

SASA NEWSLETTER – February 2015

President: Linda Howe-Ely

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www.sasa-artists.co.za

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□ Diary



FEBRUARY	Thursday	12	Outing: Cape Town Philharmonic Dress Rehearsal
	Thursday	26	Monthly Meeting: AGM and Drawing Competition
MARCH	Saturday	7	Art in the Park: Rondebosch Park
	Thursday	26	Monthly Meeting: Talk on Investment Art with Alfie Bester

The artist is a receptacle for emotions that come from all over the place: from the sky, from the earth, from a scrap of paper, from a passing shape, from a spider's web.

Pablo Picasso

□ President's Letter

The Merit Exhibition started on a high note on Friday evening, the 6th of February, with a good crowd of artists, supporters and buyers, as well as two media representatives!



Narrative realist painter John Meyer, who opened the exhibition, had some encouraging words for our artists. Thanks to Mary McMillan, SASA Council member in charge of catering, the food was excellent, and members and guests spent an enjoyable summer evening at Kirstenbosch!

It's amazing to think that SASA has been exhibiting at the Sanlam Hall for at least 30 years. If any of our longer standing members have details of the early Sanlam Hall exhibitions we would love to hear about them. One of our buyers told us on Friday that he was purchasing his 29th work at a SASA exhibition, how is that for customer loyalty! By the end of the evening over 20 works had been sold. There are a lot of photos of the opening, and the outing last week, on our blog: <http://www.sasartists.blogspot.com/>.

There has been a generally positive reaction to the Council's proposed changes to the scoring system and further promotion of Fellows which were sent to you recently. Some minor changes to these proposals have been suggested to us by members and they will be discussed at the upcoming Annual General Meeting on the 26th of February.

We are starting the year with some interesting outings; the one to Newlands Forest was very peaceful and enjoyable. The outing to sketch the CTPO dress rehearsal promises to be very exciting, and don't forget to diarise the walkabout of the Rembrandt exhibition on the morning of the 26th.



As this is my last President's letter, I would like to say how grateful I am for the experience, and all that I have learnt and gained from my 11 years on the Council in various roles. I have even learnt a bit about dealing with the finances, and am only now able to appreciate all the diligent and meticulous work which Mike Daubermann put in during his years as treasurer. I have also met so many lovely and inspiring people!

The Society was in a good position when I was elected President in 2013, thanks to the efforts of my predecessors, and I'm satisfied that it is still doing well, with new and talented artists joining us regularly, and a very capable and proficient Council.

I look forward to spending more time painting from next month, and simply enjoying the company of fellow members at future SASA events.

Linda Howe-Ely

Member News and Happenings



The noticeboard is put up at every monthly meeting and the latest news from the art world put up for your information. You are invited to bring along your own bits of information to post on the board. Members are also welcome to put up notices advertising their art related products or classes. If you want to know more, contact Solly Gutman on 079 2477 532 or send an email to brights@telkomsa.net or if you have any news you would like to share, email secretary@sasa-artists.co.za.

We welcome the following new members who joined in January –

- | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| ☆ Suzanne Fortgens | ☆ Harry and Frances Fisher | ☆ Kathleen Wivell |
| ☆ Judith Hilton-Green | ☆ Drexler Kyzer | ☆ Ann Selbach |
| ☆ Marlon Lawrence | ☆ Allan Lucraft | ☆ Diane Harper |
| ☆ Michael Smart | ☆ Nicolle Marchand | ☆ Anna Lamprecht |
| ☆ Cindy Postlethwayt | ☆ Mariota Percival | ☆ Bruce MacFarlane |
| ☆ Chris Turner | ☆ Diane Goldsmith | ☆ Damian Osborne |

It's great to have such an interest shown in the society and we look forward to seeing you all at our monthly meetings. All membership cards are available for collection at any of the monthly meetings and at all exhibitions.



