



The Canberra Potter

The Newsletter of Canberra Potters' Society Inc.

INSIDE: The Doug Alexander Award Pottery For All Winter School Report Student & Teacher Winners EASS 2016 and more...

Anna-Maree O'Neill, *Large Guys*, clay, coloured slip, metal, fur. Image courtesy the artist.

Members Exhibition

29 September to 23 October
Delivery of exhibits 22 to 25
September

Have you been thinking about your Members' Exhibition entries yet? Sponsors and awards are being confirmed and the entry form will be put on the website and emailed to members as soon as possible. In the meantime, if you haven't already started on your entries, now's the time to do it.

Keeping with the format of previous exhibitions, there will be awards for both hand-built and wheel-thrown work. Exhibits incorporating both hand-building and wheel-throwing techniques will be considered for these awards but for the hand-building award the majority of a work must be hand-built and for the wheel-throwing award, the majority of a work must be wheel-thrown.

A few other points to keep in mind:

- All exhibitors must be current members of the society at the time of

the exhibition and delivery of work.

- All entries must be the original work of the exhibitor and have been completed in the 12 months preceding the exhibition.
 - Up to three entries may be submitted, only one of which may be a group or set.
 - Proposals for installation-type entries must be submitted to the office at least two weeks prior to delivery of entries and will be considered at the discretion of the exhibition co-ordinators.
 - The exhibition is a ceramics exhibition and any non-ceramic materials in an exhibit should form a minor part. Entries that do not meet this criterion may be excluded.
 - Entry fees are non-refundable regardless of whether or not an exhibit is selected for display.
 - All entries except those entered in the Tertiary category must be for sale.
- Would you like to help with the exhibition? Assistance is needed with

installation and the opening night (preparing and serving food, serving drinks, etc). If you'd like to get involved email the office admin@canberrapotters.com.au or phone 6241 1670.

Below: Zoë Slee, *Empowered* (detail), Doug Alexander Award Winner 2015. Image CPS





From the Director

Welcome to the August issue of *The Canberra Potter*. In preparing this issue I had cause to reflect on the impact our organisation has had on our local community and the professional ceramic arts scene in general. When opening the latest EASS exhibition, at the Watson Arts Centre gallery, Greg Daly Head of Ceramics, ANU noted that we had assisted over 50 emerging artists through this scheme since its inception in 2002. Furthermore, he was very generous in his comments regarding our organisation's positive influence on the state of local ceramic arts. Describing our region as perhaps the most vibrant and exciting in the country—wow! We must be doing something right. The latest show certainly supports this claim and emphasises the depth and quality of artistic education undergone by this exciting latest group of graduates. If you haven't already, please make time and come and see for yourself.

As we prepare for the coming members exhibition I was reminded of the immense wealth of talent represented by the past winners (a role call of Doug Alexander Awardees in this issue) and I'm sure you'll agree we have been and continue to be a valuable creative outlet for our prolific members past and present.

On a very community level while visiting the Watson Shops I note the wall mural done by our members and installed in 2000 is showing some wear and tear. It could be time to renew this installation and indeed community connection—thoughts and ideas gratefully received.

Richard Thomas

Director

director@canberrapotters.com.au



From the Chair

I hope you have all been in to view the EASS exhibition in the gallery. It is an inspiring show, and clearly demonstrates how these emerging artists have developed this year alone. If you have been keeping up, you will see the work of each person is evolving. Well done everyone, huge congratulations to each of you. I wish you success in your coming endeavours, and I am looking forward to seeing future works.

Our 2016 Open Day is coming up fast, and I invite those good folks who assisted in making it a success last year to our first meeting at 6:00 pm on Tuesday 16 August at Canberra Potters. I also invite those members who expressed interest and put forward suggestions – it's time to action those brilliant ideas. Being involved on the committee is certainly not arduous. Last year, we met three times in the lead-up, and once afterwards. If you are inclined to help out, I'd love to hear from you.

I am enjoying our Facebook page. New pictures and posts are a regular feature, and the updates can keep you well informed with what's happening on a daily basis ... just about. If you are not a Facebook user yet, I can recommend that you look for our page - Canberra Potters Society on Facebook. It's great to see how far and wide our messages go. Liking and reposting ensures that all of your friends and their friends get to learn about our fantastic key arts organisation, and be inspired by our many talented members and guests. My special thanks to the staff and members who keep the posts and photographs coming, great work!

Enjoy the warmer weather and the additional minutes of daylight as we head towards Spring.

