

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **20th Aug - 3rd Sep 2020:** Paul Sesay - Fabric Art
- **4th - 30th Sep 2020:** Members only Art Show.
- **3rd - 31st Oct 2020:** Shirley Johnston-Learner "Bits and Pieces" Exhibition.
- **Dec 2020 - Jan 2021:** Local High Schools Students Exhibition.

Art Trivia!

1/ What does Italian artist Maurizio Savini make sculptures out of?

* Colored Pencils * Rubber Tires * Chewing gum * Bread

2/ What artist's work has been stolen more than any other's?

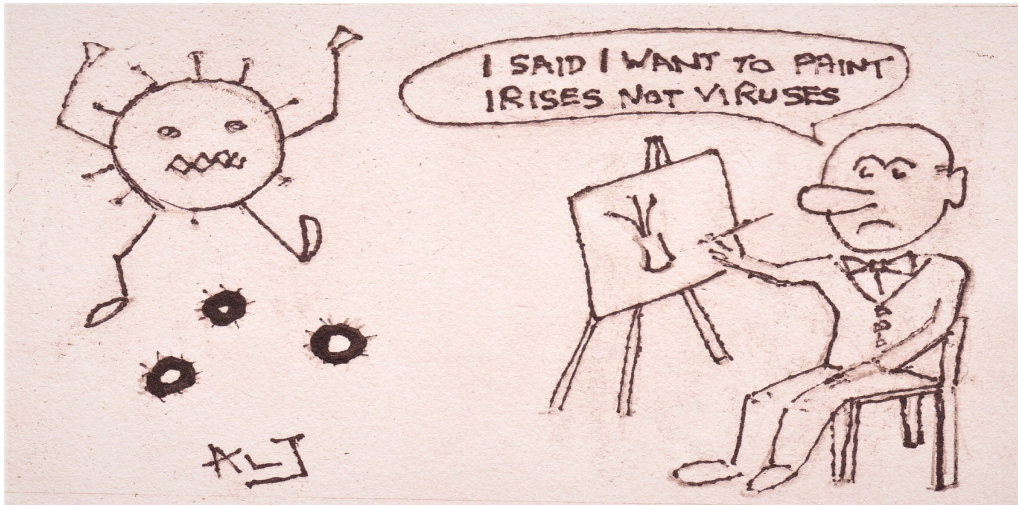
* Leonardo Da Vinci * Pablo Picasso * Edward Munch * Vincent Van Gogh

3/ How long did it take Leonardo da Vinci to paint the Mona Lisa's lips?

* 12 days * 12 weeks * 12 years * 12 months

Resource: www.usefultrivia.com

Covid Art! by Alasdair Jack



1. Chewing gum. 2. Pablo Picasso. 3. 12 years.

Art Trivia Answers

Editor: Nirmala Gnana



The Palette

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Newsletter of the Inala Art Gallery

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The Inala Art Gallery restarted its activities on 16th June with the softening of the Covid-19 restrictions. A new committee was elected. Here are a few words from our new President...

Looking to the future, by Rowena Solomon, our President.



When the new Management Committee of the Inala Art Gallery took over in 2019, it was a case of learning on the job and not being daunted by the enormity of the task. Running an Art Gallery is not just putting pictures on the walls but is a complicated business which not only must adhere to Government requirements for Incorporated bodies but also satisfy the Brisbane City Council from whom the Inala Art Gallery has a licence to occupy. Being the only such gallery owned by the Council, this is an area that could be exploited more fully in the future.

The first thing to be faced was to make the Gallery an attractive workspace which has appeal to exhibitors, visitors, classes and the community generally. With these goals largely achieved, now it is time not only to maintain what has been gained but to look ahead to the next stages in making Inala Art Gallery the place to be in 2020/2021

With the new Management Team in place, an important consideration is the development of a strategic plan which looks at goals for the next year and the years beyond and should include a succession plan where prospective members of the management committee who will not only bring new ideas but 'learn the ropes from the old hands'. The Management Committee works as a team with individual members being responsible for specific tasks eg teaching, catering, liaising with official bodies, editing the newsletter, seeking exhibitors and so on. Members of the Gallery will be aware of the new Executive role of Secretary/Treasurer. The rationale for this change indicates the complicated relationship between the two previous roles that has emerged over the last year and in fact makes the day to day running of the Gallery more efficient. All members of the Management Committee step in when assistance is required.

As the new President of the Gallery my intention is to maintain what has been achieved, lead a team where new ideas are encouraged and listened to, a variety of artistic workshops are developed and realistic plans for the future are established

Les Kitchener - "I do art as it brings me joy to see some smiles on kids faces."

