



hertfordshire visual arts forum

HVAF Newsletter December 2010

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PREVIEW

Following the resignation of our volunteer Newsletter Editor, it's several months since our last issue. The committee are keen to have a monthly newsletter. This means you'll have timely news of events and opportunities without being bombarded by several emails throughout the month.

For those that wish to view the entire newsletter rather by article click "Print Version" above.

We'd like to form an editorial committee to give more members the opportunity to contribute. If you are interested in assisting with the production of HVAFs monthly newsletter do contact me on openstudios@hvaf.org.uk.

Linda Warminger

HVAF Gallery

We are pleased to advise that the **GALLERY** Options on the HVAF website have been improved.

GALLERY PAGE

The Personal Profile and 3 images are still being provided, as a membership benefit, free of charge.

For those members wishing to display 4-15 images the annual fee is £30 and for those wishing to display up to 30 images the annual fee is £50.

Simply log on to the website by clicking **login** at the bottom left-hand side of the home page at www.hvaf.org.uk, and enter your username and password to take advantage of any of these options.

MEMBERS ONLY PAGES

Over the coming months we will be developing areas on the site (eg details opportunities we wish to pass on to HVAF members) that will **only be accessible to members** ;by logging in with their username and password. So to be prepared for this, if you have forgotten your username and password, or need some assistance with loading your own Gallery page please email Jude Fung support@hvaf.org.uk, or Linda Warminger openstudios@hvaf.org.uk.

Kingsbury Barn Exhibition

A few quotes from our visitors book:

"Wonderful and Diverse"

"The variety and standard is very impressive"

"Excellent mix - beautifully hung"

"Delightful, wonderful exhibits and demonstrations in lovely surrounding"

"Beautiful exhibition with some really fantastic work - such a high standard".



"Kingsbury Barn" Susan Llewelyn-Elvidge



Mel Milbrow reported to the AGM of the success of HVAF's first major exhibition for some years which was held at Kingsbury Barn in June.

The event generated £5,800 of sales for artists and achieved over 1500 visitors.

The impressive nature of the venue and of the work on display reinforced the quality image we would like to portray for members. Special thanks are due to all who put extra effort into this event to ensure its success, but particularly to Susan Llewelyn Elvidge, John Spielman and Linda Warminger.



To see an album of photos from the exhibition visit: www.facebook.com/album.php?aid=22483&id=100000396553035&l=78ec733b85

Open Studios 2010

Another successful year with 195 artists participating across the county and an estimated 11,000+ visitors.

Apart from sales made at the time, commissions to come, and the more usual approaches to lecture, demonstrate and conduct workshops, members have advised us of some interesting opportunities that have arisen as a result of them participating in Open Studios this year. These include

- requests to visit a Sculpture retreat in India
- a display in Elstree Aerodrome Café
- participating at Essex Silk Painters Festival
- a variety of Schools projects, and
- an exhibiting opportunity at the Natural History Museum!

The 2011 project dates have been agreed as 10 Sept - 2 Oct, and it will be Herts Open Studios 21st Birthday. Further details to follow in our February Newsletter.

Our thanks go to the following members who have volunteered to be our Area Coordinators for 2011:

BARNET - June Faulkner

DACORUM - Mitzie Green

EAST HERTS - Linda Gifford

HARPENDEN - Roger Reynolds

NORTH HERTS - Cathy Smale

ST. ALBANS - Val Girling

WATFORD - Jan Langton

WELWYN & HATFIELD - Vacancy (June Faulkner in interim)

Workshops & Classes



Jenny Timms

Recently introduced to benefit members was the creation of a downloadable summary of Workshops & Classes offered by HVAF Members (currently residing on the website homepage) .

The 1 January edition will include details to 30 June. To ensure that details of your Workshops & Classes appear please email Linda Warming openstudios@hvaf.org.uk with a spreadsheet of information in the same format as the published example.

Artist on File: JODI PHILLIPS



"London" Jodi Phillips

This month our featured artist is Jodi Phillips, who was recently interviewed by Denise Bowser.