Velda Hunter

Chair—Board of Canberra Potters

velda@tpg.com.au

Board & administration

Board

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CEO Richard Thomas

Workshop Manager Chris Harford

Program Manager Sara Hogwood

Education Program Manager
Fran Romano

Education Office Assistant
Bhavana Moylan

Wots rong wit me spelin'?

If you can spot any errors in the above headline we could use your skills. We're on the lookout for an editor/writer for the newsletter and other material. It's not a particularly onerous task and would greatly assist our busy staff. If you are able to help out drop us a line to the editors email address.

The Canberra Potter is published monthly February—December.

Contributions are welcome.

Please email copy and images with captions to the editor:

editor@canberrapotters.com.au

Next Newsletter Deadline

Friday 26 August 2016

Graphic Design: Nina Davis

Contact us

Canberra Potters' Society Inc

Watson Arts Centre

Aspinall St, Watson ACT

02 6241 1670 general enquiries

02 6241 7800 classes

PO Box 7021

Watson ACT 2602

Gallery/Shop hours

Thursday—Sunday

10—4 pm

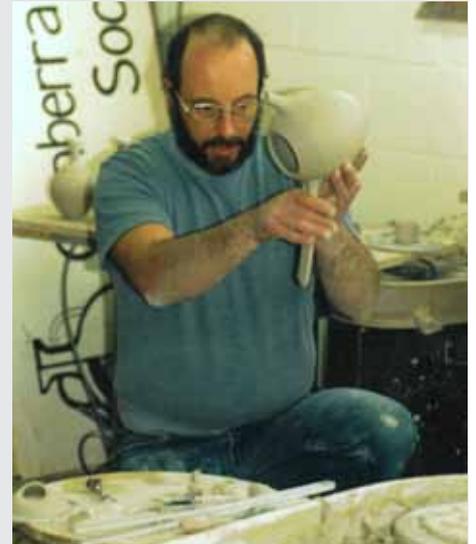
ABN 65 491 135 689

The Doug Alexander Award

A brief history

The small band of enthusiasts who started Canberra Potters' Society in 1975 were encouraged by Doug Alexander. His work and approach to pottery was widely admired. He delivered workshops and was always available to members. His enthusiasm and support in those early days greatly contributed to the Society becoming the strong and vibrant organisation that it is today.

Doug died suddenly in 1981, in his mid thirties. Initially the Society sponsored an annual lecture in his honour. Later it was decided to make a substantial award available to support the work of local potters. The Doug Alexander Memorial Award, today valued at \$1000, is the major award at the Society's annual exhibition and is provided to encourage work in the local area and to acknowledge the valuable contribution made by Doug Alexander to pottery.



Past Winners

1990	Bev Hogg	1999	Daniel Lafferty	2008	Jane Crick
1991	Ursula Straub	2000	Petra Murphy	2009	Jacqueline Lewis
1992	Bev Hogg	2001	Catherine Reid	2010	Chris Harman
1993	Bev Hogg	2002	Joanne Searle	2011	Maryke Henderson
1994	Hugh Armfield	2003	Kaye Pemberton	2012	Cathy Franzl
1995	Ian Jones	2004	Debra Boyd-Goggin	2013	Velda Hunter
1996	Norma Price	2005	Maiju Altpere Woodhead	2014	Anne Langridge
1997	Monika Leone	2006	Maryke Henderson	2015	Zoë Slee
1998	Riitta Laine Fenwick	2007	Chris Harman		

Pottery For All Exhibition

Pottery For All was a jointly funded initiative between the ACT Government 2015-16 Participation (Seniors) Grants program and Canberra Potters. Over two courses participants were introduced to the wonders of clay by our experienced teachers Suzanne Fox and Maryke Henderson. The classes aimed to facilitate engagement with our seniors community through ceramic arts projects. No limits were placed on the participants who were free to create functional or decorative works. Under the guidance of our teachers their skills and confidence grew. The works on display are testament to the positive engagement with clay for our first time potters!

We were pleased to welcome the Minister for Veterans and Seniors Dr Chris Bourke MLA to officially open the exhibition. We look forward to participants continuing to explore ceramic arts with Canberra Potters.



Dr Chris Bourke MLA, Minister for Veterans and Seniors, and CPS Chairperson Velda Hunter talking to Seniors' class teachers Maryke Henderson and Suzanne Fox. *Images CPS*

Winter School FEAST! 2016 Winter School and Friday Night Supper Club

by **Fran Romano**, Education Program Manager

This year's Winter School with Steve Williams was a resounding success with 11 participants drawn from far and wide. Participants were contacted prior to the workshop and given the design brief from Steve. They were asked to decide on a dish to be shared at the popular Friday night Supper Club which was to be the culmination point for the week.