Ph. by N. Gnana

In 2017, after retiring, Les was encouraged by his wife to join the Forest Lake Men Shed. Although both his father and brother were auto-didactic artists; Les assured: "I couldn't draw a stick!" As Les's father-in-law had shown him how to do a lot of handiwork, he opted for woodwork at the shed. After some supervision and a lot of dedicated work, the wood eventually took the shape of his favourite rolls Royce model.

It all started from a photo his wife had printed from the internet for him - he just had to model the rest in his mind and put himself to work...et voilà! Les practised replicating diverse objects then decided to realise a collection of wooden toys for various charities. He once made a fire engine on demand for a boy who had lost his house. "The boy never wanted to let go of it!" Les said smilingly. Creating wooden toys for underprivileged children always brings Les a lot of joy and gratitude. Les especially loves working with silky oak. He said: "Some woods have got their special grain and their beauty is shown in the work". It was from his relative's old cupboard that Les made all the tiny pieces for the doll house he created. "She couldn't believe it when she found out that all the pieces were made from her cupboard!" Les added: "But anyone can do it!". He encourages everyone to join the men's shed saying: "It gives me a good feeling; you feel useful and it's not easy when you retire after 50 years in the workforce."

Matthew Hurdle - "Art can communicate something in a way that other forms of language cannot."

Ph. by N. Gnana

Always interested in art from a young age, Matthew was first exposed to texts based painting in high school. He quickly got drawn in by the formal structure of the letters, their combinations and elements of shape, rather than their meaning. Doing some representational paintings at times while working in the business field, he finally followed his passion and started studying at QCA Griffith last year. Having had no mentors beforehand; Matthew recognises that being in contact with such competent staff at uni has opened up his mind to new conceptual, creative avenues. He nowadays dedicates an average of 8hrs a day to his art saying: "That 8hrs isn't just making the art...but rather researching about various forms of art and studying about other people's work, and practising." Through this first solo exhibition Matthew wanted to document his own exploration of the material nature of letter pressed print making. He emphasised: "It's really analysing the process itself which creates the work. It's within the making process that you work out what you want to do...by questioning things." Through the broken glass effect, he attempted to show the index of that split second instant when you make the print. "It was actually made by pressing the glass on the letter." Matthew said. The challenge of creating something conceptual that is aesthetically pleasing is what thrills him. In the future, Matthew wishes to hold more group shows and help other artists become visible. Having grown up in the Inala area, he remembers visiting the gallery. He feels very grateful: "It's not everywhere that you can get an exhibition. I think the community based galleries should be supported."

Paul Sesay - "Colours have a meaning...Batiks tell a story."

Ph. by M. Ming

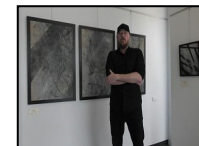
Paul started doing Batik back home in Sierra Leone in 1988. He was in his 20's then. His grandparents traditionally made Batik in the village. "Back home, we were using local products collected from trees, fruits, roots..." said Paul. This natural mixture was put into a container and left out to ferment for 2-3 weeks. The cotton fabric was then placed in it and left for 2-3 days to become indigo. "A higher quantity of collected fuel was making a darker indigo." Paul learnt his current technique from a friend: a chemical tie-dye made of caustic soda, that keeps the colour permanent on the fabric, and hydrosulphate powder which brightens up the colours of the fabric and makes the mixture more soluble. "When you create you see a lot of features... sometimes I'm surprised by the finished product and I don't want to sell it!" Paul said. He used to do demos for the "British Women Association" in Sierra Leone and in 1989 was invited to teach his technique at the Massachusetts University. In the 90's, when the war broke out, he went to Ghana and started teaching Batik in refugee camps. "I wanted to help others, so that they could be useful to their community back home." Paul came to Australia in 2004, recommended by the UN and started working with disabled people. In 2016, Paul went to the 'Brisbane Institute of Art' and was given the opportunity to teach weekend classes there. Now a children Educator; Paul occasionally holds workshops and exhibitions locally, in the area of Oxley and dreams of setting up a studio where he could pass on his knowledge. "Tie Dye is all about folding, binding and twisting the cloth and sewing certain parts of the fabric, so that when you dye all these areas of the fabric it reveals a beautiful design and tells a story!"

OUR LATEST ARTIST..

In the past few months...

Ph. by N. Gnana

Jun/2020: "Forest Lake Men Shed" Exhibition.



Ph. by M. Ming

Aug/2020: "Letter Pressed" Exhibition by Matthew Hurdle.



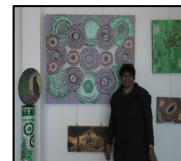
Ph. by M. Ming

Jun/2020: "Karibu-Fineart 2020" Exhibition by Priya Gore.



Ph. by M. Ming

Aug-Sep/2020: "Fabric" Exhibition by Paul Sesay.



Ph. by M. Ming

Jul/2020: "The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders" Exhibition.

We are always looking for new exhibiting artists or volunteer art teachers. Contact us to help our art community grow! Thanks!