

Association of Sculptors of Victoria (ASV)

Sculpere Newsletter

December 2021

“We cooperate as an association to advance the practice of sculpture and the reputation and appreciation of sculpture and sculptors in the community. This is regardless of whether or not we make a living from sculpture and regardless of our preferred style or medium.

To this end we support artists’ moral rights, we advocate a professional attitude to the production and presentation of work and encourage the artistic and intellectual stimulation of interaction amongst artists of all persuasions.”



A moment in time - A clear night’s view of the wonderful Port of Sale sculpture exhibition this November. These structures made the area seem almost magical. Fortunately, after days of heavy rain, it had ceased, allowing the moon to shine brightly and proudly over all the statues. Wondrously, many people came to view the statues, commenting on the skill and creativity of the sculptors. (photo by Carmel Ritchie)

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Hello and Seasons Greetings from the New ASV Presidents Team

Paul Cacioli (team leader)
Gunnel Watkins and Bruce Webb

Firstly, we want to thank Gillian for her strong leadership and work she has done for the ASV. Gillian has been a great go-to person and has always provided friendship and support. Thankfully she is not leaving us and will remain a sounding board and contributor to the new incoming president's team.

We also wish to thank and acknowledge the ASV committee who have done an amazing job throughout a challenging year. Their ongoing commitment and enthusiasm is inspiring. Additions and changes to the team going forward include Anne Anderson who is taking over the membership position from Monica Mauer. Carmel Ritchie and Gunnel Watkins have put their hands up for the newsletter. We welcome these new appointments and thank Monica and Jenny for their excellent contributions over many years.

There has been a lot of discussion on how the ASV presents itself and as a team we are now looking at how we can modernize ourselves by upgrading our website, our newsletter and our social media platforms. We are also looking into providing more opportunities for members to network and exhibit their works. The other key area is that of increasing our membership with up and coming as well as established sculptors.

We will keep you informed of our progress and we look forward to your continued support and working closely with you.

It would be remiss of us not to acknowledge the difficult times many of us have faced during the past 2 years. We wish to end on a positive note. Speaking to many of the ASV members the lockdowns have given opportunities to redirect otherwise external energies into creating inspirational works and fueling passions. As artists, we can give ourselves the gift of creation which is a precious state of being.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
Hoping this festive season will be joyful for you all.

Your Presidential Team



Future ASV Exhibitions

Entry form for MIFGS is on the ASV website

Entry forms, information and conditions of entry are all available at https://sculptorsvictoria.asn.au/exhibitions/application_forms - now that we are able to hold real life exhibitions the pace is increasing - and hopefully our public is as keen as we are.

Enquiries for MIFGS Paul Cacioli 0429575299

asv_mifgs@sculptorsvictoria.asn.au

Closing date for entries 7th March 2022



Herring Island exhibition is open on weekends and Australia Day from 15 January to 6 February 2022

Come to Herring Island !

AN INVITATION TO IMMERSE YOURSELF IN THE EXPERIENCE THAT IS HERRING ISLAND ENVIRONMENTAL SCULPTURE PARK
<http://www.herringisland.org/>

A personal reflection by Gunnel Watkins

This was my first visit to this hidden gem in the middle of Melbourne. Herring Island is the artwork. I immersed myself, engaged and meandered. Sometimes I choose to place the 'left side of my brain' in a box and just enjoy the ride!

It will be my honour to exhibit inside the 'jewel box' gallery in a space that pulsates 'extraordinary'. If you have not already, please make the time and experience the artwork that is Herring Island.



Herring Island Summer Arts Festival
15 January to 18 April 2022

Association of Sculptors of Victoria
sculptorsvictoria.asn.au

“Zoom Out”

Herring Island Gallery & Courtyard

11:30am to 4:30pm
weekends & public holidays
15 January to 6 February



Herring Island is located on the Varra River between Burnley and Toorak. Catch the Parks Victoria punt from Como Landing, Alexandra Ave between 11 am & 5pm on weekends and public holidays during the Festival.



Sculptures and Installation

Falling Fence - John Gollings with Samantha Slicer 2001 - This work echoed the 'impermanence' of structures created by 'man'. A movement of form and time, the work melting and merging into the landscape and the surrounding water. I became present to my vulnerability as a 3D form.