The key ingredient of this dish was to be the inspiration for the development of a series of tableware. The (ambitious) aim was to have these small works fired in the soda kiln during the week for use at the Supper Club on Friday evening! This schedule meant that the group had to hit the ground running on Monday! Moulds were taken of the vegetable/fruit brought by each person. Participants worked quickly to make prototypes using parts of the mould. With no time to over think things meant the creative juices were flowing. Everyone worked really hard too as works had to be dried on Wednesday and fired on Thursday. Whilst this approach can be challenging and requires a great deal of trust from the participants it is a great way for people to learn by extending themselves. The results on the table on Friday evening reflected this.

The popular Friday night Supper Club was the culmination of the week. Although the evening was particularly cold and bleak, numbers and interest were good.

Steve Williams, our guest presenter, used the Supper Club to showcase the work of the Winter School participants. We saw how the workshop participants had been able to take the essence of the key ingredient of their dish as the starting point for the design of their tableware.

All present agreed that the table looked wonderful and once the foods were



Top **Steve Williams** (centre) unpacks the soda kiln with class participants. Below Participants works as presented at Friday Night Supper Club. Images CPS

plated up onto the vessels it all came together and made sense!

Steve spoke more generally about his own work too and the development of his ideas over his years of teaching in the TAFE sector and beyond. It was a great and inspiring evening. A wonderful conclusion to the week which had been challenging and dynamic for all participants.

A BIG BIG thankyou to Maryke Henderson for her expertise with the soda firing and for all the extra time she put into assisting Steve and the group with the Winter School.

If you are interested in being more involved as a volunteer in any of these events feel free to contact me on education@canberrapotters.com.au



Student & Teacher Award Winners

Watson Arts Centre Gallery
July 07–24

Once again we had a wonderful selection of exhibits in our annual Student & Teacher Exhibition. Congratulations to everyone who entered work, and in particular the six award winners. We know how daunting – yet exciting – it can be to put your creative output on public display so a big ‘well done’ to those exhibitors who took that step for the first time, and in particular the students in Georgie Bryant’s introductory classes who showed us what can be achieved in just a few short weeks of classes.

Judging this year (never an easy task) was done by Canberra ceramicist Monika Leone. Monika kindly gave an additional judge’s award to add to the other five awards.



Top Best Overall:
Stephanie Johnston
Pit-fired Male & Female Torsos Left
Best Adult Wheel-thrown: Ken Chau
3 Glazed Jugs Right
Judge’s Award:
Anneke Saunders
4 Small Painted Dishes Below Left
Best Children’s 10 & Over: Adele Loughhead
Curly Arm Octopus Bottom
Best Children’s Under 10: Jasper Loughhead
Pig-Faced Teapot Below Right
Best Adult Hand-built:
Catherine Mpofu
In Memory of Ice



EASS 2016 Exhibition

Watson Arts Centre Gallery
 July 28–August 21
 Gallery open Thur-Sun 10am-4pm

EASS 2016 features the work of five emerging ceramic artists, all recent graduates of the ANU School of Art: Sue Hewat, Mahala Hill, Alya Khan, Anna-Maree O’Neill and Eden Reni.



Above and below: Sue Hewat

Sue Hewat’s Honours research was an investigation into how she could use ceramic materials and techniques to represent the hybrid nature of the intertidal zone of the Australian beach. Monoprinting, a traditional print method translated into a ceramic genre, has become her primary vehicle to merge and transform surfaces. By blending her intuitive painterly prints within a range of ceramic vessels and forms, she has been able to represent the essence of the ebb and flow of the tide.



Mahala Hill is also drawn to the sea but for her it’s because of the astonishing inhabitants, vast depths and the visually captivating colours and textures. In this new series of works she uses sculptural vessel forms to reference the liminal state between life and death, destruction and beauty. These forms directly refer to the



Mahala Hill (top and above) with Cathy Franzi

environmental issue of bleached coral and the consequences that humans have on these living reefs and pose a single question: are we taking more away than we can give back?

Whilst captivated by the aesthetics of historical buildings, Alya Khan is also intrigued by the design and structure of modern and contemporary edifices. Her ceramic sculptures are an abstract representation of buildings she has observed around Canberra, capturing the external skeletal lines whilst leaving the internal space hollow. These voids become a resting point to reflect on



Alya Khan

what is contained within building structures.

