



BLUE MOUNTAINS CREATIVE ARTS CENTRE NEWSLETTER April 2023

WEBSITE: www.bmcac.org.au FACEBOOK: [bmcac](#) & [bmcacsaturdaypotters](#)
INSTAGRAM [lifedrawing_glenbrook](#)

**BLUE MOUNTAINS CREATIVE
ARTS CENTRE
ANNUAL MEMBERS EXHIBITION
GLENBROOK HALL (NEXT TO CINEMA)**



Opening night Friday May 5th • 6:30 pm
Saturday May 6th • 9 am - 5pm
Sunday May 7th • 10 am - 4 pm

**All BMCAC members are entitled to participate.
Please take note of the exhibition instructions on page 15.**

Our 'Hare Street' Centre is located on the traditional homeland of the Dharug and Gundungurra people. We recognize and pay respect to the traditional custodians of country past, present and emerging.

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EDITOR'S NOTE

So many exhibitions to see (p.10 -14 for 'What's On?' and p.7 & 8 for commentaries on them) and so many to take part in yourself (see our 'Events Calendar' below as well as our President's Report (p.4) but so little time!

Take courage and launch your artist career by showing your creations. The instructions for our members' exhibition are on page 15. Every member can participate for free.

I hope to see you and your works at the Glenbrook Theatre Hall on the first weekend in May .

Let me know of your ideas, projects and plans. Your photos, cartoons, writings, news, pictures of drawings, paintings, pottery, mosaics and sculptures are welcome for inclusion in 'Creations'.

Rudi Christen

Creations' Editor

rudich7@dodo.com

BMCAC 2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
Thu. 4 May, 7.30pm	Committee Meeting	The Centre
Mon. 1 May to 26 June	TERM 2	
Fri. 5 May to Sun. 7	Full Members Exhibition	Glenbrook Theatre Hall
Fri. 23 June to Sun. 25	50th Anniversary of the Centre	The Centre
Fri. 7 July to Sun. 9	Print Prize Exhibition	The Centre
Mon. 24 July to 15 Sept.	TERM 3	

Get in touch with us ! We'd like to hear from you.

Alison JAMES	President & Workshop Coordinator	0416 957 688	arty_ali@hotmail.com.au
Ingrid RUSSELL	Vice President & Arts Director	0423 124 473	bmcac.mail@gmail.com
Bronwyn CAMPBELL	Secretary & Pottery Facilitator	0411 041 054	a.b.campbell@optusnet.com.au

NEWS ITEM

Joy Myers Creed, BMCAC committee member who was our life drawing facilitator for many years has won first prize at the Easter Members' Exhibition of the Blackheath Art Society. The winning entry was her ink drawing 'Lindsay'.

Judge Sean Hutton commented: "This is a beautiful, enigmatic image with a great composition and design. The figure drawing in this work also really adds to the overall quality of this piece".

Joy winning first prize with a drawing is sending a message of encouragement to our life drawers!



Judge Sean Hutton and winner Joy Myers Creed



Joy Myers Creed, 'Lindsay', Ink and Japanese paper.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT *Alison James*

Dear Members,

We are looking forward to the many events coming up on our calendar shortly and I ask all of our members to please consider participating where you can. If you have artwork to sell please join the members' exhibition and take advantage of the opportunity we provide.

There is no stall fee for our members' exhibitions, however BMCAC do take a percentage of sales. This percentage of sales is how we fundraise to keep the Centre operating. Further details on what you will need to do to participate are provided in this newsletter.

The members' annual exhibition in a few short weeks will be on the 6th, 7th and 8th of May.

It is followed by our 50th Birthday celebrations on the 23rd, 24th and 25th of June. This is shaping up to be a wonderful weekend with a mini exhibition in the main room, demonstrations and other activities across the weekend.

We then hold our Biennial Print Prize, this year on the 7th, 8th and 9th of July. Entries are now open for this event so be sure to get yours in.

As you will have noticed last month we put a call out for a new logo to refresh our branding in time for our 50th birthday. There have been a number of ideas put forward and the committee will choose one at our next meeting. We will then launch it as part of our 50th Birthday celebrations.

This is an extremely busy time for the committee behind the scenes, with much organisation to be done for these events. If you would like to help out with organisation or the events on the day please let us know, we always welcome an extra set of hands.

Your President

Alison James

OTHER REPORTS & BUSINESS

GARDENING - Bronwyn

As you may know, Liz Bryden is our head gardener, and you can see from our beautiful garden what a wonderful job she does. Liz attends to the garden 3 to 4 hours every 2 to 3 weeks. Of late she has been finding the job more and more difficult and would really appreciate some help.

