

President: Professor Ruth McPhail

Dear Members,

A slight chill in the air as we head into May – hard to believe it! Lots happening in the Gallery as always but the big project for May will be the painting of the building and signage outside the RQAS GC Gallery. As we prepare for the Jubilee in September we are working towards our external facelift. You will see the work start with a white background and dark soffit and guttering thanks to Ali and his team and this will be then finished off by Mitch who will complete the "Mondrianesque" front and sides. We will also be adding new signage and slowly we will add seating space for the café.

We are very grateful to our local Councillor Darren Taylor who approved our grant application for almost 20 thousand dollars to go towards the project. We look forward to the development of the sculpture garden into more café space as we continue to evolve.

Speaking of evolving this month's changeover opening had a really big turnout. It was so lovely to see old and new faces and see the winners and grinners and jokers all back together again. It does feel like people are emerging from COVID times back into the sunshine. As we do, however, please take care to stay home if you are sick and keep a safe distance from one another. We have had some COVID cases and some folks are taking a while to recover so let's all stay safe.

Speaking of safety, you will see in the weekly email some tasks for members to do in regard to FIRE safety. Please watch a video on using an extinguisher, know where they are and ensure that our exists are clear and accessible. In case of a fire while you are on duty YOU become the responsible person for making sure the guests exit in a safe manner and, if needed, make sure the fire is dealt with and then reported in the correct manner. Let's work together and make sure we all know what to do. Tutors are asked to spend time in class explaining to students the exit plan so that everyone is aware of safety instructions and what to do in the event of a fire. We are all responsible for safety so let's take this seriously.

If you need help, please don't forget we have our Gallery Office Coordinator Belinda available to help. Speaking of helping, have you done your google review for the Art Café? The Art Café are hoping to achieve 50 more 5 star google reviews this year so jump on and help them out!

Kind regards,

Professor Ruth McPhail, Ph.D., M.Ed, B.Ed, PFHEA, GAICD

APRIL WINNERS



Theme Winner: Lynne Head-Weir 'Immersed in Nature' Overall Winner: Jacques Muenier 'A Walk in Binna Burra'

Non-Theme Winner: Maria Ortlik 'Mischief' No Photo



Next change-over of artworks: Sat 3rd June 2023 from 9am; also Fri 2nd June 11am-2pm.

OPENING Sunday 4th June 1.30PM for 2PM Awards, drinks, and nibble.

JUNE THEME: Portraits and the Human Form

HANGING FEES \$10 ONE PAINTING \$15 TWO PAINTINGS; ALSO 1 DUTY ROSTER SHIFT FOR THE MONTH.

Please ensure all paintings are ready to be hung with cord or wire attached. Also ensure canvas sides and frames are clean and tidy – professional standard always.



2023 Themes

June: Portraits and the Human Form

July: Realism
August: Mixed Media

SUNDAY 14th May 2023 is the next <u>Art in the Park</u> event (second Sunday of the month)

Bring your beautiful art to sell in the park. Set up as early as you wish..

Showcase your artist skills too if you dare!

The success of this kind of monthly event depends on all of us. The more gazebos and market umbrellas in the park the better. People are attracted to people doing interesting things in public spaces.



Bring out your stored away paintings so others can enjoy them as they walk by. Perhaps also bring your paints, easels, canvases or boards and create something new.



Musgrave art offers a 10% discount to RQAS GC Members.
Show your membership card or receipt for this.

Unit 17/3 Jackman St Southport Phone 5531 4010



NOTICE TO ALL RQAS GOLD COAST ESCAPE ARTISTS



Location for Plein Air painting
Wednesday 10th May 2023





Participation as an ESCAPE ARTIST is open to all RQAS members.

This month we will be painting in Country Paradise Parklands located at 231 Beaudesert-Nerang Road, Nerang. The group will be meeting near the old shops there any time from about 9am. On site there are lots of things to paint including a playground, tall gum trees, horses in paddocks, chooks, reproduction old country town buildings, creek and bush. Bring your own painting gear, easel, table, seat, hat, sun screen, insect repellent, water and lunch if you want to do so. There are various places for coffee and food in nearby Nerang.

If you have suggestions for future locations for the monthly paint-out by the group, please pass on the details to me. Thanks to Gayle for finding this venue.

DON'T FORGET

Bob Murphy convener 0411 244 846 bmurphygc@gmail.com

PLEIN AIR PAINTING WHY I LOVE IT A story by Phil Middleton

I have been drawing and painting since I was about 12 and despite my love of impressionist, post-impressionist painters and our Australian artists like Streeton, McCubbin and Roberts, I had never tried to paint outdoors. My first art lesson was when I retired in 2011 and Marie Holt was my tutor in Melbourne. Marie was very talented, encouraging and extremely polite, it was typical for her to say things like; "Oh that is nice, um that line may be concave you've made it convex", always polite.