Anna-Maree O’Neill is a ceramic sculptor whose focus lies in the creation of anthropomorphic creatures that blur the boundaries of human, animal and machine. Her contemporary sculptures embody human characteristic, each with their own personality. They are cartoon like, comical and playful. In this body of work she has created a world for her rabbit creatures to live in that reflects the ultimate Australian fantasy – sea, surf and sun. This holiday playground is where her whimsical wildlife comes to play.



Anna-Maree O’Neill with friend/s

The work of Eden Reni plays with the merging of biological and mechanical forms, showing a relationship between the two elements while still maintaining independence. The glaze designs on his works mirror the forms of the ceramic pieces, exploring ideas of the micro and the macro and inquiring into the universal and repetitive nature of form.



Eden Reni

Exhibitions

Out There 2016

**Canberra Photographic Society
Watson Arts Centre Gallery
25 August – 4 September
Thurs to Sun 10am-4pm
Official opening 26 August**

Canberra Photographic Society's annual *Out There* showcase exhibitions continue a tradition of annual exhibitions held since the Society was founded in 1945. *Out There 2016* features both contemporary and traditional themes and aesthetics, with many of the exhibited works demonstrating use of current digital and other photographic techniques.

This exhibition promises a wide range of high quality and stimulating images.

Shapeshifters: 3D Printing the future Sturt Gallery until 18 September

www.sturt.nsw.edu.au

In collaboration with Western Plains Cultural Centre, the Australian Design Centre has produced *Shapeshifters: 3D Printing the Future* as a playful exploration of 3D printing. It's all about imagination, innovation and new methods of making, drawing on the high-tech and rapidly evolving world of 3D printers and fluid extrusion methodology. 3D printing is also built on sharing. Open source software and shared maker spaces mean anyone can try their hand at creating. During the industrial revolution, the machine was used to standardise everything. Now mass production is replaced by mass customization.

The designers and makers included in *Shapeshifters* all begin with a real world idea. That idea is translated into a digital something – a piece of code, a CAD model or perhaps a verse of music – before being transformed into the final physical form. By experimenting with digital fabrication technologies, the designers build on their traditional modes of making to create something entirely new.

Ramesh Nithiyendran: *Mud men* National Gallery of Australia, Contemporary galleries (lower ground level) until 29 January 2017

www.nga.gov.au

Commissioned specifically for the NGA, *Mud men* is an installation of monumental ceramic sculptures by exciting new talent Ramesh

Nithiyendran. Ostentatious in style, the work draws on a wildly diverse range of subjects from phallus worship and military monuments to grunge and self-parody. Nithiyendran presents a provocative response to the NGA's unique architecture and collections.



Ramesh Nithiyendran

Clay Intersections Australian Design Centre 101-115 William Street Darlinghurst 2010 until 21 September 2016

www.australiandesigncentre.com

Curated by Cath Fogarty, *Clay Intersections* presents the work of eight contemporary artists exploring varied approaches to making and working with clay.

Highlighting the work of Bridget Bodenham, Cone 11's Colin Hopkins and Ilona Topolcsanyi, Helen Earl, Tania Rollond, Natalie Rosin, Ulrica Trulsson and Kenji Uranishi, the artists in *Clay Intersections* draw their inspiration from the built or natural environment and how they interact



Clay Intersections: Bridget Bodenham, *Functional Forms 2015*, Photo credit: Kara Rosenlund

with it – whether in contemplation or in a practical sense – enhancing the way we live.

Together, these eight artists are part of a new generation of craftspeople and designer-makers who have emerged alongside new and non-traditional market places outside the gallery and retail environment.

Clay Intersections is presented as part of a vibrant ceramics community in Sydney that crosses paths with studios, educators, galleries and stores

Diary dates

**EASS 2016
In the gallery until
21 August**

**TACA Open Studios
20–21 August**

**Last Friday Supper Club
26 August**

**Workshop Orientation for Members
4 September 2.30pm
Free but bookings essential**

**Canberra Potters Term 3
Finishes 23 September**

**Canberra Potters Term 4
Bookings Now Open**

**Canberra Potters @ Floriade
17 September–16 October**

**Canberra Potters Open Day
23 October**

**Design Canberra @ WAC
6–7 November**

Watson Arts Centre is a Key Arts Organisation supported by the ACT government and run by Canberra Potters' Society. We offer:

Classes for children and adults across all levels of ceramic practice. Workshops, Summer Schools and Kids' Holiday classes are available too.

Studios where tenancy applications are always welcome from emerging and established ceramic artists.

Artist-in-Residence program including studio and residence facilities to national and international visiting artists.