Bewildering beauty in Jodi Phillips cityscapes

Large and heavily textured, Jodi's cityscapes immediately captured my attention when I first flicked through this year's Open Studios catalogue. In person they didn't let me down.

Simultaneously calm and aggressive, her semi-abstract cityscapes depict characteristics of most big metropolis: impersonality through repetition and lack of clear definition of shape on her skyscrapers on middle ground in front of a choice of neutral colours for skies in the background and compounded with the bustling and enigmatic appeal of big cities, shown via very appealing transparencies in the foreground.

Other subjects that capture Jodi's imagination, and that are topics of her work, are dance and The Big Bang (yes, that so-called beginning of all things???!), themes of many of her paintings.

Travelling the world

Jodi's works have been sold in the USA, Japan, Singapore, Egypt, Morocco, Holland and the UK, among other countries. Her international reputation started at Autumn Fair 2000 when she launched her first two giclee prints, quickly spotted by John Lewis who instantly commissioned her for a further eight originals to be sold as prints at their Oxford Street store. In addition, she has completed commissions for the Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, Tyco Electronics, the Prince's Trust and many private clients.

The artist has also worked closely with some key digital image companies including Epson, Canon, Fuji Hunt, Hahnemuhle, Wacom and Adobe. In 2002 she was awarded Highly Commended in the Gift of the Year Award for one of her limited editions of Hand Embellished Giclee prints.

The attraction of abstract art

Following a versatile trajectory of 12 years in graphic design where her work swung from product packaging to corporate design, in 1997 Jodi discovered freedom in abstract art. Her path was to change decisively from then on.

After a few small exhibitions and with the help of business advisers, in 1999 she put together a business plan and presented it to The Prince's Trust. Next, funding for her project was approved. This was then the birth of her company Inner Sanctum Design.

Versatility of medium

Beside works on large canvases, Jodi also uses an untraditional range of mediums to present her art: from prints on mugs to hand painted pairs of jeans, in addition to fabrics and ceramics. With an easy to navigate website, she's definitely equally competent and successful both as an artist and as a business woman.

See more of her work on the HVAF website gallery and at www.jodiphillips.com

Members News & Forthcoming Events



Garden Room Door Design

News from our members and details of forthcoming events.

CREATION OF A TRANQUIL SPACE AT BARNET GENERAL HOSPITAL

June Faulkner was the artist on the new Garden Room at Barnet General Hospital.

This project was led by the Kings Fund with the Department of Health to enhance the healing environment end of life programme.

A new room has been created - a tranquil space with doors opening out on to a courtyard garden for the use of patients, relatives and friends.



June had initial input regarding the designs for this new room, including a green roof and sun pipes to provide internal natural light. Workshops were held early in the design process on to explore idea.

June created a signature image to identify the room throughout the hospital, a design for the etched glass doors, made devore textile hangings for the windows, and provided photographic images for lightboxes within the room, which is an important asset to the facilities provided at the hospital.

BBH PRINT SOCIETY EXHIBITION

Garden Room Signature Image



The BBH print society is holding their annual exhibition at the Boxfield Gallery, Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 1LZ.

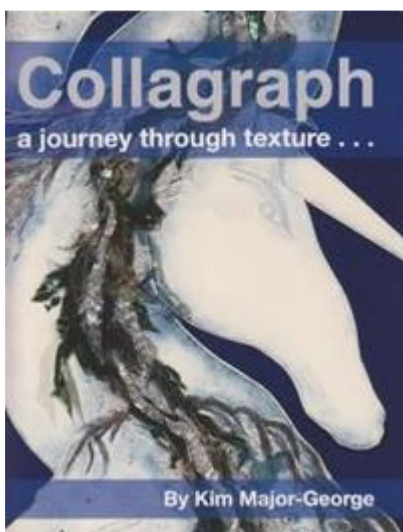
Dates: 14 Jan - 13 Feb 2011.

