winsor and Newton – I am sure they will be used to produce great artwork. Also congratulations to **Rene Lays** who won the major prize of a 2011 SAE Workshop (yes we are going to do this again next year) to the value of \$500.

I'm sure all who attended 2010 SAE went home exhausted but very happy – I certainly did – and I avoided all stairs in the following week!

A number of Sae photos are printed in this Newsletter. For more plus a poem to Ross Paterson from Chris Slotemaker de Bruine visit the 2010 SAE Photos Page on our Website: <http://www.asoc.net.au>.

Jenny Millett



## EXHIBITIONS TO ENTER

### Local

#### SMITH FAMILY EXHIBITION AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE

The Queanbeyan Art Society is organising the annual Smith Family show to be held on Sunday 14 March, 2010. Entries close on 12 February. Go to the Society's website at <http://www.qarts.com.au/> for more information and an entry form.

#### CANBERRA TIMES OUTDOOR ART SHOW – 6–13 MARCH

Entries close for this popular event at 5pm on 12<sup>th</sup> February. Entry forms can be obtained online at the Canberra Times Website:

<http://www.canberratimes.com.au/specialfeature.aspx?id=2834>

### Interstate

#### TUMUT ART AWARDS, Mar 27 – Apr 5

Entries Close: Feb 19, Contact Beverley 6947 4022 or Lyn 6946 2153 [bjhowton@westnet.com.au](mailto:bjhowton@westnet.com.au)

#### THIRROUL SEASIDE ARTS FESTIVAL & ART PRIZE, Mar 27-28, Entries Close Mar 5 with photos

(Preselection), Contact Pat 9526 6640, [patw-hite@unwired.com.au](mailto:patw-hite@unwired.com.au)



**GREAT LAKES OPEN** (Forster), Mar 28-Apr 11, Entries Close Mar 12, Contact Vicki 6554 5855 or Helen 6555 6307 [vickibullard@hotmail.com](mailto:vickibullard@hotmail.com)

**BRIGHT AUTUMN EXHIBITION**, Apr 1-May 14, Entries close Mar 12, Contact Heather 035750 1660 [manager@brightartgallery.org.au](mailto:manager@brightartgallery.org.au)

**SYDNEY ROYAL ARTS SHOW**, April 1-14, Online entries close Feb 3, Contact Tara 9704 1152BH [arts@rasnsw.com](mailto:arts@rasnsw.com)

**35<sup>th</sup> PORT MACQUARIE ANNUAL**, April 8-12, Entries close, March 19; Contact Maureen 0409 820 694 [secretary@pmas.org.au](mailto:secretary@pmas.org.au)

**COFFS HARBOUR LILLIPILLI ART & CRAFT**, April 10-18, Entries Close Feb 26, Contact 6654 7268

**COWRA CALLEEN ART AWARD**, April 16-May 23, Entries Close March 5 By digital CD image; Preselection March 16-17, Contact 6340 2190BH, 6340 2191 Fax [cowraartgallery@nsw.gov.au](mailto:cowraartgallery@nsw.gov.au)

*(Details about the above interstate exhibitions are provided to us by ArtCare Courier Services. For information about their courier service to these exhibitions: 02 4655 7473; [gurneys1@tpg.com.au](mailto:gurneys1@tpg.com.au) )*



## BULLETIN BOARD

**WATERCOLOUR PAINTING FOR ADULTS, BEGINNERS AND INTERMEDIATES**, Fridays 9:30 am - 1:00 pm at Studio 8, Strathnairn, 90 Stockdill Drive, Holt. Tutor is Jenny Robbins; Cost: \$30 per session. Subjects covered, materials, colour mixing, design, watercolour techniques, mixed media, drawing techniques. Enquiries: Jenny Robbins 02 62901948, or 0417 240 668, E Mail: [jlartist@grapevine.com.au](mailto:jlartist@grapevine.com.au)

#### FRAMING STORE BRADDON

Happy New Year to everyone! All the indicators are that the Global situation is improving and that the economy will continue to grow in 2010. What a great time to indulge in your passion and paint! Here at The Framing Store Braddon we have a huge range of ready made frames. These frames start at 4x6 inches right up to 28x40 inches (1000x700).

There is a variety of mouldings in most sizes so there should be one to suit your art work. This is a

really cost effective way of framing your art. We also specialise in custom framing for any size work, as well as box frames for jerseys and other objects. For those of you who are into Watercolours there is a large selection of frames from 1/16 to full sheet size. Don't forget the discount that we extend to ASOC members and on the spot mat cutting from a large range of mat boards.

Our website is about to undergo more changes to update specials etc.

[www.theframingstore.com.au](http://www.theframingstore.com.au) If you have any questions or want us to make a special line of frames for you please come into the shop, call us on 61623344 or email [brad-don@theframingstore.com.au](mailto:brad-don@theframingstore.com.au)

#### FOR SALE

Set of Plan Draws - \$350. If interested, contact Val Fitzpatrick on 6258 7259 or [valented@tadaust.org.au](mailto:valented@tadaust.org.au)

### PETER GRIFFEN WORKSHOPS

This year I am again working in association with the Art Gallery NSW Society with each workshop consisting of a two hour floor talk in the gallery on the Friday and the hands on workshop in my studio with gourmet lunch and wine on the Saturday and Sunday.

