



Newsletter February 2008

ERA supports and encourages artists living and working within the East Riding of Yorkshire through a comprehensive programme of events, opportunities and networking. It aims to raise the profile of visual artists and makers and promote economic growth within the creative community.

Forthcoming Calendar Dates:

For items marked '**' see previous newsletters for details

**Spotlight on Slipware – exhibition until 1st March 2008

Passed as Present until 19th April

**Art in the Garden exhibition 7th Feb – 22nd March

Ferens Open 10th Feb – 15th April

Branching Out exhibition 23rd Feb – 18th April

Putting the Pieces Together – PAC 5th Feb – 1st March

The Northern Art Show 21st, 22nd, 24th March



AGM + 'Conservation at York Art Gallery'

1st April



Silk Felting – Lucy Mulkay

20th May



Painting for Potters - David Humphries

July



Paper to paper - Polly Ann White

18th September

Suggestions for other events welcome



Denotes ERA organised event

ERA NEWS

Extraordinary General Meeting

An EGM took place in Bridlington on 24th January, to discuss the future incorporation of ERA to become a company limited by guarantee. 35 members were present, and committee members answered questions about the reasons for the proposed change of status, and the timing of it. After much discussion, a vote was taken to wind up ERA as an unincorporated association and become a company limited by guarantee, transferring the bank balance to the new company. The vote was passed by a large majority.

Newsletter Editor still needed

There was no response to the plea for an eager and enthusiastic Newsletter Editor made in the last issue, so perhaps jaded and cynical applicants should now come forward!

The newsletter is our main vehicle for publicising ERA's activities to a wider audience so if you think you can help, and are willing to give it a go, please get in touch – no salary, just a lot of gratitude from the members.

Committee members wanted

At the next AGM, in April, a number of the original committee members will be standing down, and we are looking for others to take their place. You can either take on a specific role, such as newsletter editor, website liaison, publicity, or just join and see what aspects you can help with when the time comes. Either way, it is important that we get new ideas and new energy from the members. The committee holds a meeting every month or two, at different venues within the county. It is always a pleasant social get together as well as a chance to discuss how ERA can provide social, educational and commercial opportunities for the membership.

EVENTS

Branching Out

South Street Gallery, Scarborough

23 Feb – 18 April, Thursday – Saturday, 12 – 5pm

The new contemporary gallery showcases its second exhibition – a group show featuring painting, drawing, printmaking and photography on the theme of nature and woodland.

Scarborough Art Gallery

Open Tuesday – Sunday, 10am – 5pm

Until 2 March

Scarborough's 60th birthday display, showing much of the work that was on show when the gallery first opened in 1947

East Coast Open – some of the best artists' work from the Yorkshire region

Until 20 April

Ann Aveyard

Aveyard's still-life paintings explore light and reflection. Her work also examines the notions of realist and abstract art.

Passed as Present

York Art Gallery

Until 19 April

Historic works from York Art Gallery's prestigious old master collection, paired with pieces by some of the most exciting contemporary artists

Putting the Pieces Together

Pocklington Arts Centre

5 February – 1 March

Bright and bold contemporary textile wall hangings by artist Sue Kershaw, with Roman inspired mosaics

www.pocklingtonartscentre.co.uk

The Northern Art Show

Dates: Friday 21 March 2pm - 9pm , Saturday 22 March - Monday 24 March 11am - 6pm

Tickets: £5.00 (subject to booking fee) Includes catalogue

Location: Harrogate International Centre, Halls M and C

Spring 2008 sees the arrival of a totally new selling art show in the North of England. This stylish show - the first of its kind in Harrogate - will bring together some of the most exciting and affordable contemporary art in the country. The show will feature over sixty galleries and thousands of art works, showcasing both rising young talent and internationally renowned artists.

With art work ranging from as little as a hundred to many thousands of pounds, there will be something to interest everyone, from the new collector to the connoisseur.

In another exciting development, Leeds College of Art and Design will be running a 'Fringe Exhibition' at the show, launching talented young artists into the public arena.

Drawing and Print making workshops and creche facilities available

www.northernartshow.com

Ropewalk Contemporary Art & Craft

Barton upon Humber

Tuesday – Saturday 10am – 5pm, Sunday 10am – 4pm

Until 24 February

Christopher Roantree

Roantree studied printmaking at Lincoln and the Royal College, and now returns to the area he was brought up in with an exhibition of stunning craftsmanship and invention.

Until 2 March

Xceptional Designs

– aka Alex Hallowes and Pete Rogers – show their witty designs of teddy bears, bound to intrigue and amuse.

Until 2 March

Seeing Red

A themed exhibition of distinctive contemporary craft tied to the colour red

York to New York – Jill Ford Ceramics

Back in June at Summer Fair at London's ExCel, I met a buyer for Takashimaya the Japanese Department store that blends Eastern sensibilities with round the globe designed products. After the usual follow ups I heard nothing more from her until at the end of November when I had a few further enquiries regarding my porcelain candlesticks, were they waterproof (yes) what was the lead time? (how long would you like?)

An order followed swiftly, for thrown porcelain bowls and vases from the Landscape Range, featuring stylised silver birches and a collection of pretty pink Blossom candlesticks and Glossy White Candlesticks. The choice was to either supply for the first week of December or Spring 2008, so deciding a bird in the hand and all that, I drew a deep breath and replied that it would be no problem to supply for December - in New York. Ten days later, after many late nights and an excruciating throwing schedule I delivered the work to Heathrow airport.

