



# The Botanical Art Society of New Zealand Inc

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## APRIL 2015 NEWSLETTER

### COMING UP IN THIS NEWSLETTER!

- **Avic Hill Crafts Festival**
- **Annual BASNZ Exhibition “The Big Show of Little Botanical Works”**
- **Canterbury Plains Florilegium Touring Exhibition**
- **Vincent Jeannerot workshop**
- **Botanical Bits & Bobs**
- **The Team**
- **AGM – President’s Report**

### Avic Hill Crafts Festival



Jacquie Carran working in colour pencil.



Karen, Jacquie and Lynn hard at work.

The green and shady lawns of the Avic Hill Arts and Crafts Centre, were the setting for a crafts fair and visitors' day on a hot and sunny Sunday in February that attracted hundreds of people. Our Society participated by offering our greeting cards and a few small pictures for sale. Jacquie Carran (with coloured pencils) and Karen Atherton (with graphite) demonstrated how we work on botanical drawing. People were fascinated by the detail and the colour but were surprised by the fact that scientific accuracy was so important to our work and that we measure everything carefully. We gave out a lot of information and contact sheets about the Society and talked to a people all day. We sold a few cards and let people know we are here and working.

**“The Big Show of Little Botanical Works”  
Annual BASNZ Exhibition 5<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2015**

We have now confirmed the dates with The Tin Palace Lyttelton for our annual BASNZ 2015 show : 5<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2015. It's time to get working again!

This time we will be making small pictures in your choice of medium and whatever botanical subject you like. They will all be the same size and we will matt them all alike and hang them densely on the white walls of the small front room and hallway of the space. As one picture sells, we will let it go home with the new owner immediately and replace it with another from a box of finished artworks.

Size: The outside dimensions of the matts will be 28 cm by 33 cm and the dimensions of the works (inside matt dimensions) will be 12 cm by 14 cm. The aspect of the paintings must be **PORTRAIT**. We hope that many people will submit multiple artworks since the format is so small. Anything that does not go on the walls immediately will be kept in a box during the exhibition to replace anything that sells.

The Tin Palace is a Victorian house that survived the earthquakes. A popular Saturday street market is on the adjacent street and we are hoping for good traffic on the weekends. Look for more information about the Tin Palace at

<http://www.tinpalace.co.nz/tin-palace/>

## Call for Entries/ Submission deadline/ Matting & Costs

- We would be grateful if participating artists could let us know approximately how many paintings they envisage submitting, as it will help with the planning.
- Submissions must be received at the Society by September 30, 2015 in order to complete the matting.
- The matting is \$15 per painting and will be the cost of the artist.

## Canterbury Plains Florilegium Touring Exhibition - Update



The Florilegium had a very successful time at the Aigantighe in Timaru from 12 January 2015. Curator Jessica Mio said that people took their time looking at the pictures and commented on the “delicate beauty” of the works. Congratulations to Tina Grey whose “Pittosporum” was sold to a landscape designer who saw it at the Aigantighe. The show closed on 15 February and the works were delivered by Jo Ogier to the Eastern Southland Gallery in Gore to be held there (insured) until displayed to the public from 19 June to 26 July 2015. There will be no opening party for this exhibition event.

## Vincent Jeannerot workshop – September 2015

BASNZ has been extended a wonderful opportunity to host a two-day workshop at the Avice Hill Arts and Crafts Centre, with the acclaimed French watercolour botanical artist Vincent Jeannerot for two full days, on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2015. The cost is \$285 per person.

At this stage the workshop is fully subscribed however we do have a waiting list. If you would like to be put on this waiting list, please contact us.

Monsieur Jeannerot is known for his work with roses, peonies and clematis but suggests we pick something like a fruit, vegetable or spring flower for our subject. We can discuss the class syllabus in detail with him later, and fine-tune it to best suit our group.

Here is a tutor profile by BASNZ member Elizabeth Yuill Proctor:

*“Vincent Jeannerot is a well respected French Botanical Artist and tutor. He has a BA in Fine Arts attained at Lyon (France) and is a member of the Maison des Artistes, the French Society of Botanical Illustration and the French Society of Watercolour. His work has been exhibited at the Chelsea Flower Show and the L’art du jardin, Grand Palais, Paris and at many galleries in London & France. Vincent’s paintings have appeared as illustrations in several European gardening magazines and books such as Portraits de Fleurs, Plantes Aromatiques, Mes Saisons Gourmandes. Vincent has in own gallery in Old Lyon. Vincent’s work is mostly in watercolour and he is known as a master in dry brushing. He is attempting to express through his work the first emotions in contact with nature like the scent of a mushroom, the brightness of a wet oak leaf in the rain. Vincent as a tutor, has a kind and gentle touch.*

*Last year he ran workshops in Australia via the Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne. These classes sold out and were a huge hit, so much so Vincent is returning to Australia again this year to hold workshops hosted by the Calligraphy Society. In fact this year his classes have been a major hit in Brazil & Italy and he is booked to teach in Russia & the US this year. We are extremely lucky to have a tutor of his calibre teaching Botanical Art coming to New Zealand. The Wellington area is having a class which is fully subscribed, before advertising”.*

Here are some examples of Vincent’s work:

<http://www.vincentjeannerot.fr>

<http://www.artmajeur.com/en/artist/vincentjeannerot>

<https://www.pinterest.com/lacogni/vincent-jeannerot>

## 2015 AGM

The Annual General Meeting was held on 22 April 2015, at the Avic Hill Arts and Crafts Centre. Please find attached the President's report at the end of this newsletter.