Dates are:

26-28 Feb, pure abstract

26-28 Mar, abstract and landscape using photos, sketches, etc

27-29 Aug, abstract and still life

29-31 Oct, abstract and the figure

Tel 9225 1878

"Anzac weekend in Carcoar painting with Peter Griffen" Contact Janey and Andrew tel 6367 3299

[www.petergriffen.com](http://www.petergriffen.com)



### A GEM IN THE ASOC LIBRARY

*The Art of Fred Cuming* VHS 1999, 60 minutes.

A few weeks ago I borrowed A VHS tape from the ASOC library, knowing nothing about the artist in it. Having watched it, I now consider it a gem of a tape.

When I started out painting a few years ago I found magazines like *Australian Artist* valuable in helping me to learn basic painting techniques and strategies. However, I got to the stage when I wanted more than that: I wanted to know how artists think as they go about making art. I value tutors, whether in a workshop or on film, who share their decision making as they create their works. Some artists do this very well, while some rarely share their thinking with others.

Increasingly I came to the view that some art technique magazines often fail to portray the "messiness" in making art. Too often the process is boiled down to technique in some sort of lockstep fashion. Not quite painting by numbers, but certainly the process seems oversimplified and always moving in a forward fashion to a triumphant conclusion. Meanwhile my own practice was not like that!

Hence my enthusiasm for Fred Cuming and this 60 minutes of film which captures him working plein air and then in his studio. The video actually starts with a scene where after a couple of hours painting on site, he says he does not like the result, and proceeds to obliterate the work!

Fred Cuming is a very well established artist who is a member of the Royal Academy of Art (which produced this film). He was born in 1930 and has spent much of his life painting around Rye Harbour and the Camber Sands in southern England, a place of big skies and space. I found a resonance in the challenge Australian artists often face in our own grand flat spaces.

He paints in oil, and the film shows him making sketches, studies, and colour notes for later work in his studio. Fred emphasises the use of colour and tones to create atmosphere as a primary aim. He emphasises the difference in what he aims for plein air ("a finding out process") and his creative and expansive approach in the studio. The video is worth watching for this aspect alone, no matter what your own medium is (mine is not oil).

Fred communicates all the time as he works, and comes over as a warm human being. There is a great deal of humility about him, sharing his uncertainties and dead ends as he works. At one stage he exclaims as he struggles with his work "Oh, dear..... there's only one way, and you have to paint your way through it!" I found it reassuring that he has said that painting is "incredibly difficult". But on the other hand he relishes the fact that there are "lots of surprise elements."

Fred Cuming has a website <<http://www.fredcuming.com/>> that includes two articles about him that were published in the UK magazine *The Artist*, and these are worth reading. In the meantime, join Fred on the beach and in his studio in the marvellous video that ASOC is fortunate to own.

Tim Hardy



### WEEKLY GROUPS

For information about vacancies in the following groups, please contact the relevant contact person:

- Monday afternoon art group, Ngunnawal – Contact Derek Travers 62428239
- Thursday morning tutored painting and drawing group – Contact Ro Farrell 0411710379
- Thursday morning painting group, commencing 9.30 am – Contact Diane Alder 62888862
- Wed afternoon portrait group, Yarralumla Brasserie, 1.30 pm – Contact Heather Acton 61616364

### DISCOUNTS FOR MEMBERS

#### BUVELOT PICTURE FRAMERS

45 Colbee Court, Phillip. Rod Luton is offering 30% off his standard professional framing costs for our members. He is also carrying a range of ready made frames including ¼ sheet, ½ sheet and full sheet sizes at great prices.

#### CLASSIC FRAMING

Bob Smith at Classic Framing in Mawson, opposite the petrol station, is offering 10% off framing and framing supplies for our members.

#### JUST PICTURE THIS

Offers quality framing at very fair prices. Contact Elizabeth or Bill Mitchell on 02 62415935 for an appointment.

#### DISCOUNT GALLERY PICTURE FRAMING

50 Weedon Close Belconnen Phone: (02) 6251 3837 Facsimile: (02) 6253 2150. Custom Framing & Contract Framing, Conservation Framing Australiana Prints, Modern Prints Limited Editions, Original Artwork, Large Range of Artists Materials. 10% discount to students, seniors and artists

#### MAUREEN'S ART SUPPLIES

Offers 10% discount to members.

#### ECKERSLEY'S – Phillip, Braddon, Belconnen, Tuggeranong

10% off a number of items on presentation of a membership card. Members should also inquire about their loyalty program.

**THE FRAMING STORES – Braddon, Gungahlin-10% off on presentation of a membership card.**

**WEAREHOUSE FRAMING & ART**, Unit 8, 83 Wollongong Street, Fyshwick. Provides Ready-made & Custom Framing and provides 10% discount to members. Phone Robyn on 6280 8044 or 0438 949232.

(Please note that the Framing Store in Phillip doesn't give the 10% discount, but will consider it, depending on the volume involved).

#### Committee Contact Details

<b>PRESIDENT</b> Jenny Millett 6299 9065	<a href="mailto:jmillett@iimetro.com.au">jmillett@iimetro.com.au</a>
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#### FROM THE EDITOR

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**Deadline for April/May Newsletter is 19 March**