

## CAS Newsletter - February 2025

Dear Members,

Stephen Foster entertained members with a very interesting talk entitled 'What's the Point of Abstraction' last Thursday evening. He used some of his own painting to illustrate how he breaks down his subject and simplifies his composition. He gave us a lot to think about, and I can't wait for his follow up workshop on the 27th February. If you have signed up for his workshop, please make sure you have paid Julie the £10 deposit to secure your place.

### **Feb 6th (morning meeting) Sharon Hurst will be demonstrating a fantasy Male in water colour**

Sharon is a popular TV artist and demonstrates Derwent, Frisk, Kuretake and SAA products on the Create and Craft shopping channel. She has illustrated the covers for several books and has 2 teaching DVDs. Sharon has a book with Search Press, "How To Draw Unicorns". Although Sharon paints fantasy subjects her approach to portraiture is quite technical and much like some of the old masters.

### **20th Feb (evening meeting) Ronnie Ireland will be adjudicating our Natural Life Award.**

This award focuses on the natural world around us and can feature plants, creatures, animals, rock formations, sea, sky, landscape etc. Entries should relate to what can be readily observed rather than from the imagination/abstract. Entries can be in any medium or combination of media.

Please read the rules at the end of the Newsletter if you intend entering.

### **Library**

Over the next few weeks the library will be selling off books and DVD's that are no longer needed. Don't forget to bring some small change in case something takes your fancy.

### **AGM**

At our AGM in March we will be having our usual Bring and Buy Sale, the proceeds of which will go to The Snowdrop Trust which is the charity that CAS supports. So if you have any art materials that you no longer want, that you wish to donate, we will be very pleased to receive them. You can bring them to meetings or PwF.

### **PLEASE READ THE RULES IF YOU INTEND TO ENTER THE NATURAL LIFE AWARD**

- 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.
- Work should be in place on the stands on the tables by 6.15pm so that the adjudicator has time to have a first look.
- 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.

**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.

Looking forward to seeing you all at Sharon Hurst's demo on 6th February.

Regards,  
Maggie

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