

RAMA

Six months have passed by almost unnoticed since the last edition of our bulletin known as RAMA. During this time PAF was working tirelessly planning and executing various events.

Art Auction at the Steinberg Household

To boost our finances and give our artists an opportunity to sell their works we organised another art auction. The event took place in March at the Mr and Mrs Steinberg residence in Elwood.

We were blessed with a nice sunny Sunday. The artworks were displayed in the open, a good idea that was enjoyed by all. In a relaxed atmosphere patrons had a chance to engage in conversation, meander in the gardens, find pictures hanging under trees and on garden fences, with everyone looking and picking their future objects of desire. We had quite a flock of punters on the day, and despite the slow start, the overall number of sold items was impressive. There was of course a running BBQ, with drinks and sausages both very popular.

Overall our buyers left our auction looking happy, holding onto their new trophies and our organisation managed to raise some precious funds.



Open Air Studio in Healesville

In early April we decided to stir up our artistic community and despite the late autumn weather invite our artists to participate in an Open Air Studio. This artistic activity took place in the serene scenery of Healesville.

The whole event was spread over three days with accommodation, food and drinks provided on site. A really busy weekend for our artists, as they worked in groups, painted, photographed, thought, planned and shared. All of them vigorously, with utmost dedication, many starting their projects from day one.

The weekend also attracted some new Polish faces, our younger generation of arrivals getting to know us as we got to know them.

Our team of Polish Art Foundation skilled cooks provided participants with not only their daily bread and butter, but also with gourmet food and drinks.

Despite the chilly weather and more spartan rather than luxury on site accommodation the open air studio weekend proved to be both fruitful and a great get together for all.



IX Drawing Biennale

The next big thing in store for the foundation is the upcoming Biennale, later this year. We are working on it pretty hard, but that is another story, which will be revealed in the next edition of RAMA.

A reminder to all artists that all **SUBMISSIONS** for the Biennale **close on 15 August 2017 at 5pm.**
Note: Late entries will not be accepted.

For more information on registrations visit www.polishartfoundation.org.au

The International Drawing Biennale hosted by the Polish Art Foundation based in Melbourne, Australia celebrates its 18 year history in 2017.

With over 750 works from more than 30 countries entered over this time!

This unique artistic event calls on contemporary artists from all over the world to reflect on the significance and role of drawing in art.

A special Jury will select the works to be presented at the finals exhibition to be held in Melbourne in November 2017
Total PRIZE MONEY valued at \$2,500

We invite you to join us in this global dialogue and submit your works today!

Melbourne Australia 2017

In memory of Tomasz Ostrowski

Emilia Pitucha
Winner 2015 Biennale

Pawel Warchol
Winner 2013 Biennale

Mils Hall
Winner Biennale 2007

ALL ENTRIES CLOSE 15 AUGUST 2017

For all information including registration details visit www.polishartfoundation.org.au

Artist Profile - Magdalena Kazmierczak



Magdalena is an emerging artist from Poland who now lives in Ballarat. She uses a few mediums: acrylic paint, traditional drawing and coloured pencils. Recently she discovered digital drawing on iPad, which with her busy family life is certainly very convenient.

How long have you been in Australia? How involved are you in the local art scene?

I've been in Australia for five years now. I moved to Ballarat in 2014 and have been living here ever since. In 2016 I became a member of the Soldiers Hill Art Collective. At this moment I am the group's treasurer and an active member. We have recently finished the Art Walk - a yearly event, with open studios and shop fronts and now we are in process of preparing an exhibition at the Backspace Gallery in Ballarat. On June 30th we will be opening 'SHEILAs' in Fairbank's Eye Gallery as well as in Ballarat. The exhibition features 25 inspirational women of various ages and experiences. It promises to be an interesting event.

Where has your interest in art sprung from?

From the youngest age I enjoyed drawing and painting. As a little girl I've been copying paintings from walls in my family house. Then back in Poland I graduated with a degree in Landscape Architecture. I ran a successful business designing gardens where drawing was a tool in my design work. Moving to Ballarat was a breaking point in my art career. I found myself surrounded by art and artists. I didn't have a choice I had to give it a go.

Did you pursue formal art studies?

No I didn't, however I had lots of drawing lessons before and during my study of Landscape Architecture at the Agricultural University in Warsaw, Poland.

What inspires you?

I think my paintings reflect my strong emotional engagement with my homeland's landscape - Poland. I find nature and our relationship with it very interesting as a subject. My kids inspire me every day.

How has your association with the Polish Art Foundation allowed you to showcase your work?

My first exhibition with PAF took place as part of 'Impressions' in 2016. Recently I took part in an Open Air Artist Studio event in Healesville where I could meet artists, exchange experiences and seek advice. The Polish Art Foundation creates that unique opportunity and builds the right environment for an emerging artist like me.

Magdalena can be contacted through her facebook page: Art for Wellbeing

Annual Membership and New Membership payments: ensure we can support our artists

We appeal to all our members to go to the PAF website, print out the Annual Membership Renewal Form, fill it in, and send it to us with a cheque, or money order.

For new members we have a New Member Form, anyone wishing to join us, and support the work we do, please do so by filling in this form and sending in your payment.

We have to stress again, and remind members to fulfil your duty by paying your membership on an annual basis.

Your contribution is vital for our organisation, for our functioning and our mission of helping artists, and promoting art with a capital A.

We will be grateful if anyone who shares our spirit, considers making a donation as we are continually seeking new funds, we can assure you that every dollar is well spent, and supports our artists.

OUR ARTISTS NEED YOU, AND SO DO WE

A special thank you to our sponsors:

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