

CAS Newsletter – October 2023

CAS Website: chi-art-soc.org

Dear Members,

Barbara Whitbourn's demo on Approaches to Abstraction in Landscape in mixed media on 7th September was very different from our usual demonstrations. Barbara showed members lots of the different collage techniques she uses, rather than producing a finished painting which she said could take her up to 2 weeks to complete. See attached photographs.



Curtis Tappenden's demonstration of an Italian city scene in pastels on 21st September was also very different, and entertaining. Curtis treated us to some of his poetry before starting his demo and amazed us with his agility. He explained his thinking and pastel technique whilst completing a dynamic, colourful painting. Curtis kindly donated his finished work to the Society, and this will be auctioned at a future date.

Sketching days:

6th Sept was a very hot day but 5 intrepid sketchers went to Little Breach allotments. See the attached photograph of Dennis hard at work.

There were just three sketchers at Cowdray Park on the last meeting of the year, but as it was dull and threatening to rain they didn't stay. It was a shame that the weather let us down, but we have had a very good run with 12 out of the 13 dates being very successful. Sharon is looking forward to doing it all again next year!

I am sure we will have another mini exhibition of their work very soon. A sneak preview of next year's programme, Mike Bragg will be demonstrating Developing Sketches into a finished painting in May.

October's Programme

Thursday 5th October (morning meeting) Soraya French will be demonstrating a coastal scene in mixed media.

Remember, this is the second of our **Bring a Friend for Free** meetings (visitors usually pay £5).

Soraya is an International Artist and Author. She works in watercolours, oils, pastels, acrylics and mixed media with a variety of subject matters such as musicians, café scenes and African market scenes amongst others. Many of her subjects are travel based including people in everyday life situations. Light and colour are the two important elements in her paintings together with semi abstract passages with a sense of ambiguity.

Soraya has received a number of prestigious art awards for her paintings in recent years and many of her paintings can be found in private and public collections both at home and abroad.

She is a regular contributor to The Artist Magazine. The success of her two art books published by Harper Collins has brought her international recognition with a wide following. She is a demonstrator for the US based art company "GOLDEN Artist Colours" and the "Caran D'Ache" Company. Soraya is also sponsored by St Cuthberts Mill who kindly provide her with watercolour paper annually. she also tutors and demonstrates her painting techniques to art groups and societies worldwide.

She is President of the Society of Women Artists and member of The Society of Floral Painters and is also currently the President of the Andover Art Society.

Soraya's Studio is at the prestigious "[Project Workshops](#)" in Quarley Hampshire, where she works with her husband Tim, who is Director of their Art Gallery and Workshops.

Thursday 19th October (evening meeting) **Curtis Tappenden will be adjudicating our World of the Imagination Award.**

He is hoping he will have more than 4 paintings to judge this time so **please** don't disappoint him.

Entries for this award should be abstract, dream like, surreal, landscapes with unnatural colours, non-representational work etc. and basically anything you wouldn't put in for the other awards.

We have a very wide range of artists in the Society, including some just starting out. Please do not be put off entering because you think the awards will automatically go to the experienced members, they do not. From previous observations, the adjudicator will be looking for that extra special something and this is just as likely to be spotted in a "new" artist as an experienced one. So take the plunge - you might be pleasantly surprised! The rules for this award are at the end of this newsletter.

Vacancies on the Committee

There are two vacancies on the Committee: Exhibition Co-ordinator and Publicity Secretary. Christine is stepping down as Publicity Secretary after doing an amazing job for several years and plans to continue as an active member of CAS. This will be a full-time position on the Committee.

Chloe has stepped down as Exhibition Co-ordinator as she only ever intended to help us out this year.

Further details will be sent out to members shortly. In the meantime, have a think about whether you might like to join our dynamic team and please feel free to contact any committee member.

Library Message from Sally and Anne our Librarians

A few new members have been asking about the library and how it works so here goes!

- We have around 230 books
- Books include ones relating to drawing, acrylics, oil, watercolour, pastels and mixed media.
- We have a large number of books specifically about various artists.
- Books may be borrowed for a month at a cost of 50p
- We take your name and the title you have borrowed in order to be able to track books as well as identify which are most popular.
- We don't charge a fine unless books have been out for months on end, but you may wish to make a contribution!
- Only three books at most to be held by a member at any one time so popular books can be shared fairly.
- At each session we put out a selection of books often relating to the subject of the meeting as far as possible...the whole selection is much too large and heavy to bring into the hall but there is a list online and also available at meetings where you may find something which interests you so please always ask
- Money collected is used to purchase new books
- An account is kept and submitted each year in time for the AGM
- We also have a collection of donated magazines for which we ask for a contribution into the 'mushroom' ... as a guide we used to sell them for 3 for £1! You can always re-donate them.
- From time to time we have a sale to get rid of out of date or unpopular books
- We have a selection of DVDs once again please ask about those if you still have a DVD player
- Please feel free to come and browse, chat to us and tell us about any book you have recently been impressed by
- Librarians are Sally and Anne also helped at times by Christine, Karen, Chloe and Jenny

PLEASE READ THE RULES IF YOU INTEND TO ENTER THE WORLD OF THE IMAGINATION AWARD

CRITERIA that the adjudicator will use: Choice of subject, Treatment of the subject, Use of medium or media to convey the subject, Overall impact & effect.

Rules

- *Only one entry per member.
 - *You must be present with your entry.
 - *You must have completed the work within the last two years.
 - *Please don't enter work you've put in for this award on a previous occasion.
 - *Please don't enter work you've put in for one of our other awards.
 - *Entries can be in any medium or combination of media.
 - *Work must be properly framed or mounted or otherwise properly presented. (Work in a sketchbook isn't allowed)
 - *We supply small strips of paper for you to write your name on to help the adjudicator. Please place in the bottom right-hand corner of your entry.
 - *Give your work a title so that the adjudicator can see where your focus lies.
 - *If you submit an oil painting please ensure that it is dry. We don't want your work to get damaged when it is handled or the adjudicators clothes covered in paint.
 - *Please note winners of this year's award will not be eligible to enter next year.
 - *Each entry is brought to the front, put on an easel and the adjudicator will talk about its strengths and have a few words with the artist.
 - *At the end of the session a winner and a runner-up are identified and presented with trophies. *Commended or Highly Commended entries will be at the adjudicator's discretion.
- Looking forward to seeing you on Thursday morning.

Regards,
Maggie

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