

SoART fills with happy artists



Some of the 18 artists who exhibited at SoART Gallery in April... Julie Creagh, Noi Snith, Joy Macfarlane, Lorna Smyth, Ann Rogan, Cr Phil Constable who opened the exhibition, Anne-Maree Kape, Marg Ingamells, Helena Bettini, Denise Rungen, Suzanne Dainer and Janet Jones. Photo courtesy Cat Wilson.

What a great season of exhibitions we're having at the SoART Gallery, with another by the Artful Nine opening this Thursday night (5-7pm and you are all invited). See poster on page 2. Hope to see you there.

Wollongong-based artist Judi Goodwin had a most successful exhibition early April, followed by a joint exhibition by 18 local artists over Easter. All these artists were delighted with the response and in their sales.

Then later in May (16-26 May) we have the prestigious **River of Art Prize**. Entries will again be exhibited in both the Gallery and the Studios. What a great celebration of the creativity in our community.

Meanwhile, the School of Arts continues working with our architects ClarkeKeller and various consultants progressing our plans for the **Narooma Arts & Community Centre (NACC)** ready to be submitted to Eurobodalla Shire Council for the DA.

We have a 'building referral group', for want of a better term, consisting of some who have been involved with the plans since 2012 (includes a few artists) plus some committee members. They are putting in the hours and 'brain power' working together to help fine tune the plans with our architects to ensure we end up with a place that meets our community's needs now and well into the future..

As with the Memorial Hall (Kinema), we are not building for 20-40 years, we are building for 80-100 years. (Incidentally, in six years we celebrate the Hall's centenary! By then we will also have the NACC.)

Over winter, the SoART Gallery will also play a role as an office front for the School of Arts where we will display NACC plans for the community to examine, ask questions and comment on. It will be manned mainly by members of the 'building group'.

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So what is the School of Arts?

Narooma is in the extraordinary position of owning and managing its own land and buildings dedicated for the Arts (School of Arts Memorial Hall /Kinema, School of Arts' Studios and the SoART Gallery), valued at about \$2.5m. They're held in trust for our community by Narooma School of Arts & Soldiers' War Memorial Hall Inc (SOA) and managed by a voluntary committee. The SOA leases the Hall (Kinema) to John, Janette and Jade Griffiths to operate as twin cinemas and as a venue for the performing arts. Recently the SOA did major work on the Hall to improve it as a venue.

It's vital our community keeps this organisation vibrant. Membership is open to everyone (voting rights limited to those living within 35km of Narooma PO). If you are not a member, please consider joining. Membership forms are in the Studios, Kinema and on the webpage.

THE ARTFUL NINE PRESENTS

PIECE BY PIECE

2019 EXHIBITION AND SALE OF MOSAIC ART AND OTHER STUNNING CREATIONS



* Jan Atkinson * Julie Creagh * Kim Dent * Judy Gordon *
* Carol Hellmers * Louise Lander * Vanessa Place *

SO ART GALLERY
PRINCES HIGHWAY NAROOMA
JOIN US FOR DRINKS'N NIBBLES
5-7PM THURSDAY 2 MAY

EXHIBITION DATES: 2-7 MAY
OPEN: 10AM-4PM DAILY
FREE ENTRY



EXHIBITIONS at SoART Gallery

Our boutique gallery provides a wonderful intimate space for an individual or group of artists to exhibit their work. All enquiries welcome. Check our website for more information.

www.naroomaartscentre.com.au/soart-gallery-Narooma/

2-7 MAY : 'Piece by Piece' exhibition by THE ARTFUL 9 (see poster above)

16-26 May: RIVER OF ART — Art Prize
Official opening Thursday 16 May at 5.30pm

August—Dates TBC: 'Daisies in Print' photographic exhibition by Kathryn Ratcliffe

4-9 October: FIBRE FEST

31 October-9 November: Take a Seat - entries open to all.

School of Arts' Studios buzz

Some great classes and workshops will feature at the Studios in 2019, as well as our regular sessions. Please check the Studios' website, Studios' newsletter or Facebook page for details as they become available.

The Studios are available for casual and regular bookings by groups and individuals for arts, cultural and educational activities. They are managed by a School of Arts sub-committee.

Enquiries: Please ring Ann (0417 409 060) or Joy (4476 8047) or

email: studios@naroomaschoolofarts.com.au.

All School of Arts members are welcome to the fun Friday Friendzy (second Friday each month) for a little housekeeping plus drinks, nibbles and a chat 4 to 6pm.

Next Friday Friendzy is FRIDAY 10 MAY



Artists at work at the April Friday Friendzy — Trish De Laney, Jenny Hain and Cat Wilson lend a hand painting the downstairs studio. Photo courtesy Suzanne Dainer

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This will run in conjunction with various small possibly joint exhibitions by our local artists. Should the SoART Gallery sub-committee have an artist wanting to mount a full exhibition over winter, we will vacate for the duration. Details have still to be finalised.

Just a reminder the next Friday Friendzy is on Friday 10 May. This will be a working bee to ensure all the grounds and our two venues are looking spick and span ready for the River of Art. It would be great to have a good turnout so hope to see you there.

The School of Arts has also sponsored a 'busking hot spot' at the Gallery for the **Busking Festival** which is the last Saturday of the River of Art Festival. We have also sponsored a prize.