One day Marie suggested the class go out to a spot on the Yarra River in Templestowe and paint outdoors, my first attempt at en plein air. There were many reasons why I had never tried before, such as doing too many other things; I didn't think I was good enough and was embarrassed by strangers looking over my shoulder as I struggled to work out what the hell I was doing. But this time I was part of a class (strength in numbers) and we were out of the way on the banks of the Yarra. So off we went, fold up easel, bag of paints and brushes and a little fold up table, which turned was useless as I finished up painting on a very uneven riverbank. It was a great spot; plenty of contrasts, slight bend in the river, able to see both banks, long grass, trees, rocks and a bush in the river where the water rippled around and sparkled in the light.

After a period of time Marie came around to see how I was going and the normally polite, encouraging Marie looked at my canvas for a short period and said "Oh dear that's not very good". I have kept it polite but I believe she was much more explicit with her terminology. She was right the painting was mud, I was painting in oils and did not fully understand thin to thick or how to lay colours next to each other without mixing them, it was poorly composed, too much detail, I did not establish the limits of the painting and got lost, overall. It was rubbish.

My next attempt at painting outdoors was in 2016/17 after we had moved to the GOLD COAST and I had joined the Escape Artists. I now love getting outdoors and the challenges of en plein air painting. It didn't come naturally and I still often finish up with rubbish at the end of the day but with help from those more experienced, a couple of workshops and practise I have had some successes. What I have learnt since my first attempt is to get a feel for the area and recognise what may make a nice painting. I try to keep the painting small and look for the contrasts between light and shade, keep it simple and define the area that I am painting.

The term thin to thick means much more to me now and I have learnt that as an artist you can get rid of trees if they are in the way or move them if they work better somewhere else. It doesn't always work but the successes are slowly taking over from the failures. Sometimes people think the result is quite good. This happened when I was recently independently judged winner of the Escape Artists Exhibition for 2022 with my 30cm by 20cm little oil painting of "FOREST PATH" done en plein air in the Currumbin Valley. This shows you never can tell.



BIG ART awards are in September. A condition of entry is that you must have exhibited your work at least three times during the year ie exhibited for three months, to be eligible to enter. There are four months before the big art awards in September so you have

plenty of time to exhibit your work 3 times before then.

LYNNE PARFITT (LULU) New Class at RQAS GC



Lulu was trained in fine arts at Julian Ashton Art School in Sydney which specialises in traditional realist art techniques guiding students to gain proficient skills to pursue their own art journey. Individuality was fostered as well as training in technical skills both of which are regarded as a vehicle for the creative spirit. A good part of art practice is learning to see form, beauty, tone and colour in our surroundings. From this, a painter can render their unique representation of our world in paintings, drawings, multi-media. The late John Olson was a prior student who took his technical painting prowess in his own unique direction.

Lulu has exhibited her work for many years; notably was 2017 Winner of the D'Arcy Doyle Portraiture Prize, was a finalist in the biennial Queensland Figurative Art Awards for 2020 and 2022 and won various art awards from the Broadbeach

Art Gallery. Lulu has taught art to people from all walks of life including those with disabilities. She is experienced in painting a range of subjects: portraits, figures, landscapes, streetscapes and expressive pieces.

Lulu is looking forward to offering weekly classes at the RQAS GC Broadbeach Art Gallery guiding students through the main elements of painting technique and composition. Class scheduling to be advised. If you're interested please contact Lulu on 0407 974 128 or

parfitt.lynne@gmail.com as soon as possible. View Lulu's artworks at parfittart.com



Linda Lyons – New Thurs night class 5.30 – 8.30, \$30

Linda obtained a Diploma in Fine Art and Design, from Middlesex University when it was a polytechnic. Her work has been exhibited at Bruce Watling Galleries, Vallard House Gallery, Mount Tambourine, Le Niche Gallery, Burleigh Heads and Waterside (artspace) Currumbin RSL. She won 2021 Second place in the Darcy Doyle Portrait Prize and was the 2021 Winner of En Plein Air RQAS.

For 30 years Linda has lived on the Gold Coast, joined RQASGC in 1995 and served on the RQAS committee during the 1990s. Her expertise painting in oils and acrylics will be demonstrated in her Thursday night classes commencing Thursday 4th May.

Linda described art as a way of perceiving the world in its inherent natural beauty, with the painter's eye capturing a vast amount of information when regarding any particular subject. Her inspiration comes from admiring and being awed by the artwork created by the masters in their particular genre. She is particularly fond of the Australian impressionists better known as the Heidelberg School –

Arthur Streeton, Tom Roberts, Charles Condor, Frederick McCubbin, Walter Withers etc. A favourite of hers is a small painting in the Brisbane Gallery by Walter Withers (Wet Day 1892). Australian tonalists are also favoured – Max Meldrum, Clarice Beckett, Roy de Maistre.

