DEC 2024/ JAN 2025

# arts news

raising the profile of the arts in the Echuca Moama region

## chair report





ECHUCA-MOAMA

Happy New Year fellow art lovers. 2025 promises to be an exciting year at the Foundry Arts Space.

Congratulations to those members who exhibited in our recent Artists Market. An incredible array of talent and hard work was on display. Visitor numbers were above average resulting in many sales. Many thanks to the volunteers who ensured the gallery was open over Summer.

One of the consequences of our name change is rebranding our website. Our social media guru, Liz Dellar is working with Neil Greaves of Vast Creative to rename and update our website. Liz has been active on our social media platforms, showcasing many of our members' art during the Foundry Members' Arts Market.

Gargarro Botanic Gardens are the recipient of a Campaspe Shire grant of \$30,000 to acquire an artwork piece. The Foundry will be assisting with the expression of interest process and the selection panel. The Expression of Interest opens on March 1st for 6 weeks and will be available on our website, http://www.thefoundryartsspace.org.au The final artwork should be completed by November 30th, 2025. I encourage emerging and established artists to apply.

I am delighted to welcome Leanne Cuffe back to the committee of management. After a short stint in Melbourne, Leanne is back and rearing to go.

An exciting new opportunity for members is the development of the Members Gallery. This will operate in gallery 2 a few times this year. More details to follow. As a consequence, we have decided not to continue with the "shop". A big thank you to Jenny Turner, who with her retail experience, has managed the shop ensuring that quality items were stocked and displayed.

The 2025 exhibition program will be launched at 6 pm, on January 31st at the opening of the Osmosis exhibition. All members and art lovers are invited to attend.

0475 448 452

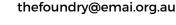
I look forward to meeting you at the Foundry, Judi Lawler.





13 - 17 Murray Esplanade, Echuca, 3564





MORRISONS







#### WHAT MORE CAN WE SAY?

It means a lot to receive a letter like this after a great exhibition...

"To all at The Foundry

I just want to thank you all for the wonderful job you did mounting Shepp Textile Artists' Chrysalis exhibition. It's great to work with such friendly, helpful professionals. Seeing our work on the walls, and especially the innovative way you dealt with the installation of cones, was a revelation.

Everyone I worked with went above and beyond to answer my questions, help with processes, & deal with the things we forgot (like pricing the cones - thanks again, Penny!).

The Foundry Arts Space is a wonderful place to exhibit. It's wellplaced to capture the interest of passing tourists, the space is fantastically spacious and flexible, and the personnel both talented and helpful.

Thanks again for everything - Judith"

<u>Judith Roberts, Shepparton Textile</u> <u>Artists</u>











#### Summer exhibition: 2024/25 Foundry Members' Arts Market 32 Foundry Arts Space members exhibited their most recent artwork through December 2024 and January 2025.



The diversity of work exhibited over summer was exceptional, and as the artworks sold, the empty wall spaces were quickly filled again by the artists.



Our first exhibition for 2025 features not one but four, incredibly talented artists. As often happens with scheduling the exhibition calendar, life throws curve balls but we're flexible and adaptable and love our art, so why not ? The more the merrier!!



**KATHLEEN WATSON** is from Wyoming, USA and moved to Australia with her husband in 2005. Shortly after, Kathleen tragically lost her 16-year-old son. At the advice of a child counsellor, she encouraged her youngest daughter to start painting as a way to work through the grieving process. It was during this time Kathleen turned to visual art as a therapy.

Mainly self-taught, her artworks depict vitality and movement. With a love for nature and things in motion, the human form, birds and beaches are often featured in her artwork. Her mood provoking artwork has been described as both mystical and enchanting.

Kathleen has exhibited at the South Yarra Art House, Collingwood Gallery, Malmsbury Tin Shed Gallery, Rochester Fine Art Show, Foundry Arts Space and Customs House Gallery.

**HEATHER TURNER**'s enjoyment of basketry began well before she took any workshops, as did her collection of shopping baskets. Heather found she enjoyed learning the traditional techniques of basket making. It also complemented her other love of gardening. The actual process of gathering, storing and preparing fibres is an integral part of her work.

Heather enjoys the subtle colours of nature but likes to pop in the bright colours of dyed fibres, rafia and fabric. Found objects, wire and wood are often focal points of her work. Her journey of discovery began with traditional techniques but as knowlege of materials and skills have increased, her work has become more sculptural.





