

arts news

raising the profile of the arts in the Echuca Moama region



chair report

We're now into 2022 proper, holidays over and school is really back this time. Now is the time to get back to normal, not a new normal, but a real, full on normal life, Echuca Moama normal. At the Foundry our first exhibition of the year is a wonderful selection of paintings and prints of our native parrots, cockatoos, and rosellas and even a stray lorikeet, all in large scale graphic detail by Marion Lynk. She has shown tremendous flexibility in moving between working on linocuts and large format detailed oil paintings.

Your committee of management have started working on our "to do" list for this year which includes developing a range of supports and programs for our valued Foundry volunteers without whom we would not be able to keep the Foundry doors open. Ideas and thoughts that would encourage more volunteers would be most welcome. Get in touch with me and have a chat. One of the thoughts that has been discussed is to move regular exhibition openings from Fridays to Thursdays so that those who may be planning a weekend away or have other commitments on Fridays would be able to attend. Your thoughts on this would also be welcome.

Our new Administrative Assistant Andrea Velt has started with us this month and she is starting by working on our volunteer, member and contact data bases which have been in urgent need of being tidied up. All members should be receiving monthly email newsletters, if you haven't been receiving them and have been picking up your copy, it may be that we have some of your details incorrect.

Let me know so that it can be fixed and you won't miss out on keeping up to date with what's going on.

Every month I try to visit a new community gallery or exhibition to see what experience and ideas we can share. In February I have the good fortune to visit Blak Dot Gallery in Brunswick which was established over a decade ago on behalf of the local indigenous community by Kimba Thompson. Slightly smaller than the Foundry they support indigenous contemporary and non-traditional art forms. The current exhibition that I saw is an exciting combination of installation, photography and video. Check out their website and certainly make the effort to visit and support them if you get the chance when you are next in Melbourne.

Those who have visited the Foundry for the current exhibition will have noticed that the shop counter has been refigured as a straight line. This is the first step in the development of the shop to provide a small increase in the range of items we can offer to our visitors which in turn helps support the running of the Foundry.

"A picture is a poem without words" Horace

Tim Smallwood
Chair
EMAI Inc



PAST EXHIBITIONS:

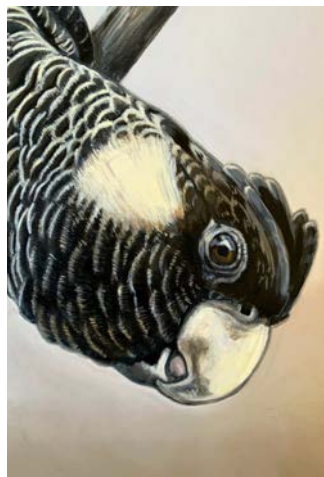
MEMBERS' SUMMER EXHIBITION & "LAND OF THE PARROTS" MARION LYNK



What is a members exhibition for if not for the members? This exhibition was the exhibition that just kept on giving! As soon as a space appeared on a wall, it was filled again. As soon as the shelves became sparse, they were restocked with more gorgeous handmade items. As soon as someone noticed their work was gone, a warm feeling came over them. It's such a great feeling to know that the art that you make is appreciated, wanted and purchased by people you may never meet.

We say that there are benefits to being a member, and the yearly summer members' exhibitions are proof of that. It's a chance for members to give a little in terms of their creativity, and get a little, in terms of sales. Thanks to everyone who "manned the front desk" and kept the doors open for seven days every week. This is one volunteer run organisation we can all be proud to be a part of and it was heartwarming to know that new members joined in order to become a part of it. The Foundry was full of lovely art in just about every medium you could think of - oil paintings, amazing resin artworks, paintings, drawings, ceramics, textile works, sewn items, bags, hats, pencil holders, Christmas decor, jewellery - lovely stock and lovely sales!

Thanks to ALL of the members who exhibited and CONGRATULATIONS on such a successful "Summer Exhibition".



