

ArtSpace

W o n t h a g g i

NEWSLETTER #5

MAY 2015

Congratulations to Bass Coast Artists Society for their recent Easter Exhibition. ArtSpace was proud to sponsor the Best Body of Work and the winner was Diana Edwards who is our featured artist this month.

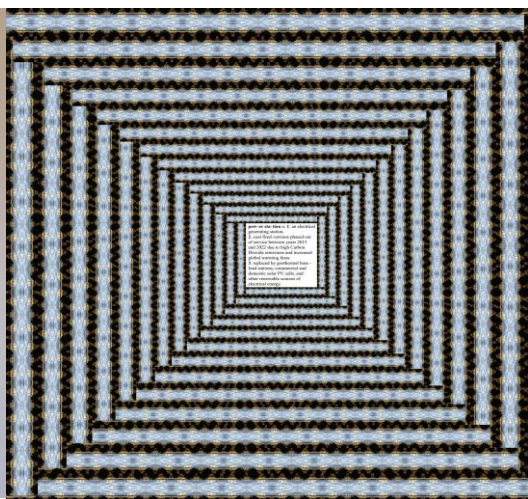
We were thrilled that so many of our exhibiting artists were highly commended or were winners in the various categories. We are especially proud of Ken Griffiths who won the Bass Coast Shire Acquisition Winner and will be invited to enter the YAC Award in September. Not only that but he also won Best Contemporary Work.

Ken was not the only successful exhibiting artist. Adrian Johnson - Best Oil, Jill Rogers Best Acrylic, Marian Quigley Highly Commended Best Acrylic, Diana Edwards Best Watercolour (and best Body of Work), Margaret Lacey Highly Commended, Kerry Spokes Best Drawing & Highly Commended Best Other Medium, Susan Hall Best Other Medium, Shelley Applebee Best Photograph Unenhanced, Vasy Petros Highly Commended Best Body of Work and Werner Theinert Highly Commended Best Contemporary Work.

A huge variety of work at the BCAS Exhibition – Susan Hall – Best Other Medium, Werner Theinert's Spiralling Power Stations to Vasy Petros' Highly Commended Best Body of Work



Ken's Best Contemporary Work



Featured Artist: **Diana Edwards**



If I am honest I had tears in my eyes when I interviewed Diana. She told me how life had been pretty tough for her having married at 18 years of age and having four children before she turned 25. Divorced only a few years after that she was forced to move in with her parents and then help run the family restaurant in Croydon. Tired and worn out she was driving to work one day and looked at the landscape shimmering with ethereal light. It was so breathtaking that she felt she had to pull over. As she did so she heard the words, "You are an artist." She had always known that there was something planned for her – and now she heard the words that were to shape the next 40 years.

She immediately joined the tonal painter, Ron Crawford's workshops and every week would spend a full day in his studio painting. Her holidays were spent at holiday farms where her children could engage in all sorts of outdoor activity whilst she sat at her easel capturing the lights and colours of her surroundings. She continued to work hard at the family business and in the end it all became too much and she sold the business. She says, "I had this strange dream which was rather unrealistic, that I would become a full time painter."

That was in 1992 and as fate would have it she met her now future husband, David Taylor, the celebrated water colourist. It was David who encouraged her to teach. She says of that time now, "I was really naïve in what I thought I could do, but somehow it worked."

They both sold their houses so that they could build their beautiful home and studio in the Christmas Hills. Painting plein air whenever she could, she explored painting oils from vibrant and colourful to quiet and contemplative she found her true love to be water colours where she captured images that only the translucency and magical qualities of water colour can create. Both she and David taught art workshops with up to twelve live in students for a week at a time. But after 20 years it was time for a sea change and they moved to Phillip Island.



So how appropriate that Diana is now part of the Sea Change to Tree Change Swap. Come along this Thursday 7th of May from 5.30pm to 7pm for the Bass Coast Mayor's launch at ArtSpace and from 2-4pm at ArcYinnar on Saturday 9th of May. By the way if you want to learn Diana's techniques she has art classes on a Thursday morning – and for the more advanced David has lessons on Wednesday afternoons. dianaartist@waterfront.net.au



Winter Solstice

There is still time to enter - contact John Mutsaers at artspacevents@gmail.com

"ART IS NOT WHAT YOU SEE - IT IS WHAT YOU MAKE OTHERS SEE."

DEGAS

The Last Word

Recently, a Parisian burglar nearly got away with stealing several paintings from the Louvre. However, after planning the crime, getting in and out past heavy security, he was captured only two blocks away, when his van ran out of gas. When asked how he could mastermind such a daring crime, and then make such an obvious error, he replied,

"I had no Monet to buy Degas to make the Van Gogh."



True Story ... on August 21, 1911 guards opened the doors to the Louvre in France to find the Mona Lisa gone. The museum was closed for a week to aid what became an unsuccessful international investigation. When it was felt that the Mona Lisa was lost forever, two years later, a man calling himself "Leonardo" tried to sell it to the Uffizi Art Gallery. A trap was set and Vincenzo Peruggia, an ex-employee of the Louvre was arrested. Peruggia told the police that he acted on impulse – he grabbed the Mona Lisa, discarded its frame in a stairway, and walked out of the museum with it under his coat. Peruggia claimed his motive was not money: he wanted to see Da Vinci's masterpiece returned to Italy, where he felt it belonged and acted out of patriotic duty to avenge Italy on behalf of Napoleon. Even though sentenced to two years for his crime, he became a hero to Italian Nationalists.

PS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE LAST WORD ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED