

The Canterbury Botanical Art Society

Newsletter no. 1

June 2004

We have been thrilled with the response to the formation of the Botanical Art Society, and delighted at the talent that is already within the new group. We plan to use these strengths and talents during the once monthly workdays and guest tutors will also be invited to contribute.

The introductory workshop was very successful and everyone went home with at least one beautifully drawn and painted Granny Smith apple.

There are many interesting and exciting avenues which we can explore in Botanical Art, but for some people the basics must be mastered first!

With this in mind, the committee has planned our first programme for this year. Members wishing to avail themselves of these opportunities will have tuition from 9am – 10.30am each time, and will be asked to contribute a minimum of \$5.00 per lesson. This will pay for the tutor and contribute to Society funds.

Programme

July 6	Drawing skills and perspective Rebecca Brown-Thompson
August 3	Composition and design Serena McWilliam (to be confirmed)
September 7	Watercolour techniques Dianne Smith
October 5	Painting preparation for exhibition, mounts and framing
November 2	Plant structures Botanist to be confirmed

We plan a small exhibition in November. It is proposed to include affiliated members in the Society. Their subscription will be \$20.00 per annum, and they will receive our Newsletter and be able to attend workshops and schools at a small additional cost. There are people interested in our Society from outside the area who also wish to receive our Newsletter.

Future News: The International Rose Conference in Dunedin - November 2005. We may be able to contribute to a coinciding Botanical Art Exhibition.

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Future news! the International Rose Conference in Dunedin November 2005. may ~~take~~ include a botanical art exhibition to which we could contribute?

The Canterbury Botanical Art Society

Newsletter no. 2

September 2004

The Society now meets in the Art Centre on the first Tuesday of each month from 9am to 1pm.

The decision to have tutors for varied topics from 9am - 10.30am at each meeting has proved to be stimulating and interesting. Most members have availed themselves of this opportunity to learn more. There is an average of 10 people who paint enthusiastically each time and apparently there are more waiting in the wings to join us.

Workshop. Five keen members attended a one-day workshop recently, and ended the day taking home a beautifully painted hellebore. The colours ranged from luxurious magenta and pastel pink to pristine white. Quite a challenge. Dianne the tutor, was as pleased with the results as they were.

Nancy Adams. Mid 20th Century botanical artist of native flora fame. Her travelling exhibition is coming to Christchurch in September. These works are very beautiful and interesting for us to see. Don't miss it.

Programme change:

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|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| October 5 | Plant structures
Michele Moore, botanist. |
| November 2 | Paintings critique
Sally Powell, well known Canterbury watercolourist |
| November 19 | Our Group Show – unselected
Two paintings per member (for sale optional)
Studio 7, Arts Centre 5pm-8pm. Friends and family
are invited to this end of year function |

Membership. We have some affiliated members. The subscription is now \$20.00 to April 2005 entitling you to receive the newsletter, and participation in any of our workshops or exhibitions. We hope to attract botanical artists working by themselves in other areas of the country.

Future workshops in 2005. Arrangements are being made for Fiona McKinnon from the Melbourne Botanical Art School to visit us in the autumn. She is a very stimulating and enthusiastic tutor.

Heritage Rose Conference. Dunedin, 2005. Negotiations are taking place for members to take part with an exhibition by the Canterbury Botanical Art Society. In the meantime, those members who are interested could be practising the drawing of leaves, stems and hips. In fact, we should all be drawing as often as we can. Remember 'practise makes perfect' and good drawing technique is necessary for the execution of fine botanical art. Observe and draw as often as you can.



Iris x 'Sindpers'

Dianne M. Smith