**JOAN STEVENS** Inspired and encouraged by her artistic sisters and fellow artist friends Joan explored colour and techniques which led her into a new world of fun and relaxation, which she is now very passionate about. Joan enjoys painting large canvases as they give her the space and opportunity to create 'free flowing contemporary abstracts' letting the piece develop as she paints. Joan takes inspiration from images found in books on the universe and turns them into abstract artwork using multiple layers of mixed media. The painting process takes Joan on a journey, one which takes the viewer as well. Joan has exhibited and sold works at various art exhibitions. Joan has been awarded the Geoff Paynter Award for Creative Interpretation at the annual Bendigo Easter Art Show.

*JESS SZIGETHY* is a central Victorian Sculptor who lives and works overlooking the iconic Hanging Rock.

Jess works predominantly in Bronze, inspired by gestures or the power of a static natural form. She is fascinated by making repetitions of sculptural forms and then observing how these interact together and with the space around them. Jess initially trained as a botanist and travelled throughout Australia, working, bushwalking and generally being extremely excited to discover new places and explore Australia's natural diversity. The discipline of being a botanist has trained her to be patient and develop a keen eye for detail.

For Jess, being an artist is all about exploration in a curious, disciplined manner.

### **2025 EXHIBITION CALENDAR**

JAN 31 - FEB 23: OSMOSIS KATHLEEN WATSON, JOAN STEVENS, HEATHER TURNER & JESS ZIGETHY, GALLERY 1 FEB 22-23: CAMPASPE ARTISTS STUDIO TRAIL ELIZABETH JAWORSKI, PENNY SILVER & KATHLEEN WATSON, GALLERY 2 FEB 28 - MAR 23: ADDICTOGENIC LANDSCAPES KRISTEN DYER MAR 28 - APR 27: WAR DOGS - THEY ALSO SERVED SARAH WALLACE SMITH, GALLERY 1 3 WELL KNOWN AUSTRALIANS TRAVELLING EXHIBITION, GALLERY 2 MAY 2 - 25: RIPPLE FEST CAMPASPE SHIRE YOUTH ARTS FESTIVAL 2025 FXHIBITION MAY 30 - JUN 29: GIRLS, GODDESSES, GREATNESS ISABELLE KAWAI VINCENT JUL 4 - AUG 3: ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY ART EXHIBITION NAIDOC CALENDAR OUT NOW!! AUG 8 - SEP 14: WHERE DO ALL THE OWLS GO TO DREAM? OLIVIA LAWTON PICK UP YOUR COPY I HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY GAVIN NORTH SEP 19 - OCT 19: COMING HOME GRAHAM HEARN WHEN YOU VISIT NEXT

DEC 5 - JAN 26: MEMBERS ART MARKET

OCT 24 - NOV 30: 2025 OUR VISION ECHUCA MOAMA PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB



In a celebration of community and creativity, over the weekend of 22-23 February 2025, artists and makers within the Shire of Campaspe will open their studio doors to the public. Not only will you be able to see their work, and buy at studio prices, you'll be able to engage with the artist, discuss what motivates and inspires their work, and in many cases, watch a demonstration of their techniques. Some of our artists will be set up inside The Foundry Arts Space. Please help us make this first year a success, so the event can continue annually.

🔘 f 🕨

You'll find a map and a full list of all artists & locations here: https://castrail.art/



The Foundry Arts Space is thrilled to introduce our artist community to *Ripple Fest 2025,* a groundbreaking new arts festival, from May 22-25. Campaspe Shire and Ripple Fest are partnering to host this youth-led creative project in The Foundry Arts Space and Arts Precinct as part of Ripple Festival.

Set on the stunning riverbanks of *Echuca* and *Rochester* this immersive festival is inspired by local communities and supported by flood recovery funding, promising an unforgettable experience for all!

Young creatives (15-25) You can be a part of Ripple Fest's youth-led program, which culminates with an exhibition at The Foundry Arts Space. Applications are now open. Deadline: Feb 19, 2025.

#### PumpHouse Artist Residency Program

Artists of all disciplines are invited to develop new work inspired by themes of environmental resilience, cultural connection and creative recovery. Residency dates: Feb-May 2025. Applications close: 27 Jan 2025.

www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/Recreation-events/Arts-culture/Ripple-Fest-2025

# Art in Our Region

"Our socials" These are our channels to the wider world. Check them out!

0 f 🕨

*The Bridge Art Project* was delighted to receive \$1,659,122 through the federal Growing Regions round 2 funding. The grant will allow completion of the gallery build and cover the cost of the raised walkway. This will connect the gallery site in Moama to the 17 hectare bush precinct which runs to the Murray river opposite Vic Park. A great step forward.



Italian Academy Awards.