



Ballina Art Society Newsletter

November 2018

Hello Members and Friends,

Term IV

Our final term for 2018 was with the tutor Jennifer Collins who certainly “extended our ideas and boundaries,” and challenged us into new areas of creativity.

One of our tasks was the notion of ‘group drawing’ where each person began an image (in this case feet) and every five minutes it was passed along to the next person, each of us adding to the image.

Below is the result! Beautiful and a lot of fun – learning to resolve what was there and what came before.



Hints & Quote of the Month

- ✓ Resolve the Issues
- ✓ Be aware of *negative* space
- ✓ ‘less is more’

“It may be time to stop; consider if your aims have been achieved.”

Out and About

(Julia tells us about the art she saw on her travels)

Did I tell you I’ve just been to Europe? Have I caught up with you to tell you about my trip? And if I have, perhaps you would like to see my 457 photos? Just in case you’ve managed to hide from me, here’s a quick version of some of the galleries I visited. There’s no escape!

I’m not one for fighting the crowds in galleries – I like going to the less patronised ones (ie: I steer clear of the Impressionists) and that way I do it in comfort, and more cheaply. Here I’ll just concentrate on three exhibitions I enjoyed: Banksy, Klimt and Mucha.

Banksy has interested me for a while and this exhibition at the Moco Museum in **Amsterdam** was great. You’ll know a bit about Banksy: hides his real identity but is English, uses a stencil technique to produce his provocative and sometimes subversive works, sometimes strikes in the middle of the night to produce his illegal designs on public buildings. I like his technique, but it’s the combination of art with dark humour and political comment that really attracts me.



Banksy's Trolley Hunters (Sorry about the reflection of windows on the glass!)

The following commentary on Banksy's screen print, "Trolley Hunters" (see previous page) is found at hexagongallery.com . "Banksy infers 1 of 2 things – either that humans have been innately drawn to the addiction of consumerism since they began walking upright ... or ... they hunt down receptacles for their possessions and spend their energy acquiring them."

Moving on to **Vienna** (I did mention that I've just been to Europe, didn't I?) I visited the Leopold Museum to see the **Gustav Klimt Exhibition**. It featured a lot of Klimt's earlier and more traditional works, along with the later ones such as the well-known "Life and Death" which I've copied here (from the Leopold Museum website) and which you'll all know well. In this huge painting in oils, the Grim Reaper looks greedily at the representations of various generations engaged in the activities of living. The original painting was exhibited 1910, but apparently Klimt made changes to it for some years after.

And would you believe the gallery gift shop had copied the range of Klimt-decorated cups and plates from our very own Beachside Bargains? Who would have thought it?

After returning home, I went into B-Framed in River St only to find a flyer for a special event featuring Klimt and his works at the Byron Theatre on 11 November. Perhaps some of you went. I felt a bit miffed to find this was available locally – but there's nothing like seeing these works up close, is there?



Klimt's Life and Death

And then to **Prague**. This city was overrun by tourists and the square outside the museum was jam-packed. How many were in the museum? About 10 people! **Alfons Mucha** is a much-loved Czech artist well-known for his Art Nouveau posters – he spent much of his life in Paris during the Art Nouveau period. You may have seen his posters of Sarah Bernhardt. Check out some examples of his designs below. But he's not just known for his art nouveau works - later he moved back to Prague producing his important series known as "the Slav Epic".



A collage of Mucha's posters

This is just a quick summary of some of the art I saw during my trip though I also visited exhibitions of Van Gogh and, most memorably, Dali in Figueres. Sadly, it was a trip the bank manager would advise I should not do again! But I do have 457 photos – just let me know when you want to see them and I'll be on your doorstep!

Julia

Social Activities

Our final outing is our Christmas luncheon. After the term and AGM meetings (we strongly encourage you to attend; share your views; help us with support for a successful next year), we head to the Ballina RSL Club to celebrate in the cool by the riverside.

DATE: Thursday 6th December 2018

TIME: 12 noon or soon thereafter

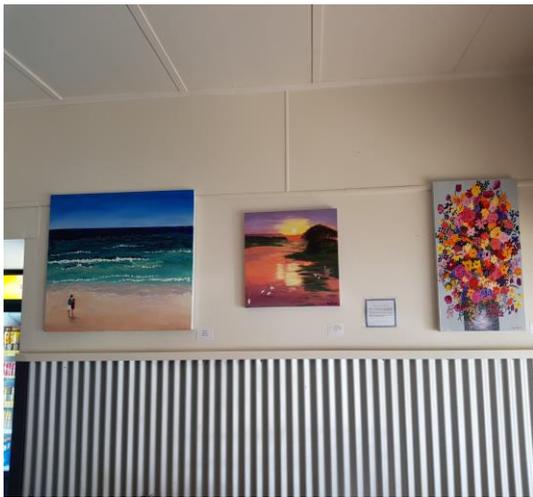


Exhibition Space

Tina Farrow's recent works



Our opportunity to display works in SOUL CAFE continues, but we need more members to contribute to this. The owners would also like artists to take their art samples to them so they can decide whether they would like that artist or not. They are keen on local scenes with nothing too quirky it would seem. Helen is exhibiting for December, but we need people to put their hands up for next year, starting January 7th approximately. I have sold one painting there and Chris sold three. If we do not support this space we will lose it. Phone Helen to reserve your spot 0408871820.



Tina Farrow @ Soul Café

Term 1 2019

We are beginning 2019 with Christine Read who will be our tutor. We have previously enjoyed Christine's positive and varied approach to tutoring and have been inspired by her ideas and inspiration. More information in January.



Wishing everyone a contented and joyous Christmas. See you all in 2019, rested and ready for many new creative experiences.

Dagmar



From a German Illuminated Manuscript
Two scenes from the Magi (c1220)

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