Scaled Stem - Robert Bridgewater 1999 - An organic presence; a strong metaphor of a pod with the possibility of new beginnings possibly with the intent of transforming culture and overcoming barriers. I felt like something could emerge from this delicate yet monumental form at any moment.



Ramp- Robert Jacks 1998 - The enclosure conjured up the feelings of safety, rest and a 'sanctuary' for the forms enclosed. On an island which is an environmental sanctuary in the midst of the hustle and bustle of the urban sprawl literally meters away.

Audience - Julie Collins 1997 - Are we the audience or are they ...or both - trees, visitors, plants, animals, rocks, water, and all that is invisible to the eye. All become participants at a moment in time. I was present to the 'first time' experience we have at an event, or special place that has the opportunity to transform. The next time I visit the island will be the second time and can never be the same experience as 'a first'.



A Hill, a River, Two Rocks and a Presence. - John Davis 1997 - A fragile work. I felt very reluctant to walk between the forms, nearly frozen as my mind made sense of the theatre that was taking place in the landscape before me. Carefully placed forms, a ritual, reverence, spiritual in nature.

Cairn - Andy Goldsworthy 1997 - I knew of Goldsworthy's work before visiting the Island and this could have impacted my experience. A work so carefully constructed. An alien spaceship? A beautiful



work that stands on its own yet seemed a bit lost and out of place...maybe missing its original homeland.



Stone House - Andy Goldsworthy 1997 - A secret door. I was ready for a hobbit to emerge. A work hiding many secrets and surprises. Another opportunity to discover what lies beneath and what we cannot see and what we may not want to be revealed.

Steerage - Jill Peck 1997 - A site for ritual, reflection and meditation. This work holds a special energy that is hard to define. A special place for rest, solitude and contemplation.



Tanderrum - Ellen José 1997 - The totem of the island; the mother, the goddess, the ghost, an angel? I felt comforted that this 'caretaker' was overseeing that all remained well and as it should. The totum radiated trust, ceremony, and joy.

(from stock photos)

'As lovers and makers of art we need never justify our experience'...Gunnel Watkins

Entry Forms

Please check the entry forms on the website.

https://sculptorsvictoria.asn.au/exhibitions/application_forms

Other Exhibitions and Opportunities to share and sell your work

- **Toorak Village Sculpture Exhibition** entries close 1st February
- Entry into the **Trails 2022** close 15th February open April 3rd to 1st May 2022
- Climarte Emergency Action: **WHY A CALL TO ART? SLF 2022 FORUM** www.climarte.org
- Please check the website for further information

Newsletter - Invitation to participate

We would love to hear from you - we invite you to share your news: we wish to inspire, inform and assist with skills development, please send us any interesting items you come across and events where you are exhibiting.

Please email Carmel or Gunnel at newsletter@sculptorsvictoria.asn.au

Thanks.

Key Diary Dates for Members - 2022

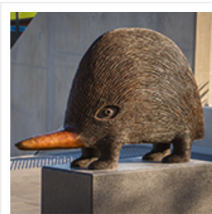
Not everything is set - but we look forward to a productive year:

1. **Herring Island**
15 January to 6 February 2022
2. **Start of the year gathering and celebration for members**
February dates TBC
3. **MIFGS**
30 March to 3 April
4. **Visit to Dean Bowen's studio** Thursday 5 May at 6pm
5. **Annual & Awards Exhibition**
8 - 28 June
6. **Tesselaar**
September - October dates TBC
7. **Victoria Sculpture Prize**
November dates TBC

Special Activities

We are lucky to have organised a visit to Dean Bowen's studio next year, 2022

Put it in your diaries! Thursday, 5th of May 2022 at 6.00pm.



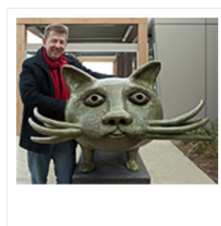
Echidna
2013
Bronze
82 x 147 x 30 cm
Edition: 6
Deakin University Commission, BC Building, Burwood Campus, Melbourne.



The Hamilton Farmer
2013
Bronze
76 x 76 x 28 cm
Edition: 6
Hamilton Art Gallery Commission, Gift of Dr. Barbara van Ernst AM.