MARION LYNK makes oil paintings and linocut prints, currently focusing on Australian birds, particularly parrots. She would love to do a series of landscapes and/or other animals and birds. Marion says the most important thing is to get life and personality into the painting. Marion spoke with The Foundry: "I use photographic reference - sometimes several different photographs to get the details right. I have found it is much better to work with quality materials from the beginning rather than try to fix the colours on a painting painted with inferior oil paint. The drawings, linocut prints and oil paintings are all made in my studio which is attached to my home. Lino cut prints begin with a drawing, refined and copied several times, lines thickened etc. to suit the medium of linocut carving. With relief printing you get a reverse image from the plate. Prints take several days to dry as I use oil based inks...they have a lovely opaque vividness to them. From start to finish my oil paintings take several weeks and the linocut prints up to two weeks I have been making art since I was about nine years old. My grandmother got me started! I used to paint pictures of our pet cats. Later on I worked and sold art in a gallery in Cairns and at various art markets in Far North Queensland. I trained as a Graphic Artist/ Animator/Illustrator and worked in that field for around 30 years. I'm inspired by the amazing variety, colour, and beauty of our native species. I have so many Australian bird books. I love old botanical and fauna illustrations! I'm inspired by Elizabeth Gould, George Raper, E Gostelow, William T Cooper...and more."



ENERGY OF GHOSTS

LUANN BENNETT & ERIC LALONE

OPENING 6PM FRIDAY 4TH MARCH
TO 27TH MARCH 2022



An exhibition of new acrylic paintings and charcoal/pastel works on paper presenting emotional, sensual and dynamic figures based on gesture through figurative abstraction.

This exhibition seeks to bring the experience of virtual life drawing into the gallery space. Both artists have used Covid-19 lockdowns to immerse in a figure drawing movement enabled via the social media platforms of Instagram and Zoom. Artists from all over the world have been able to connect from their working environment into the model's own domain where the model is empowered to choose how they want their presence to be posed.

Luann is located in our region while Eric is located in the United States. The use of audio visual and digital media will bring the online world (and Eric's presence) further into the exhibition space. If possible, Zoom workshops for small groups, artists' talks and drawing events will be integrated into this exhibition.

2022 exhibition calendar

feb 4-2 _____ "Land of the Parrots" Marion Lynk
march 4-27 _____ "Energy of Ghosts" Luann Bennett & Eric Lalone
april 1-26 _____ "Reading Between the Lines" Judith Roberts & Kerry Handwerk
april 27 - may 22 _____ "Field of Notes" Jane Annois & Krystal Lee
may 25 - june 19 _____ Exhibition & Workshops Wendy McDonald & Pam Uren
june 24 - july 17 _____ NAIDOC Exhibition & Celebrations
july 22 - august 14 _____ "TEN" EMAI Art Prize Exhibition
august 19 - september 11 _____ "Painted On Smile" Tuesday Junction
september 16 - october 9 _____ "Through Our Lens" Echuca Photography Club
october 14 - november 6 _____ "What could be more than a bird in a tree?"
Marion Gould retrospective (1927 - 2016) & Olivia Lawton
november 11 - december 4 _____ Youth Exhibition
december 9 2022 - end of January 2023 _____ 2023 Members' Summer Exhibition

** dates to be confirmed closer to the event, check social media or call 0475 448 452 for updates.

NEXT EXHIBITION: "READING BETWEEN THE LINES"

JUDITH ROBERTS & KERRY HANDWERK

Reading between the lines is an exhibition of textile/mixed media works by Shepparton artists Judith Roberts and Kerry Handwerk. It is a collaborative enterprise – the artists have consulted closely to plan who might do what to illustrate the theme, and to critique each other's work. There is a rich variety of form in this exhibition, including workson boards and canvases; books and scrolls; fabric wall hangings;

vessels and boxes. In scale, the works range from a tiny book, only 0.5cm square, to wall hangings of 150cm by 50cm. Media and processes have been combined in innovative ways, notably Kerry's use of lettering, encaustic wax and carving. Both artists

make use of leaves and leaf prints in their work, as they explore their theme both literally and metaphorically. And as an added bonus both artists will be sharing their expertise in the form of workshops (see below).



detail: artwork by Judith Roberts

don't miss these workshops!!