If you would like to assist Liz please ring her to coordinate some suitable times to help on 0447 474 462.

LOGOS

The committee is excited to have received some submissions for our logo competition. If you would like to submit a design, it needs to be in by the next committee meeting on May 4th. If you would like to have a say, all members are welcome to attend the meeting to participate in the vote for the new design.

OTHER BUSINESS

Two possum boxes have been purchased from the Nepean Men's Shed and will be installed after consultation with wires for an appropriate site.

The mould problem in the print room is in the process of being repaired.

Flexible storage units have been purchased for use in the Jade yurt.

Not much news to report. Monday drop in group is now full and Tuesday continues to have healthy numbers. I'd like to give a big welcome back to Nick Savaa who has had a long break from the Orange Yurt. We missed him and look forward to seeing some of the quirky sculptures that he loves to make.

A Tuesday night member bought two more of Cody's batts for \$20 to add to the two he had already bought.

MISSING ITEMS

All the equipment in our room is for the benefit of all our potters to use at The Centre.

Unfortunately, of late, a couple of much used items have gone missing.

A very large ball mould

2 sets of alphabet letters

A number of our smaller batts

If you have borrowed these items and forgotten to return them could you please do so ASAP as they are urgently needed by other members.

If, occasionally, you wish to borrow an item, please inform the teacher or facilitator, so that it can be recorded in the attendance book.

GLAZE CRAWLING ON YOUR POTS

It has seemed that a number of pots coming through the kiln at the moment have problems with the glazes crawling. (The glaze separating revealing the body of the clay.) This can be caused by a number of reasons. The following is a list of things you might do to help prevent this happening:

THE GLAZE

Only use glaze that is of the correct consistency. It should have an even creamy consistency.

Always stir the glaze really well before each use, shaking the jar is not sufficient. The glaze ingredients settle on the bottom of the jar and, if not stirred thoroughly, you are not getting the full benefit of all the glaze ingredients.

If the glaze is thick and lumpy do not use it OR add small amounts of water at a time and use the stick blender to stir it thoroughly. Only add small amounts of water at a time. It is surprising how much a small amount of water can change the consistency. Keep going until you get it to a smooth creamy consistency that makes it easy for you to paint.

THE POT

Always wipe your pot over with a just damp sponge before you add glaze.

- Handle a bisque pot the least number of times as possible. Dusty, greasy, dirty hands will leave marks on the pot that can cause crawling.

-Dust or powdery glaze particles on your pot are some of the main causes for crawling.

Cont. next page

GLAZING THE POT

Let each layer of glaze dry to touch dry before you put the second coat on. Use as large a brush that your pot allows with nice even coats. If, when you get your pot from the kiln and you can feel dry rough patches, it means your glaze layer is too thin. Try putting on 3 coats next time.

What if the glaze cracks when you paint it on the pot?

-if it is a small area, try rubbing the cracks with your finger – if the cracks fill in and the glaze is not chipping off, go ahead and fire it. Do the same if you notice little bubbles in the glaze or areas where the glaze has not taken such as in carved lines.

-if the area is larger and pieces of glaze drop off when you try to rub it, wash the glaze off your pot with the least amount of water as possible, let it dry thoroughly and choose a different glaze.

It is so exciting when successful pots come out of the kiln. We have seen some really lovely ones in the last couple of firings.

Just fired examples of work from the Term 11 Wednesday Beginner Pottery Class.



Bec Auld

First thrown pieces. Bec also experimented with slip trailing on her hand built flower.



Elizabeth Hamilton

Hand built mugs, stamped design, underglaze blue/yellow washes.



Winnie Waldron

Thrown vase, purple striped underglaze decoration.



Corinna Garbutt-Young

Hand built mug, orange underglaze decoration.



Jessie Anderson

Pinch pot, carved design, black underglaze scraped back, Jessie chose not to glaze this piece.

Feature Article 1

Escape Artists

by Marian Shapiro

Escape Artists is a creative collaboration between Blue Mountains artists Marian Shapiro (BMCAC member and former mosaics teacher at the Centre) and Caitlin Hepworth who has her studio and art school in Woodford and has judged the mosaics section of the Blue Mountains Art Prize over the past few years.

Their current exhibition at Hawkesbury Regional Gallery in 2023 explores themes of political, emotional and physical escape and displacement and the universality and ambiguity of the nature of 'home', rendered in dimensional contemporary mosaic.