I was pleased with the work, a large order that looked fab, so I'm hoping masses of stylish New Yorkers will buy it in their droves, and maybe Takashimaya will ask me to deliver the follow-up order to Fifth Ave personally. Andrew Mandell, buyer in New York store, said " I think the work is beautiful" and sales have been good so far - so fingers crossed!.

Jill Ford

OPPORTUNITIES

World Community Arts Day

The organisers behind last year's World Community Arts Day are getting geared up for the 2008 event and hope you can join them. Due to be held on 17 February, the day has a subtitle of 'Art as a catalyst for caring and sharing'. All they ask is that you hold an arts project on that day, no matter how small – or that you add an image or sound etc to a website to mark the occasion.

To find out more about World Community Arts Day 2008, go to www.communiversity.org.uk/worldcommunityartsday.htm

Crafts Council Development Award

The Crafts Council continues to run its Development Award scheme and invites applications from designer-makers.

The award is for a year and offers a maintenance grant of £2,500; equipment grants up to £5,000 of which the Crafts Council contributes 50% of all eligible purchases (33.3% can be used towards purchasing marketing equipment); a residential course in business training, aimed at small creative practices; 1,000 promotional postcards; and inclusion on the Crafts Council's Photostore online database.

To be eligible, applicants must have completed their studies; have practised as a craftsperson for no more than three years; live and work in England and be resident for tax purposes. The scheme is open to non-UK nationals as long as they fulfil this condition.

Annual deadlines for the award are: 1 March, 1 June, 1 September and 1 December.

For further information and an application form, contact the Crafts Council Resource Centre (requesting a Guidebook and providing a postal address), 44a Pentonville Road, Islington, London N1 9BY; phone: 020 7806 2501; fax: 020 7833 4479; email: reference@craftscouncil.org.uk; website: www.craftscouncil.org.uk/guide

Artists' insurance scheme

A new £35 million AIR members' public and products liability insurance is now available to visual and applied artists who are a-n subscribers with AIR membership.

This has been developed by the AIR Artists Advisory Group and negotiated with brokers Hencilla Canworth by a-n The Artists' Information Company on behalf of AIR. Research into the scheme was supported by Arts Council England's Artists Insights programme.

The insurance scheme has already been welcomed by curators and arts employers who can feel confident that the AIR artists they commission or contract through a-n will automatically have the appropriate professional insurance cover. Currently, there are over 8,100 UK and international AIR members.

Artist subscription and AIR benefits include:

- a welcome pack including good practice publications and AIR membership card
- £35 million public and products liability insurance (for UK-based artists only)
- a free what's on listings and image throughout the year on www.a-n.co.uk/interface
- open dialogues to meet like-minded artists at AIR events
- AIR e-bulletin for invites, information and consultation

- 10 per cent off any a-n advert
 - prizes and discounts on books, supplies, services and events
 - AIR Advisory Group, a leading research and campaigns, representing artists' views and needs to others
 - the password to www.a-n.co.uk with 24/7 access to all online resources
 - all a-n's printed publications including a-n Magazine, a-n Collections and research papers
- To find out more, read the introductory summary in www.a-n.co.uk/AIR_insurance, which is accessible to all artists. For more information on signing up for a-n+AIR go to www.a-n.co.uk/subscribe*

John Moores 25 Contemporary Painting Prize

Entries are invited for this competition for painters, which is held every two years at the Walker Art Gallery in Liverpool.

The John Moores exhibition showcases the best new paintings in the UK and attracts a broad range of artists. No preference is given to levels of experience or particular practices of painting. The work is selected anonymously from an open submission by a jury, which also awards the main prizes. There is a first prize of £25,000 plus four other prizes of £2,500.

The competition has a two-stage entry procedure. Stage 1 comprises submission by image of one painting per artist. Stage 2 involves artists sending in shortlisted paintings for final judging.

The deadline by which to register is 15 February and 29 February for submission of images. Shortlisted paintings will be invited between 27 and 30 May. The exhibition will run from 20 September 2008 to 4 January 2009.

For more information, phone 0151 478 4121 or email johnmoores25@liverpoolmuseums.org.uk

Threadneedle Figurative Prize

WHAT: call for entries for two new major prizes, plus a chance to win a total of £35,000: Threadneedle Figurative Prize (£25,000) and the Federation of British Artists Selectors' Choice (£10,000).

TO APPLY: for details and registration visit www.threadneedlefigurativeprize.com or email threadneedleprize@mallgalleries.com or telephone 020 7930 6844.

DEADLINE: 20 June

Visual Directory

artselector contemporary fine art collective is a growing visual directory of international contemporary fine artists, independent curators and galleries.

Originally set up by MA Fine Art graduates of Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design and the Royal College of Art it is now available as a free networking/promotional resource to contemporary fine art professionals.

We are currently inviting submissions of exciting contemporary fine art audio, visual and text based material from artist/curators/gallerists for possible inclusion in the artselector directory. Each accepted member receives their own album, unique short web address (<http://www.artselector.com/yourname>) and networking features. Membership is free.

To apply visit www.artselector.com

Voluntary Arts Newsletter

People are invited to sign up for Voluntary Arts England's free weekly e-newsletter, which provides the latest arts news, funding, jobs, events & training opportunities.

Visit www.vaengland.org.uk/cgi-bin/website.cgi?tier1=england&tier2=news&fp=true

New ways to get more from AccessArt

Artists are invited to become a member of AccessArt and register for the AccessArt Newsletter and receive email updates about the latest AccessArt workshops, pdf's, news and opportunities. Access to the AccessArt members area.

Registration is free of charge at www.accessart.org.uk/membership.php

Please send any items for the newsletter to Barbara Wood – barbara.wood@ukonline.co.uk