## Botanical Bits and Bobs

A gentle reminder that Subscriptions for 2015/16 are now due!

### Continuing Education

One of our BASNZ members last year completed a botanical art course at Filoli with **Jean Emmons**. Jean is one of the participating artists of the Filoli Florilegium and is a master of the dry brush technique. Her work can be seen at

<http://www.jeanemmons.com/>

**Filoli** runs many courses and the website alone is well worth visiting.

<http://www.filoli.org/education/adult-programs/botanical-art.html>

**Making a Mark** describes itself as a top art blog for artists and art lovers. The latest blog showcases the prizewinners at the Society of Botanical Artists' Annual Exhibition 2015. Click on the link below and be inspired by the stunning work.

[http://makingamark.blogspot.co.uk/2015/04/prizewinners-2015-society-of-botanical-artists-annual-exhibition\\_17.html](http://makingamark.blogspot.co.uk/2015/04/prizewinners-2015-society-of-botanical-artists-annual-exhibition_17.html)

### Anna Mason

A few of our members are currently undertaking an online course with British botanical artist and teacher **Anna Mason**.

Anna is an RHS Gold Medal winner and amongst her accolades, has work in the RHS Lindley Library Collection and also the Shirley Sherwood To find out more about her school visit <http://schoolofwatercolour.com/>

Or to see her work check out <http://annamasonart.com/gallery/>

## The BASNZ Team – Big Thank You!

The President's report can be found at the end of the newsletter and there amongst other news, you will find a detailed update on the various roles carried out by our members. However we would like to re-iterate the enormous debt of thanks we owe to all the members who have given up and continue to give up their time to help the Society.

A heartfelt thank you goes to Jacquie Carran, our outgoing treasurer, for her longstanding commitment and dedication and we are thrilled that Elizabeth Yuill Proctor has so kindly stepped forward to take over the role of treasurer.

We are also indebted to Tina Grey who is taking over the secretarial duties from Jo Donaldson, as well as now helping to manage the administration of the newsletter and subscriptions. A big thank you also goes to Jo Donaldson who stepped up to volunteer as secretary at a time when we were really stuck. Jo has done a wonderful job as secretary and her contribution has been really appreciated.

All members of the BASNZ would also no doubt be enormously grateful to our current President, Karen Atherton, who since taking over from Helen Nutt last year, has worked tirelessly with vision, energy and enthusiasm. We are very lucky indeed to have Karen.

Thank you all!

### **Newsletter Team**

Suzy Abbott  
Tina Grey  
Karen Atherton

### **President's report to the Annual General Meeting April 22, 2015**

After three years of intensive effort and activity dedicated to the production of the Canterbury Florilegium Exhibition we have spent the last year getting back to the basics of weekly practice and helpful, regular critical evaluation. Bringing in work every Wednesday for comment and technical help from the group is invaluable to individual progress. The move to Avice Hill from Mona Vale gave us room to spread out and work in one room, adequate storage space and a home base for the group. It also gave us room to invite new members into the group.

The Canterbury Florilegium Exhibition opened at the Christchurch Botanic Gardens in April 2014. The reports from the Botanic Gardens were excellent, they bought Helen Nutt's clematis and Suzy Abbott's flax for their permanent collection and extended the show for three months. Society members then transported the collection by car to the Millennium Gallery in Blenheim for another successful show. The Aigantighe Gallery in Timaru exhibited the Florilegium and said it was very popular with the public and was the best-organized show they had ever hung. Tina Grey's pittosporum sold quickly. The collection is now in storage at the Eastern Southland Gallery in Gore awaiting the show that will open there in June.

The collection is very heavy and very delicate and has required careful handling by teams of members to transport it long distances. Sincere thanks go to Jo Ogier for administering the travelling exhibition and coordinating travel and to the teams who provided transport.

Over the last year members were able to attend workshops for intensive instruction in botanical art techniques, including the watercolor class given by Jenny Coker using spring bulbs as subjects and the one-day class Jo Ogier gave us on how to work with scratchboard. Coming up in October we will host French watercolorist Vincent Jeannerot for a sold-out two-day course. I would still like to organize a dry-brush class with Rebecca Brown-Thompson (who polished her technique with Jean Emmons last summer at Filoli) sometime next year.

Service to the Society by taking on the duties of an office is what makes the wheels turn. Three people will hand on their duties to other people today and leave with our sincere thanks. Thanks to Jenny Coker for her work on newsletter over the last year. She livened up the presentation and we will miss her efforts. We also thank Jo Donaldson for taking on the secretarial duties over the last year like the good sport she is and for doing an excellent job. Jacquie Carran worked hard for five years on our behalf keeping the books, writing the cheques, doling out petty cash, worrying about taxes, meeting with accountants, balancing multiple accounts and producing the reports necessary to maintain our non-profit incorporated society status. Jacquie has given up much of her time and devoted much effort to fulfill the office of Treasurer so well over the years. Thank you, Jacquie for a job well done indeed.

Our next exhibition will be held at The Tin Palace in Lyttelton in November. It will be small-format pictures and a call for entries and all the details will be in the newsletter later this month.

Best wishes for the coming year,

Karen Atherton,  
President