Book now; thefoundry@emai.org.au or txt 0475 448 452

FUN WITH FOLDED BOOKS KERRY HANDWERK SATURDAY 9TH APRIL, 10.30AM - 3.30PM, \$85 PP

Bookings essential - please text Kerry on 0417 011 327, or email kerryhandwerk@bigpond.com



We'll create 2 different folding books in this workshop. One is simple, one is a little more complicated. Both are fun to make.

All materials for constructing the books will be supplied. There will also be plenty of different media for illustration/decoration available. To make the books personal to you, you could search through your art stash for pieces to cut up and reinvent.

CREATING COMPLEX CORDS WITH JUDITH ROBERTS SATURDAY 223RD APRIL 10.30AM - 3.30PM \$85 PP

Bookings essential - please text Judith on 0429937023, or email judith3631@gmail.com



In this workshop we will use simple processes to create complex cords. Using a variety of fabrics, yarns and threads, we will first explore several different ways to make simple cords. Then we'll investigate ways to add complexity to our basic cords. All materials supplied. If you have interesting/personally significant fabric, yarns, or threads, please feel free to bring them along.



MOVIE LOVERS

Tickets
\$13.50



MARCH MOVIE LOVERS: LIMITED SCREENINGS FROM MID MARCH

BELFAST

Written and directed by Academy Award® nominee Branagh, BELFAST is a poignant story of love, laughter and loss in one boy's childhood, amid the music and social tumult of the late 1960s. The cast stars Golden Globe nominee Caitriona Balfe, Academy Award® winner Judi Dench, Jamie Dornan, Ciaran Hinds, and introduces 10 year old Jude Hill. Dornan and Balfe play a passionate working-class couple caught up in the mayhem, with Dench and Hinds as sharp-witted grandparents. The film is produced by Branagh, Laura Berwick, Becca Kovacic and Tamar Thomas.

AROUND THE FOUNDRY



<https://emai.org.au>

Our new website is live! It's been a work in progress for some time now and we are still fine-tuning it, but the EMAI website is now available for all to see. Please take a look and email your feedback with comments and suggestions to thefoundry@emai.org.au



ART PRIZE 2022

22nd July - 14th August

ECHUCA MOAMA ARTS INITIATIVE



CELEBRATING 10 (+1) YEARS OF EMAI

It's getting closer! Our hard-working Art Prize team members are excited with the way plans are progressing. The art prize exhibition will be held 22nd July - 14th August, 2022 and is a precursor for a future major art prize. The art prize is open to all, and will be a great way to celebrate EMAI's ten-year history. Sponsors and artists welcome!

Enquiries by email: thefoundry@emai.org.au

Watch the website and social media for details.



Did you know that our gallery shop in The Foundry Arts Space can include members' art items? Interested???

Please email shop manager Jenny Turner (pictured) jennytur55e@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

The Foundry is open for business and your support is as important as ever. So if you've let your membership slip or are thinking about joining up please drop by

The Foundry or email thefoundry@emai.org.au and we'll take care of the rest.

annual membership \$30 concession \$25



Benefits include - members' only events - discounts on shop items & workshops - free access to workshop space - fee free participation in exhibitions and the knowledge that you're helping to secure our place on the arts and culture map.

Our Social Media presence is growing, check us out!!



The Foundry Arts Space



The Foundry Arts Space



EMAI The Foundry Arts Space

PLUS... OUR WEBSITE IS HERE!!!

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH



Judi Palmer contributes to The Foundry Arts Space as an exhibiting artist, a member and a much-valued volunteer. Judi says that "Volunteer of the Month should be awarded to someone who fills a regular slot on the volunteer roster." But emergency volunteers such as Judi are highly valued and because Judi watches out for the volunteer roster and steps up to fill shifts when she can, the gallery's doors remain open.