Created over the space of four years, the show features work from individual perspectives grounded in personal experience and family history, plus a significant number of collaborative works. The individual art pieces reflect the experience of the maker but always with the awareness of the work of the other person. A series of nine collaborative "pods" and a collaborative sculpture, were jointly designed and made, with the individual work being started by one person and then passed to the other for completion.

Since the show was initially conceived, the world changed radically with the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic. As contemporary artists, it is vital to respond to current events and the exhibition changed focus to conceptually encompass the events of the last three years, while not departing dramatically from the original proposal.

Escape Artists is open currently at the Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, NSW and runs till 4 June 2023.

For those who can't make it to the venue, there will be a free online event where Caitlin Hepworth and Marian Shapiro will talk about *Escape Artists*.

Share & Connect, May 7 2023: 10.30am AEST

Registrations Essential: www.hepworthstudios.com



Feature Article 2

Gallery NWC is another cog in the wheel for Katherine Kennedy

by Anne Blair-Hickman

Artists from the Hawkesbury, Blue Mountains, Mudgee and Central Coast in NSW were featured in the first exhibition at Gallery NWC which launched in February 2023. Many of the contributing artists had never exhibited in the Sydney metropolitan area and so this exhibition extended their reach by having a new audience view their work. On the flip side, those living in the city could see and buy art not normally available in their locality.

For many rural artists like Lisa Kennedy, the opportunity to have her work viewed by a fresh audience in the Sydney area was exciting yet daunting; *"There's a raw and intense vulnerability in showing the world what you have created, yet it brings me incredible joy"* (Lisa Kennedy).

This approach was a conscious decision by Gallery NWC Director Katherine Kennedy of Nationwide Curating, who is passionate about helping artists launch their careers. Exposing Nationwide Curating listed artists to new viewers through Gallery NWC is just one method Katherine has employed. With over 14 years' experience working in the arts industry, she has also built a successful partnership with WOTSO Workspaces converting common spaces into art galleries with three monthly exhibition rotations. With four activated galleries across three sites in Pymont, Neutral Bay and North Strathfield's Bakehouse Quarter, this innovative approach has fused work-life with art appreciation and even acquisition for over twelve months and counting. This also means artists on display in a WOTSO location, can also have their work in St Leonards at the same time in turn driving traffic between gallery sites.

"IMAGINE FINDING THE PERFECT ARTWORK FOR YOUR HOME HANGING IN YOUR WORKPLACE AND BEING ABLE TO PURCHASE THIS BY SCANNING A QR CODE FIXED UPON THE WALL". KATHERINE KENNEDY

Katherine is setting her own course rather than following traditional methods for viewing and selling art further to what the market already offers. "Imagine finding the perfect artwork for your home hanging in your workplace and being able to purchase this by scanning a QR code fixed upon the wall", Katherine explains. This seamless, hassle-free transaction experience is one of the many benefits afforded to customers who purchase art through Nationwide Curating—Artwork delivery services through the business' delivery van, 'Must-Hang Sally', is another option clients can elect to take up. Further to this, Katherine is passionate about supporting the artists she represents with regular 'Meet the artist' events, held within all exhibition spaces, in conversation with each displayed body of work.

Gallery NWC enables the Nationwide Curating team to have an office base in the heart of the city—A great testing ground for the viability of galleries in North Sydney. Katherine's desire is to connect with the local community and hopes her expertise in the arts will help facilitate a cross-pollination between and within metropolitan Sydney and the regions.

Gallery NWC is located at 62 Atchison Street, St Leonards NSW 2065.

Open Thursdays - Fridays 10am-4pm + Saturdays - Sundays 12pm - 4pm (extended hours during exhibitions)