This large exhibition is the first exhibition to be held by BBH printmakers who live or work in the Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire & Buckinghamshire areas.



Preview night: Friday 14th Jan 7:30 onwards why not come and have a glass of wine and see the members exhibitions plus the large folio browsers full of hand pulled prints. BBH have 2 folio weekends where the public can see all the members unframed work displayed in large browser and folio boxes.

First weekend 14 - 16 Jan open from 12:00 - 6:00, Second weekend 12 - 13 Feb open from 12:00 - 6:00 (Sun 12:00 - 4:00)



Also featured at the B.B.H. exhibition is Kim Major-George's printing book entitled 'Collagraph - a journey through texture'.

This is a 100 page beautifully photographed full colour, contemporary print book, covering all aspect of collagraph printing areas including printing from textiles, plastic, carborundum, mono printing, blind embossing ,hints and tips for successful printing and so much more.

All are welcome - there is still time to join the B.B.H. print society just go to their website www.bbhprintsociety.org.uk for details. It is a society for any printmaker wanting to get involved with the big print events happening throughout the year.

Kim Major-George

BRASS GALLERY

RETROSPECTIVE EXHIBITION

New paintings by HVAF Member James Moss will be shown for the first time at *Carto-Graph* , Brass Gallery's 2010 retrospective exhibition from 13 Jan to 1 Feb 9.30-5.00 weekdays.

The work will feature alongside that of other artists from the year's best shows, all referencing in some way maps, plans and patterns.

Fresh from exhibiting with *Less Is More Project s* in Paris and following reviews in *The Independent* and *Culture Vulture* online, James' intricately layered paintings continue to evolve and engage international audiences.

www.jamesmossart.com.

Brass Gallery , Moorfield House, Alma Road, Leeds LS6 2AH.



FESTIVAL "Uriel 660" James Moss RHYTHMS

Two HVAF members Cathy Smale and Hazel Godfrey participated as Artists in Residence at this years Rhythms of the World Festival at Hitchin Priory in July.

Cathy Smale produced a painting combining several perspectives, creating an image of the whole festival.

Limited edition (50) Giclee Prints of the painting are now available

at £60 from

www.cathysmale.com.



WATFORD MAYOR'S WINING CHRISTMAS CARD ENTRY BY CAROL ROGERS



Carol Rogers won this year's Watford Mayor's Christmas card competition with her painting entitled 'Sudden Snowfall, Watford Museum'. (watercolour & gouache)

"Rhythms" Cathy Smale

Mayor Dorothy Thornhill chose the painting. 1000 cards will be printed and sent out by the Mayor Local businesses sponsor the printing and also donate money for charity. This year's charity is RISE which supports bipolar sufferers.

Carol's prize was £100 (Harlequin Shopping Centre) gift vouchers and a beautiful basket of flowering plants. A photo of her receiving the flowers appeared in the local newspaper & local magazines.

Belinda's Bash



by Belinda Naylor-Stables MA Design

Creative Planning

You go on a course and a quote sticks with you. One such quote is Faith Popcorn's 'Assumption is the mother of all fkups'. I know not everyone will appreciate the language but it's a useful reminder most of the time. And talking of time, it seems to me that Time itself is one of those areas where we all make sweeping assumptions - for ourselves and other people. In this article I show that if we just let go of standard time assumptions we can tweak time to our benefit...**

When does the day start?

Exhibitions and museums are great places for time travel. Whenever I visit Sutton Hoo I always learn something new about the Anglo Saxons - and whatever it is feels as though I should have known it all along. On my visit last Summer I learnt something new about their day: it started at sunset. Now that makes comfortable sense to me - and I don't know why I haven't applied it yet. Seeing the end of my usual working day as a new start should re-energise my attitude to the evening that lies ahead. Instead of flopping into recovery mode I'll be rejuvenated enough to prepare properly for the coming daylight hours. In turn that will help me squeeze more from the day than I originally thought possible. In fact starting the day at sunset is my New Year's resolution.