The Hamilton Farmer
2012
Bronze
78 x 80 x 27 cm
Edition: 6
Hamilton Art Gallery Commission, Gift of Dr. Barbara van Ernst AM.



Cat
2012
Bronze
80 x 306 x 105 cm
Edition: 6
Wyndham Vale City Council Commission, for Wyndham Vale Community Learning Centre.

About Dean Bowen:

Dean Bowen is an Australian artist working across a number of mediums including painting, sculpture and printmaking. He has held over ninety solo exhibitions in Australia, France, Japan, Switzerland and the UK and his work is represented in over seventy national and international collections.

Dean is renowned for his life affirming artwork depicting vibrant birds and animals as well as urban and country scenes. His vision and diverse range of mediums, whether it be painting, sculpture or printmaking, come together to produce images that are joyous, lively and full of humour. (from Salt Contemporary Art)

Other Art Interests

1. NGV Gallery
2. 'Rising' in the Ballroom above Flinders St Station 8th Nov to 12th June

And, something to enjoy and inspire

This is a clip of moving sculptures on the beach in the Netherlands Click on and enjoy. Another clever artist!

VIDEO-2021-07-01-10-46-50.mp4
13.6 MB



Have you ever wondered how the judges choose the winners?

Lis Johnson is judging the MIFGS sculpture exhibition and she has allowed us to see just what she looks for.

Lis Johnson sculptor 10 December '21

Criteria - my guide to judging artwork entries for the International Flower and Garden Show. March 2022

(Assume all entries fit the entrance requirements)

- **Overall Visual Appeal** - effective use of elements and principles of visual design: form, shape, volume, line, texture, colour, tone, balance, contrast.
(Note: the work stands alone as a 3-dimensional visual artwork - ie. can be appreciated without reference to title or text)
- **Conceptual and/or Emotional Appeal** - interesting, original or challenging subject or ideas are expressed clearly, or if traditional subject/ideas are interpreted in an interesting or fresh way
- **Sculptural Appeal** - satisfying composition [*preference for harmonious over disjointed or confusing composition*], effective use of 3-dimensional forms, shapes, volumes.
- Consideration for how the artwork is experienced in **3-Dimensions** - use of space, mounting/hanging and installation methods.
- **Appropriate Materials/Media** for the subject/concept; they compliment each other
- **Execution:** high level of skill is applied to appropriately chosen techniques and processes
(Note: If designed for duration, the work has structural integrity - joins, welds, surface treatments etc. and if designed for short-term or ephemeral display the construction and installation methods have aesthetic and functional integrity)
- **Safe and thoughtful use of materials**, with sensitivity to a garden setting and the environment in general: preference for non-hazardous non-toxic materials, not detrimental to plants and animals/life-forms.
- **"X factor"**- a work that is outstanding, ie. stands out from the crowd.
(Note: Preference for work that induces well-being, promotes positive pleasurable feelings and emotions, as I personally I see the garden as a place for a tranquil kind of stimulation and rejuvenation)

Editors' comment

Hello everyone.

Many thanks to Jenny Rickards who has worked tirelessly for years on this newsletter as well as the website. Now it is time for her to relax and make more artworks, while Gunnel and I take over this task.

Carmel Ritchie and Gunnel Watkins, the new ASV newsletter editors.

ASV Office Bearers

Presidential Team

Paul Cacioli; Gunnel Watkins; Bruce Webb

Vice President

combined with presidential team

Immediate Past President

Gillian Govan

Treasurer

John Ride 0414 389 578

Secretary and Public Officer

John Bishop

Committee Members

Jenny Rickards

Monica Mauer

Gavin Roberts

Yvonne Monik

Aukje van Vark

Carmel Ritchie

Susie Ashkenazi

Anne Anderson

ASV Coordinators 2022

Monthly Activities

Gillian Govan

Membership

John Ride, Anne Anderson

Website Contact:

Jenny Rickards 0418971897

Newsletter:

[Carmel Ritchie](#); Gunnel Watkins

Social Media:

Aukje van Vark

Chris Anderson

Exhibitions:

Annual: Yvonne Monik Gillian Govan and helpers

Herring Island: Jenny Rickards, and helpers

MIFGS: Paul Cacioli

Tesselaar: John Bishop and helpers

Victoria Sculpture Prize: Gavin Roberts