Congratulations to **Jeremy Day** on achieving first place in the ArtistTable on-line gallery still life competition with his iconic work, Tata ma Chance. Kenneth Walter,

Chicago interior designer of Gray & Walter Ltd, one of the judges commented "I found it to be superbly executed, Richard Estes would approve of the technique." Well done Jeremy, the competition was quite fierce.

Honorary member, **Di McNaughton** has packed her bags and left to live in Scotland. Di has served the society as secretary, exhibitions organiser and librarian and has contributed to SASA in many ways. We will miss her, and wish her all the best.

SASA member, **Sylvia de Villiers** is asking for donations of paintings that can be auctioned in aid of the Institute for the Blind in Worcester. A bike rally will be held on the weekend of the 21st of February and last year a total of R38 000 was realised on the auction.

You can drop off paintings at Kirstenbosch Sanlam hall during our Merit exhibition, she will collect them there. Or contact her on 082 8586 831 or email libelle@telkomsa.net.



Long standing member, Rose Clack's husband, Ken passed away on the 28th of January. Our condolences go out to you Rose, and your family.

Please remember to let us have any changes in your details. Check your 'spam' boxes every now and then to see if any SASA correspondence has found its way into them. It's also a good idea to make sure your



mailboxes are emptied as many emails are returned because your boxes are 'full'. Add SASA as one of your contacts – possibly that will help with any future spam problems.

2015 Membership Fees

A big thank you to all those members who have paid their subs. Everyone had until the end of January to pay in order to retain last year's membership number. Number allocation will be given on a first come first serve basis from February on. You can make payment via the internet to SASA Nedbank Constantia, branch code 198765, account number 108 800 6981.

Email proof of payment to secretary@sasa-artists.co.za and **please use your name** as the reference. *We currently have four unidentifiable payments.* You can help by checking your bank records as to what was written in the beneficiary column.



If you pay by cheque, please make your payment out to the South African Society of Artists (in full) and post to:

The Treasurer
PO Box 2574
Clareinch
7740

Ordinary members	: R260
Country members	: R160
Students (full time under 25)	: R160

Remember that the library will function only on membership numbers and no items can be taken out without your new number. Your new card will also allow you your 10% discount at Italian Artshop, Village Brush and Canvas and all branches of Deckle Edge. The art shops will not give you your discount without your new card.

Once payment is made, a new 2015 membership card will be made. This will be available at all SASA

meetings and exhibitions, **so please remember to collect your card.** Country members' cards will be posted to them.

Please note that if your membership is not paid by the end of February 2015 at the latest, your membership will lapse and you will be required to pay the joining fee of R100.

☐ SASA Programme - What's on

Monthly Meetings

SASA Monthly Meetings are held at the Athenaeum, Boundary Terraces, off Campground Road, Newlands, on the last Thursday of every month at 19h00. Entry is R10 for members and R20 for guests, including refreshments. The library will be open from 17h45 to 18h45 – your membership card is your access to the library.

Thursday 29th January: Vicki Norcliffe Pastel Demo.



Despite a few hiccoughs with the video on the evening, it was an absolute pleasure to watch Vicki at work. Working with a model, Desiree, she demonstrated

how she goes about putting her wonderful pastel portraits on paper. A full house, the audience hung on her every word.

Thank you Vicki, for a great evening.

Thursday 26th February: Annual General Meeting and Drawing Competition:

Our AGM is held every February to elect council members and to advise on the current financial status of the Society. There are also changes to the Constitution which need to be discussed and approved. If you have any comments on these changes, you can email secretary@sasa-artists.co.za and these will be tabled at the meeting. This is your society and we would encourage you to attend this year's meeting. If you would like to help your society by standing for Council, you can propose members from the floor, or you can email your proposals to secretary@sasa-artists.co.za.

The Annual SASA **Drawing Competition** will follow the Annual General Meeting. The theme chosen for this year is "**Coffee**". A puzzler indeed, but something to get those creative juices pumping. We do ask that you use your imaginations and avoid themes like a puppy called Coffee.