How long is a week?

Maybe we should drop our assumptions about the working week too. One of my favourite books is Barbara Kingslover's 'The Poisonwood Bible' (1999) . It's a chunky piece of fiction about an American missionary and his family living in the Congo jungle. What fascinates me most are the cultural issues Kingslover raises which are well researched and real. As the story unfolds the missionary minister acquires a congregation. However he gets very angry with them because they continually fail to get to church on Sunday. The fact is that this community have a ten day week - so for them Sunday keeps cropping up on a different day. Not surprisingly they can't make sense of the 'Church on Sunday' concept. The minister's big mistake was to make an assumption about time - that everyone shares the same sense of it. And the question that comes to my mind is whether we're all guilty of similar assumptions - and how to avoid them.

Create your own week...

For all creative people time is key. Our produce has to be ripe and ready for our personal calendar of events. In the quest to make more time for production I think it's important not to be straightjacketed by what we think of as the working week. So for 2011 I'm going to create a week that suits my own workaholic tendencies. I quite fancy a thirteen day week in which I work like mad for ten days and follow that with three full days of playtime. That gives me 21 more working days – amazingly a whole extra month of workdays in the year - plus generous chunks of leisure. No more wishing for 3 day weekends – I can have them without feeling guilty! So, short of time? Tweak your week.

Create your own year...

One of the things I like to do in December and January is try to get a feel for the way my year as an artist, writer and consultant might pan out. I work up some personal and commercial objectives to help me move forward and align these to opportunities I know about. I'm happy to share my approaches to these things in future Belinda's Bash articles. I can't lay any great claim to being commercially or artistically successful - yet. But I can tell you that I want the journey to be inspirational this year so I'll be pulling out all the stops... starting with champagne and good-luck wishes for a Creative and Productive New Year!

If anyone would like to add helpful comments on managing creative time and planning for productivity then I'm sure everyone would like to hear from you! Do add your comments here...

Molewood Arts



Molewood Arts

A new gallery in town, and a bit of art for every budget and taste.

Against the current national trend of cuts, closures and complaints, the recent opening of a new art gallery in Hertford promises to be a new and exciting window of opportunities for Hertfordshire artists, as Denise Bowser discovers ...

Opening day

Owned by couple Marion and Chris Hewitt, Molewood Arts opened its doors on 4th Dec 2010, just in time to catch the first flow of Christmas shoppers. “The response from the Saturday opening was absolutely overwhelming”, said Marion. “We thought the recent wave of cold weather would put people off but we were in fact packed with visitors from beginning to end, 11am until 4pm”, remarked Chris.

Artists themselves and now proud gallery owners, Marion and Chris “hope that the enthusiasm of the 4th Dec will continue”, they commented, as they see their venture as a valuable addition to the already thriving arts scene in Hertford. To consolidate the place in their local art world the Hewitts will also work in close partnership with other county art venues such as Courtyard Arts, The Gallery of Hertfordshire Graphics and The Hertford Arts Society.

Background

After running a graphic design consultancy from Molewood Lodge for over 12 years, Marion and Chris decided to look for creative ways to expand their business. “Eventually we decided to use our passion for art to enhance our existing business”, remembers Marion. “With the artworks on display in part of the design studio space, we see the two initiatives working together as one”, points out Chris.

Pieces and Prices

Variety is the name of the game, when it comes to prices and what is on offer. Ranging from oil paintings and watercolours, drawings and sculpture, including also glass and ceramics to jewellery, it becomes difficult to think of this gallery not being able to please any and all visitors, somehow. Pricewise, the concept is the same with pieces of jewellery starting at a mere £22, ceramics at £30 and unframed artworks at £35.

Behind the scene, pieces and artworks will be provided by a permanent group of 13 artists who will be able to use the gallery space for about two months, when they will then give way to another group of exhibitors to again show a diverse range of works.

The gallery is open on Thursdays and Fridays from 10am to 4pm and on Saturdays and Sundays from 12:00 to 4pm.