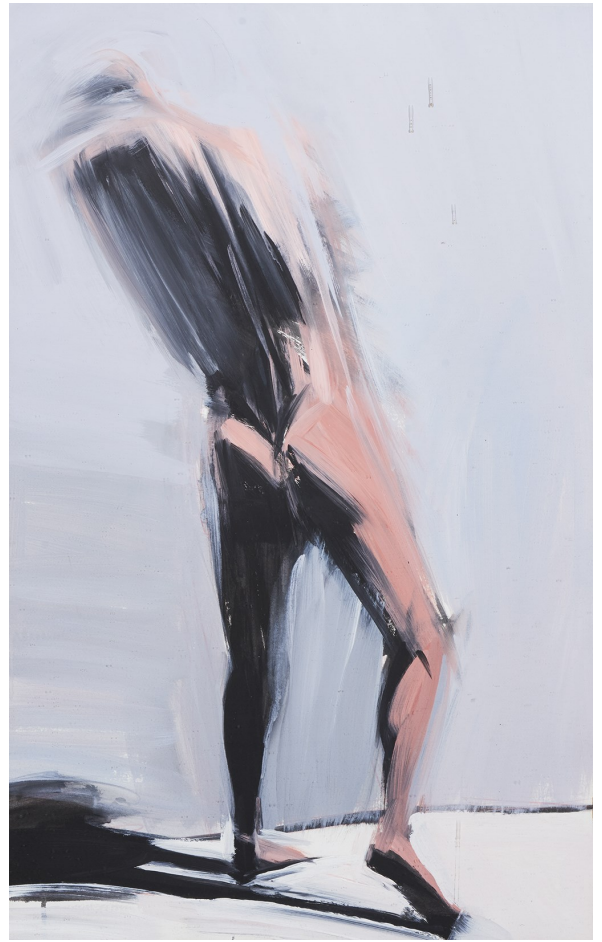
Contact the gallery: info@nationwidecurating.com

Poetry Corner

A Shiver

Seamus Heaney

*The way you had to stand to swing the sledge,
Your two knees locked, your lower back shock-fast
As shields in a testudo, spine and waist
A pivot for the tight-braced, tilting rib-cage;
The way its iron head planted the sledge
Unyieldingly as a club-footed last;
The way you had to heft and then half-rest
Its gathered force like a long-nursed rage
About to be let fly: does it do you good
To have known it in your bones, directable,
Withholdable at will,
A first blow that could make air of a wall,
A last one so unanswerably landed
The staked earth quailed and shivered in the handle?*



Euan Macleod, *Untitled Twisting Figure*, 1984



John Olsen (1928 - 2023), *'Seamus Heaney and Oysters'*, 1994, etching 68x72cm

WHAT'S ON ?

Workshops, Galleries, Exhibitions, Prize Entries, Coming Events

AN EXHIBITION OF
CONTEMPORARY MOSAIC

ESCAPES ARTISTS

CAITLIN HEPWORTH
& MARIAN SHAPIRO

14 APRIL - 4 JUNE

HAWKESBURY
REGIONAL GALLERY



Detail: *Safety Net?*
Caitlin Hepworth & Marian Shapiro

Mosaic Workshop at Wildvalley



Join the Toolo and WildValley Art Park in a mosaic workshop on April 29 from 10:00am - 4:30pm. Materials, morning and afternoon tea included. For more information toolo.workshops@gmail.com. Bookings essential! Hope to see you there for a fun, creative, day!

For further information please follow this link:

<https://events.humanitix.com/mosaic-workshop-at-wild-valley>

Curating Matters #33

INTRODUCING NEGIN CHAHOUD

We are pleased to introduce Negin Chahoud and her intimate solo exhibition currently open at WOTSO: Pymont.

WOTSO Workspaces
55 Pymont Bridge Road
Pymont NSW
Exhibition Location - Main Entrance
See Security/Reception to access the gallery
Weekend access available

Solo Exhibition: 25 March - 19 May 2023

"My work is intensely personal and emotive and when 'felt' by the viewer the artwork has become a conduit for us."

Negin Chahoud

Nationwide Curating and Gallery NWC are proud to be a part of the Affordable Art Fair at Randwick, Sydney in June 2023.

We will be exhibiting at the Sydney Affordable Art Fair at Royal Randwick Racecourse alongside 50+ galleries from across Australia and beyond.

We would love you to visit our stand and show some support for local, Sydney, regional and interstate contributing artists.

15 - 18 June, 2023

Level 1, Stand 1-B3

Featuring

Baez Bonorat (Javier)

Douglas Schofield

Jack Buckley

Julie Simmons

Kristy Fox

Luke Abdallah

Reeva Ashton

Renee Mitchell

Shirley Peters

Susan Ruming

Practical information

Winx Stand

Royal Randwick Racecourse

Gate E, Alison Road, Randwick, NSW, 2031

Early bird tickets available via Affordable Art Fair

<https://affordableartfair.com/fairs/sydney/>

Affordable Art Fair is a global family of fairs in 10 cities around the world from Hamburg to Hong Kong, New York, London, Melbourne and Sydney. The fair helps people discover the joy of collecting art and there will be 1,000s of original artworks priced between \$100 to \$10,000.