Gallery hosting a ceramic focused exhibition program.

Shop with a range of pottery and ceramics to suit all tastes and budgets.

The gallery and shop are open Thursday to Sunday 10am–4pm and most public holidays.

For further information on all programs, events and available facilities please visit

canberrapotters.com.au

beyond the exhibition. Exciting public programs, which include workshops, master-classes and a one-day curated ceramics market in September, will introduce visitors to this creative and thriving network.



Sue Hewat

Strathnairn (EASS)
Opening Saturday 13 August at 4pm
Exhibition 11 Aug–4 Sept
Thursday to Sunday, 10am -4pm
www.strathnairn.com.au

Features the work of four recent graduates from the ANU School of Art: Sue Hewat (Ceramics) Kirrily Humphries & Chris Ramsay (Painting) and Sian Watson (Sculpture). Sue is the recipient of the Strathnairn Arts - Anita McIntyre Award for Ceramics, Residency and Exhibition Award and is a CPS member.

Soundscapes: Reconstructing place – a solo show by Canberra ceramicist Joanne Searle
Until Sunday 14 August
Fri to Sun, 11am – 5pm
Back to Back Galleries, 57 Bull St
Cooks Hill NSW 2300
www.newcastlepotters.org.au

Four Stories
Watson Arts Centre Gallery
8 to 18 September
Official opening 6pm 8 September
 Craig Edwards (ceramics), Shannon Kowalick (photography), Kate Leedham (ceramics) and Keturah Manning (textiles)

Four teachers, four artists, four people. Four Stories is an exhibition that celebrates the artists' creative energy through their work in four diverse media areas and styles. The support given to one another as colleagues has inspired this dynamic, bold and exciting collection.

ANU EASS 2015
Alliance Française
McCaughey St, Turner
Opening event 25 August 7-9pm
Exhibition runs until 15 September

Come and enjoy the work of artists Sue Hewat (Ceramics), Roseanna Parkes (Photography & Media Arts), Christine Ramsey (Painting), Sally O'Callaghan (Painting) and Lucy Chetcuti (Painting). Wine and cheese buffet - RSVP at https://afcanberra.sslsvc.com/community/event-rsvp/?event_id=182 www.afcanberra.com.au/

Opportunities

Aids Action Council Fair Day
Gorman Arts Centre
Saturday 29 October

Interested in having a stall? Applications are currently being accepted. For details and an application form go to: <http://aidsaction.org.au/news/blog/146-fair-day-2016.html>

Introduction to Studio Lighting for Art Documentation – One-day workshop
Sunday 14 August from 11am to 4pm

This studio lighting workshop is specifically designed for the documentation of two and three dimensional artworks, and will give you the confidence and capabilities to photograph your artworks using professional studio lighting. www.photoaccess.org.au

The Institute For Provocation – China Residency Program 2016 – Expressions of Interest Now Open
Location: Beijing, China
Artform: Multi-Artform
Dates: 1 October – 1 December 2016
Amount: \$5,000

Expressions of Interest are now open for

Australian artists to apply for an Institute for Provocation (IFP) residency. The IFP is an artist-run workspace, think-tank and project space that supports artistic research across the fields of visual art, architecture and design through residencies, research projects, workshops and lectures.

Expressions of interest close:
 Wednesday 10 August 2016 AEST

Notification: Late August 2016
<http://australiacouncil.gov.au/strategies-and-frameworks/institute-for-provocation-residency-china/>

Canberra Glassworks
Seeking Program Director

(Re-advertised due to adjusted hours from full time to part-time 22.8 hours per week)

Canberra Glassworks is seeking an experienced and enthusiastic Program Director to direct the artistic programming for Canberra Glassworks based on the Revised Artistic Program for 2016 and proposed Artistic Program for 2017. This will include hosting programs for the Ausglass Conference from 26 – 29 January 2017. They will develop and deliver artistic programming in consultation with the General Manager and according to the Canberra Glassworks vision and Strategic Plan for 2016 – 2020 Canberra Glassworks. They will oversee the Artistic Programming team and consult with Technical, Administration and Visitor Experiences staff regarding planning and logistics for the successful delivery of artistic programs.

Salary: \$70000 to \$75000 per annum pro rata (dependent on experience)
 Hours: part-time 22.8 hours per week
 Start date: August 2016
 Term: 6 months (with 12 month option)

Applications to beverly.growden@canberraglassworks.com by 5pm on Monday 8 August 2016

Download Position Description: 2016 06 30 Program Director Position Description pt 2016

In 2015 the Members' Exhibition was supported by