The gallery is only closed when exhibitions are being set up or when volunteers are unavailable. Volunteers don't need to give a lot of time, but your three hours will certainly keep the gallery doors open.



did you know??
you can bring
your work with
you
when you
volunteer!

OUT & ABOUT: check these out!



BLAK DOT GALLERY, based in Narm (Melbourne), is the leading gallery for contemporary First Nations art in Australia. Blak Dot Gallery was established in 2011 as a contemporary First Nations artist-run space to showcase contemporary artworks from world Indigenous cultures.

Blak Dot Gallery enables First Nations people to continually re-define and evolve contemporary culture through First Nations art, culture and cultural protocols. Blak Dot Gallery works with a strong network of First Nations artists from all over Victoria and Australia and has an ongoing commitment to ensuring First Nations artists have opportunities and access to a professional gallery environment. We deliver a vibrant and innovative exhibition schedule, catering to solo, group and community work, host regular community events, workshops, panel discussions, lectures, artists markets, and we are an a core participant to six major arts festivals across Melbourne which facilitates the engagement of Blak Dot's community with a wider audience. Through Blak Dot Gallery, First Nations artists who work in non-traditional and mixed-media, have an opportunity to present their interpretation of lived experiences in contemporary society.

Our work gives insight into the cultural values and experiences of Indigenous communities through the creative use of modern practice. At Blak Dot Gallery we are committed to working with the following values:

Sovereignty: We are a First Nations led organisation that places primacy on the voices of First Nations peoples in everything that we do. We encourage and support self-determination through artistic and cultural expression.

Reciprocity: We embrace and are embraced by the communities around us. We acknowledge that our communities contribute to the vibrancy of our organisation and seek to support the positive development of the communities we work within.

Respect: We are an inclusive and safe space for all – particularly so for women, young people and people from the LGBTQI community.

Vibrancy: We strive to be a dynamic organisation that continually re-defines and evolves contemporary First Nations culture.

Leadership: The leadership of our organisation is centred around First Nations cultural ways and protocols. We lead and operate our organisation according to First Nations values and knowledges.

Blak Dot Gallery also provides opportunities to teach and mentor aspiring Indigenous curators and art workers. We offer a dedicated critical Indigenous learning space for First Nation Creatives, Blakademy. Blakademy is now home to five community groups and individual artists. Blakademy has hot desks for study or group workshops, reading and writing, as well as a large collection of global and local Indigenous and non-European diasporic texts (catalogues, monographs, anthologies, magazines).

Blak Dot Gallery is a non-for profit organisation governed by a Board of Directors.

Blak Dot acknowledges the support of Australian Government Indigenous Language and Arts, Creative Victoria, City of Moreland.



Rochester Mural Festival "Paint-Off" is 20th - 27th March, 2022 when eight invited artists will paint their own choices of songs as people watch and interact.

"Meet the Artists" dinner is Saturday 19th March - be there as each of the artists unveil and speak about their artwork.

All mural art works are for sale and there will be an art show in the historic courthouse building across the road. Judges awards at noon, Sunday 27th March. Live music, BBQ van, art show, Rochybalds winners and competition prize winners announced.

The Rochester Murals Park is in Moore Street, Northern Highway near the Rochester Sports Museum and Police station.

Visit Rochester to see awesome murals all around town, great silo art, the Iddles Lane mural, redgum chainsaw sculptures, Campaspe Walk and more. Enter your own art version of "Paint Us A Song" on a mini Rochybald canvas.

Check out the website and socials:

<https://www.rochestermuralfest.com.au>

https://www.instagram.com/rochester_mural_festival

<https://www.facebook.com/RochyMurals>

**AND DON'T FORGET TO VISIT THE EXHIBITIONS ON NOW AT KYABRAM TOWN HALL GALLERY
199 - 209 ALLEN ST. KYABRAM**

ART -TEXTILES – HISTORY – INFORMATION

**FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT
(03) 5852 1546**