Rules for the Drawing Competition: *(Please read carefully, to avoid disappointment)*

- All works should be new, *recent* works that are appropriate to the theme.
- There will only be *one* category for entries, with prizes awarded to the top three chosen works.
- Only members present on the evening are eligible to vote.
- All paid-up members *present* on the evening are allowed to submit *one* entry.
- Please ensure that your work is suitably mounted, or, if presented in a sketchbook, please provide bulldog clips to open the book to the appropriate page and a firm support in order to prop up the page for viewing.
- The competition is a *monochrome (single-colour)* drawing competition.
- No work containing brushwork or solvents will be allowed. (For example, watercolours or pastel diluted with turpentine are not permitted.)
- Work **may not** be submitted if it has been done in a class convened by an art teacher, nor if it

has been previously entered in any SASA competition or exhibition.

- Printmaking is ineligible in this competition, although the preparatory sketches on which it is based are welcome.
- Please observe the spirit of the competition and abide by the above guidelines
- Please remember when working from source material (such as photographs), that these must be your *own*, or those to which you *own the copyright* by express written permission. Images from magazines, newspapers and other artists' work are automatically protected by intellectual property law and are subject to copyright protection. Our standard copyright rules apply, and if in doubt please contact Liz Pearson, 021 671 8941, for clarity.
- Work submitted must be the original hand-made work and cannot be a photographic or electronic reproduction.
- Please do take note of this now, so as not to be disappointed on the evening.
- Please remember that this is a **monochrome (single-colour)** drawing competition. Therefore,

only drawing techniques are permitted, using **one** drawing medium in any one colour. For example, charcoal on paper or support (an unpainted surface). Other drawing media may be used, such as pencil, graphite, conté or pen. No paintings will be accepted on the evening.

Camille Pissaro: 'It is only by drawing often, drawing everything, drawing incessantly, that one fine day you discover to your surprise that you have rendered something in its true character.'



☐ Exhibitions

Merit Exhibition: Friday 6th to 19th February:



photo SA Art Times' Michaela Irving

The Merit exhibition got off to a flying start on Friday evening with 21 sales just that evening.

Our speaker for the evening was

internationally acclaimed artist, John Meyer, who was very complimentary about the exhibition, the artists exhibiting and encouraged everyone to never let anyone put you off the path you've chosen.

Thank you John.

Other Exhibitions

Art.b and the Arts Association of Bellville are having their opening of the Members' Exhibition of 11th February at 18.30. The exhibition will be on until 4th March at the Bellville Library Centre, Carel van Aswegen Road, Bellville. For more information please contact artbellville@gmail.com.

The Simon's Town Art Group are holding their Annual Art Exhibition at the Simon's Town Library hall on Saturday 14th February to Sunday 22nd February, 2015. The opening will be by Ryno Swart at noon on Saturday 14th. **Enquiries: Michelle Brouard - 082 740 1191.**

Well known watercolourist, **Wallace Hulley** will be holding an exhibition of his work at 27 Silverboomkloof Road, Somerset West from 6 – 8 March. The opening will be at 18.00 on the 6th. RSVP: arthul@outlook.com.

Original Cape Art will be hosting an exhibition of works by 23 Cape Artists at the Sanlam Hall in Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens. The exhibition will be opened by Tony Grogan on Saturday 21st February at 18.00 and then daily from 10.00 to 17.00, until Thursday 5th March

SASA member, Margo Dekker who owns the **Café Nood in Claremont** from which she now runs a small gallery, extends an invitation to the opening to their 2nd exhibition featuring SASA artists Margi Cloete, Fiona Burgess and Fran Sexton. The opening will be on

the 12th February at 18.00 with snacks and a cash bar. Contact Margo at info@cafenood.co.za for more information. 10% of sales go to the Red Cross Children's Fund.

Jeremy Day will be holding a two-day exhibition at Constantia Village (between Pick n Pay and Woolies) on Friday 21st and Saturday 22nd February. For more information contact Jeremy on jerryday@mweb.co.za

☐ Plein Air Outings



An Outing with a Difference!

Sketching the Cape Town Philharmonic Orchestra at the dress rehearsal.