Where to find them

Molewood Arts is located at:

Molewood Lodge, Molewood Road, Hertford SG14 3LT

For more information please contact tel: 01992 504560 / 07977 203012 molewoodarts@gmail.com

Opportunities

In early 2011 our OPPORTUNITIES will be listed in a password protected area of the HVAF Website. Don't miss out ... if you do not know your username and password please contact Jude Fung support@hvaf.org.uk or Linda Warming openstudios@hvaf.org.uk.

Wherever possible we will pass on opportunities on via the newsletter or website. However sometimes the committee receive emails that need a quick turnaround and we search the members database either geographically or by art form.

Are your art forms up-to-date ? Do they reflect everything that you do ? Simply login from the bottom left hand side of the the home page www.hvaf.org.uk to check.

Details below of recent opportunities that have been referred to the HVAF committee. As usual do let us know if you have been able to take advantage of them !



ART STUDIOS FOR RENT

Beautiful newly refurbished studios situated in stable block with 7 existing/occupied Art Studios.

Rent includes Heat Light and Water. Country setting but 5 minutes from A41 J2 (between Hemel and Berkhamsted). Toilet and parking.

Prices from £265 per month. Contact Sue Munday for further details 07815 740664 sue.munday@pfbnet.com.

MONTHLY EXHIBITING OPPORTUNITY AS 'ARTIST IN RESIDENCE' AT MALTINGS ARTS THEATRE, ST. ALBANS

Lyndsay Haynes is offering an opportunity for local artists to display their work in the Maltings Arts Theatre foyer for a month at a time.

Although opening hours for the theatre have recently been revised the building does receive a lot of traffic, as they have various classes that take place during the day in addition to the evening programme of events.

Please contact Lyndsay Haynes for futher information. lyndsay.haynes@stalbans.gov.uk



SEASONS IN A GARDEN = CALL FOR ENTRIES

OPEN ART EXHIBITION AT THE LUTON HOO WALLED GARDEN 17 - 20 MARCH 2011

Luton Hoo Walled Garden plays host to its second annual open art exhibition furthering its mission to promote this wonderful setting as an inspirational arts centre and creative haven. The theme this year is:

SEASONS IN A GARDEN

Artists from all disciplines are invited to submit works that interpret any aspect of the workings of a garden – architectural, botanical, historical, technical etc

Closing date for Entries: 18th February 2011

(Application forms and rules will provide more details)

For further details including application forms and entry schedules, please contact: arts@lhwg.org.uk or call 01582 721443 (9.30am – 2.30pm weekdays)

The Luton Hoo Walled Garden project was set up in 2001 to restore the garden back to a place of beauty to be enjoyed by all. It is an ideal subject for visually creative people who may wish to record its many stages of transformation. It is hoped that this evolving setting will become a regular location to continually inspire and encourage artists/photographers and more. For information on access to the garden, please get in touch on the above contacts.

STUDIO SPACE AVAILABLE - An opportunity to join the Pressmore Studio Group

The Pressmore Group has a space available at its studio in Ashley Green. Based on a farm in Ashley Green (between Berkhamsted and Chesham in Buckinghamshire) a group of artists share the studio space on a co-operative basis.

The studio has good light, is equipped with easels, tables, a drying rack and a printing press and is available 24/7. Although it does not have much room for storage, a small space is allocated to each artist for materials. The group are mostly painters and printmakers but would also welcome artists using other media. They exhibit together when opportunities arise and have networking sessions and group crits.

Each artist contributes £45 per month to cover the rent of the studio. If you are interested in joining the Pressmore Group or would like more information, please phone Joanna Bryant on 01442 871680.

Contributors

MANY thanks to all HVAF artists who contributed news. The next issue will be circulated on 1 February. Copy deadline 20 January 2011.

www.hvaf.org.uk enquiries@hvaf.org.uk

HVAF is an acronym for Herefordshire Visual Arts Forum.

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