**GALLERY
NWC**
NATIONWIDECURATING.COM

Gallery NWC is a fluid concept and may be in 1 or more locations at any one time. Currently, we are located at 62 Atchison Street, St Leonards.



Solo Art Exhibition
LISA KENNEDY



**A WOTSO PYRMONT
COLLABORATION**

**BULWARA STREET LOBBY
55 PYRMONT BRIDGE RD,
PYRMONT NSW 2009**

EXHIBITION OPEN

22 APRIL - 14
JULY '23



Meet the Artist

Exhibition
Catalogue
+ Shop

**THURSDAY
18 MAY
5PM - 7PM**



Courtesy of Nationwide Curating
www.nationwidecurating.com
Rotating-Exhibition Services
info@nationwidecurating.com
Ph: 0402 470 231



Magnificent Wedge-tailed Eagles by Lisa Kennedy - Graphite on paper, 84.5cm x 109cm

BLUE MOUNTAINS CULTURAL CENTRE

30 Parke Street, Katoomba 2780

Gallery and Shop: Monday – Friday 10am – 5pm, Saturday + Sunday – 10am – 4pm

[Collectors' Edition #9 - Blue Mountains Cultural Centre](#) 14 Apr – 30 Apr

[ADRIENNE DOIG: IT'S ALL ABOUT ME! - Blue Mountains Cultural Centre](#) 11 April – 21 May

[An Inside View: Collection works selected by our volunteers - Blue Mountains Cultural Centre](#)
6 May - 18 June

BRAEMER HOUSE & GALLERY

104 Macquarie Road, Springwood 2777

Opening Hours

Thursday – Sunday | 10am – 4pm

[Braemar House & Gallery - Blue Mountains Cultural Centre | Blue Mountains Cultural Centre](#)

Upcoming Exhibition: 11th May to 4th June

PENRITH REGIONAL GALLERY

86 River Road, Emu Plains

The Gallery is open daily from 10am – 3.45pm

[Penrith Regional Gallery - home of the Lewers Bequest.](#)

[Margo Lewers A House Full of Paintings - Penrith Regional Gallery](#) 18 March - 14 May

[Jeannie Baker: Desert Jungle - Penrith Regional Gallery](#) 6 May – 9 July 2023

OUR ANNUAL MEMBERS' EXHIBITION

WILL BE HELD AT THE GLENBROOK THEATRE HALL ON THE

SATURDAY 5TH MAY (9am - 5pm) 7TH MAY (9am - 4pm)

SETTING UP WILL BE ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON –see details below.

Every Blue Mountains Creative Arts Centre member is eligible to enter your own work, whatever stage you are at in your creative journey.

You will be charged 20% for any sales you make.

Every piece must have a **small white sticker** with your initials, number and price.

Cards for artists will be available at drop off to write name of art work and price.

You must fill in a catalogue for all your pieces. (Please use the catalogue on the next page. Please do not hand in a catalogue smaller than A4)

You must be willing to do a shift of 2 hrs or more on the roster at some time over the weekend. A roster sheet will be provided when you drop off work.

POTTERS - BOOKING TABLE SPACE

You must let me know **via email** how many tables you would like to book for the exhibition to give me time to plan the layout of the exhibition and organise enough tables.

If you only have a small number of pots, just say ¼ , ½ table or the number of pots and I can organise shared tables.

ARTISTS

Due to limited hanging space, artists are allowed two paintings but bring a third in case we have space.

SETTING UP FRIDAY 5TH MAY

Artists drop off work between 1pm – 1:30pm

Alison and Ingrid will hang your work.

Potters will set up their own allocated tables from 3pm –5pm.

If you cannot drop work off or set up at the allocated time, you could arrange with a friend to do it for you or **you may set up 8:30 am Saturday morning.**

OPENING NIGHT

Opening night will commence at 6:30pm – 9pm

We are planning to invite a guest speaker, so would love to have a good attendance of members.

We invite you to bring a plate of finger food. Alcohol, juice, tea and coffee will be available.

We would like some volunteers to help transport equipment over to Glenbrook Hall on Friday. Meet the Centre at 12:30 pm

If any member has flowers or greenery, please bring them on Friday or Saturday morning. They help make the room look inviting and cheerful.

Early Saturday morning we would like some volunteers to help put our signs along the highway to advertise the event.

Any questions or problems please ring me on 0411041054

Email: a.b.campbell@optusnet.com.au

Bronwyn, BMCAC Secretary/ Pottery Facilitator