Venue: Cape Town City Hall - meet at the side entrance door of the building (in the pedestrianised street which runs parallel to Darling Street, opposite Woolworths head office). Date: Thursday 12th February. Time: Meet at 9h45. Starts at 10am, finishes approx. 1pm with a break in between.

What to bring: Small sketch pad and pen/pencil. Artists will need to be unobtrusive and quiet so please be prepared.

Cost: R50 admission – it is worth every cent. Also is a donation to FOM (Friends of Young Musicians).

Parking: Street parking. Cost R12 per hour.

What we will hear: Conductor: Martin Panteleev; Soloist: Maria du Toit, clarinet; Milhaud, Francaix, Debussy, Ravel.

Important - Please RSVP : Helen van Stolk – helenvstolk@gmail.com or sms 082 785 7288.

Fish Hoek Art Society will be having a paint out at the Ohio Farm, Noordhoek on the 17th February. Please contact Cindy on 082 925 2935 or Ann on 083 503 6972 for more information.

Workshops, Classes and Information

Your 2014 membership card will allow you to claim your 10% discount from the following art shops:

Deckle Edge – all branches. The Italian Artshop. Village Brush and Canvas. The Art Shop in Hermanus. You will need to present your new 2014 membership card when claiming your discount, so please ensure that you collect your card at the monthly meeting. All the art shops have instructions to only give the 10% discount to paid up members.

Watercolour Workshops with Marion Langton.

Marion Langton FSASA, AWSSA, will be conducting a 6 week watercolour courses at 12a Pinewoods Road, Somerset West from 20 February 2015. Friday mornings from 9.30 to noon – R800 per course. Beginners or advanced



artists all welcome – creative and stimulating sessions in a friendly environment. For more information or to sign up kindly contact Marion: Phone 021 8515687 / Cell 0783 515 404 / e-mail mlangton@telkomsa.net.

SANAVA Announces L'Atelier 2015: Barclays L'Atelier is one of South Africa's most prestigious art competitions. Held annually, it is open to artists aged 21 to 35. Historically, this award has not only ensured that South Africa's young and emerging artists were recognised, but has also afforded them the opportunity to develop their talents abroad. The South African National Association for the Visual Arts (SANAVA) urges artists to enter South Africa's longest running art competition, L'Atelier. For more information, artists can phone 011 350 3003.

<http://lateliercompetition.com/>

Hayden Proud, Senior Curator of Historical Paintings and Sculpture at Iziko South African National Gallery, will be giving SASA members a walkabout of the exhibition "**Rembrandt in South Africa**". Date: Thursday the 26th of February. Time: The walkabout will begin at 11am, please meet at 10.45. Place: The Old Town House, Greenmarket Square. Cost: Adults R20, pensioners R10, Friends of the Michaelis Collection, free.

Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-1669) is possibly the most sought-after and celebrated 'Old Master' of all. Although South African public collections have no paintings attributable to Rembrandt, there are some fine collections of his etchings. This exhibition draws on the major institutional collections within South

Africa, including the Michaelis Collection (Cape Town), the Iziko SA National Gallery (Cape Town), the Johannesburg Art Gallery, the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum (Port Elizabeth), the Rupert Art Foundation, the Rembrandt van Rijn Art Foundation (Stellenbosch) and UCT. The impressive collection of the Johannesburg Art Gallery, presented by Howard Pim, has previously never been shown in Cape Town before. Paintings by Rembrandt's contemporaries are included in the exhibition. The etchings are exquisite and Hayden has a vast knowledge of Dutch art, so the walkabout promises to be most interesting. Please contact Linda Howe-Ely if you have any queries:

lindahe@vitalitybroadband.co.za or 021 797 2601.

Concerning Copyright

This article is by [Brian Sherwin](#). Brian Sherwin is an art critic, blogger, curator, artist and writer based near Chicago, Illinois. Sherwin is the Editor of [The Art Edge](#).

Brian once again brings to the fore the dangers of copying – whether it's other people's photographs, pics taken off the internet or even from your own television screen, beware the consequences of your actions. He also points out that infringement of copyright can be turned and used against you.