With reproductions of Marigolds (1925) by Clarice Beckett and Still Life (1922) Roy de Maistre Linda was inspired to paint her own copies, now enjoying those lovely paintings hanging in her home. French impressionists also provide inspiration, as do the Russian painters of the day (18th & 19th Centuries), Isaac Levitan being a favourite landscape artists. Levitan was a classical Russian landscape painter who advanced the genre of the "mood landscape".

Linda's classes would suit beginners, intermediate and anyone who wishes to paint in the evening in a group of enthusiastic artists. Her focus will be on Traditional & Classical Art Techniques and Principles in oils and acrylics. Beginners can learn good painting practice to facilitate their way forward. Intermediates

may find information of which they were not previously aware. While experienced artists could glean inspiration and new ideas from being in an artistic group environment.

Paint application methods will include – body colour, scumbling, glazing, impasto, frottie, blending, scraping back, alla prima, direct painting, wet in wet, wet over dry, painting in layers, underpainting, dead colouring etc. Principles of colour theory, tonal values, composition and perspective will be covered.

Linda hopes that the students would take away the fundamentals and principles of painting that can hold them in good stead to utilize the knowledge and create their own personal style and genre.

Contact Tutor, Linda Lyons ph 0450096932 Email lally004711@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER

Please contact the Office rqasgc@rqasgoldcoast.com or Editor, Eli Sky eli.sky@elisky.com with your stories and suggestions. Thank you to all contributors.

RQAS GC acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which we are located. We pay our respects to elders past, present and emerging and we extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait members and guests.

CLASSES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR 2023

	2020		
DATE & TIME	EVENT – WHAT'S ON	MONDAY	LIFE DRAWING
MAY 4 th THURS 5.30 – 8.30	TRADITIONAL OILS &	9 am – 12 pm	With model (no tutor):
NEW CLASS	ACRYLICS \$30		Contact: Melissa Bates
	Tutor: Linda Lyons		0420 615 489 \$20
	0450096932 Email lally004711@gmail.com	4.30 pm – 6.30 pm	CHILDREN'S ART CLASS
MAY 10 WEDNESDAY	ESCAPE ARTISTS See P 3		Tutor: Ursula Kelly 0418 886 057 \$20
2 ND WED of month	Convenor Bob Murphy 0411 244 846 free	TUESDAY 9.00 am – 12	THE JOY OF ART acrylics Beginners to Intermediate
MAY 14 SUNDAY 2 nd Sunday of	ART IN THE PARK on Set up early.	pm	Tutor: Johanna Sampson 0429 626 140 \$20
month		1 pm – 4 pm	TUES AFTERNOON STUDIO \$30
		6 pm – 9 pm	TUES EVENING STUDIO
			Tutor: John McConnochie 0411 279 600 \$30
JUNE 3 rd	CHANGE OVER for MAY	WEDNESDAY	PUT SOME ART INTO YOUR LIFE
SAT 9 am Also JUN 2 nd	JUNE THEME: PORTRAITS AND THE	9.30 am – 12.30pm	Tutor: Bernadette Lack 0411 376 777 \$25
FRI 11am-2pm	HUMAN FORM	1 pm – 4 pm	WATERCOLOUR
			Tutor: Annette Raff 0419 637 452 \$35
100	White polo shirts &	6.30 pm – 9 pm	LIFE DRAWING With model (no tutor)
ROAS	Maroon aprons with		Contact: Deb McLachlan



RQAS emblem \$30 ea

The City of Gold Coast has an Arts and Culture

program providing opportunities for artists of all persuasions to contribute to the arts scene on the Gold Coast. The Arts and Culture program could facilitate more visitors discovering our gallery and could offer some of our members artistic opportunities for the future. To keep informed subscribe to the Gold Coast City Council Arts and Culture newsletter. Click on:

https://www.goldcoast.qld.gov.au/Councilregion/City-news/Newsletters

TUESDAY	THE JOY OF ART acrylics		
9.00 am – 12	Beginners to Intermediate		
pm	Tutor: Johanna Sampson 0429 626 140 \$20		
1 pm – 4 pm	TUES AFTERNOON STUDIO \$30		
6 pm – 9 pm	TUES EVENING STUDIO		
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WEDNESDAY	PUT SOME ART INTO YOUR LIFE		
9.30 am – 12.30pm	Tutor: Bernadette Lack 0411 376 777 \$25		
1 pm – 4 pm	WATERCOLOUR		
	Tutor: Annette Raff 0419 637 452 \$35		
6.30 pm – 9 pm	LIFE DRAWING With model (no tutor)		
	Contact: Deb McLachlan 0407 760 077 \$20		
THURSDAY 9.30am – 12.30 pm	OILS & ACRYLIC CLASS Tutor: Phil Middelton 0437 626 222 \$25		
Afternoon No Class			
5.30pm - 8.30 pm	CLASS Tutor: Linda Lyons 0450096932 Email lally004711@gmail.com \$30		
FRIDAY 9am – 4pm	CATSWINGERS – no tutor; open to all members just turn up! \$5		