"The art world is once again buzzing over the result of a copyright infringement lawsuit. Artist Luc Tuymans, a painter known for transforming television and print sources into examinations of memory and history, has been convicted of plagiarism over a portrait of the Belgian politician Jean-Marie Dedecker. Tuymans used an image taken by photojournalist Katrijn Van Giel as a reference image for his painting. The verdict has spurred a heated debate about freedom of expression.

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"Hyperallergic reported that a civil court in Antwerp deemed Tuymans's piece, A Belgian Politician (2011), to be a reproduction of a photograph taken by photojournalist Katrijn Van Giel in 2010. The violation of copyright comes with a hefty price tag. Tuymans will be fined the equivalent of \$577 000 if he creates work using Van Giel's photo as a reference image. Furthermore, he will be fined if A Belgian Politician is exhibited.

"As reported by Hyperallergic, Luc Tuymans attorney, Michael De Vroey of Baker & McKenzie, offered his opinion about the court decision. De Vroey said, "Like many contemporary artists, the work of Luc Tuymans is based on existing images," adding, "How can an artist call the world into question with his works if he isn't allowed to use that world's images?"

"I had to chuckle when I read De Vroey's statement. Here's the thing: artists were able to create a likeness of someone without the use of photography in the past ... The idea that an artist MUST use a photograph as a reference is laughable when thought of in that context. Unfortunately, De Vroey is not alone in his opinion.

"After reading some of the comments about this case one would think that a painter is not capable of painting anything without having access to reference images. ... Many contemporary artists frown upon using existing images as a reference. Others obtain their own reference images if desired they will take their own photographs OR license the use of an existing image.

"Let's take a look at some of the arguments that have been raised in defense of Tuymans:

"1.) "Different medium, different context!" ... Question: Is it a 'different medium, different context' type of situation if [Walmart](#) decides to photograph paintings found online or at a gallery in order to profit from those 'new' works. My point: Be careful what you wish for before raising the 'different medium, different context' banner. You have to understand that corporations benefit from and are held back by the same laws that individuals are held to in this context. Do you really think a big retailer would hold back if copyright law did not exist OR if it were weakened to the point of being practically useless? I don't think so...

"2.) "He changed it!" 'Changing it' can amount to a single drop of paint on an existing image IF you accept the opinion of some of the loudest art world talking heads. A few questions: If I take a movie and add a scene... should I be able to market it? If a band releases a new album and I release my own after changing one word in each song... should that be acceptable? I 'changed it', right? ... I'm starting to think that some people want a content 'free for all' which, in my opinion, would cripple creativity on an international scale.

"3.) "Anyone can take a photograph!" Photographers share the same copyright protection that painters and other creatives enjoy. You can't weaken copyright for one direction without weakening them all. In other words, it would be far more than a slippery slope if issues like this weren't challenged in court, it would be a landslide that would force a countless number of artists to simply stop sharing their works with others. ... They want the protection copyright provides.

"4.) "Tuymans is a famous artist!" And your point is? I get sooo tired of this sense of 'famous artist privilege' that pops up every time a situation like this happens. I'm thinking of EVERY artist when I support strong copyright. Artists have a hard enough time making a living from their work... but imagine if you had to compete with every entity under the sun photographing the work that you display with a few minimal changes for good measure. You would not be able to keep your studio or gallery doors open if copyright protection did not exist. You would not be able to compete with Walmart's team of Artist Associates.

"I tend to side with strong copyright law. I don't want to see copyright law weakened to the point ... BIG business can walk into a gallery, take photographs and do a little Photoshop magic in order to earn BIG money without compensating artists. Yet it seems that a good chunk of the art world wishes for an image 'free for all' to become the standard we live by.

... Freedom of expression is one thing... freedom to profit from YOUR hard work without having to compete against yourself (if someone infringes upon your work) is another."

To create one's own world takes courage.

Georgia O'Keeffe

We are an affiliate member of the



South African National Association for the Visual Arts (SANAVA)
www.sanava.co.za