



Friends Bulletin: Jul/Aug 2019

www.friendsofthehatton.org.uk

President: Professor Eric Cross

This month's Friend: Caroline Coode



© Roger Newbrook

We are introducing the Friend's Feature.

Read more about it on page 7 and find out what Caroline is up to!

Dear Friends

Welcome to the bulletin for July and August.

This issue includes what we hope will be a series of articles, which will feature one of our members who are practitioners as well as an update on the Friends Summer Exhibition. Also included are details of up and coming talks and events and longer-term dates for your diary.

At the last committee meeting on 9th July the importance of forging stronger links with the university and in particular postgraduate students was discussed. This would also help with bringing younger people into the organisation. Richard is to follow this up through the university.

The committee are always appreciative of members' views and comments or if any member wishes to include an article in a future bulletin please contact the current Secretary, Richard Thompson by emailing richard.r.thompson@btinternet.com

Report on CACH Lecture by Stephen Moonie - 8 June 2019

On 8th June members enjoyed the third in a series of Saturday morning Lectures organised by Maggie Bassendine for the Contemporary Art Club.

This Lecture, entitled 'Conceptual Art in Britain and the US', was delivered by Dr Stephen Moonie, an art historian at the University. Normally these talks are presented in the Gallery learning room but on this occasion it was held in one of the main university lecture theatres. The IT and layout of the venue added significantly to the enjoyment of the event.

Dr Moonie stressed that conceptual art proper was bound up with the cultural ideas of the late 60' and early 70's. Many people think that conceptual art is reflected in the work of Damian Hirst and Tracy Emin, for example. But this is not strictly conceptual art. What an artist actually does was challenged by all conceptualists. This idea meant that conceptual art was not immediately appealing. Although many of the conceptualists started out as painters, the conceptual art of the late 60's and 70's was not necessarily beautiful or saleable. Stimulating questions like 'what actually makes art, art?' and 'can an artist unmake artwork?' challenged the idea that artwork needs to be a 'physical thing'

This was just a sample of the talk, which was most enjoyable and stimulated many questions from the audience.

Report on Weaving Workshop with Janis Embleton - 22 June 2019

The Workshop, which was organised by our events co-ordinator Jo Cousin, was well attended. Janis very kindly and patiently led us through the process of weaving. She had prepared the looms for us and had brought a wonderful selection of yarns and threads. Some participants had had no experience of weaving but produced some amazing and unique pieces of work based on a beach theme.

Here are just some of the participants' reviews:

I haven't visited the Hatton Gallery for a while but when I saw the weaving workshop advertised I was tempted to sign up. Welcome drinks were offered by the 'Friends of the Hatton' and there was opportunity to chat before the session started. Small looms were already set up for us thanks to our experienced tutor, Janis Embleton, who also provided a lovely range of textured yarns. Our seascapes evolved with her kind support throughout the session which went by so quickly as we were so absorbed in the process and in experimenting with what was on offer. I loved integrating some of my finds from Roker Beach: rope and driftwood. Janis was very encouraging to us all and I will definitely come back to other sessions at the Hatton. Oh! And there were strawberries and cream at the end, to reward our efforts! A wonderful escape on a Saturday afternoon. Thank you. Kath Price



© Kath Price

I attended the above workshop on Saturday and have to say Thank You for putting on such an event. I thoroughly enjoyed the workshop, which was very informative and great fun. It was also an opportunity to meet other ladies with similar interests. Just wish it had been on for a little longer. Thank you also to Josephine for organising.

Angela Kirby

This was a thoroughly enjoyable workshop. Extremely well organised with all materials provided and a set task taught. It was amazing how different each participant's work was! Janis, the tutor, was approachable and very well organised, keeping us on track so that we could complete our weaving in the limited time available. A lovely relaxing but productive afternoon. I'd happily do the same workshop again but maybe with an extra hour in length to ensure no-one needed to rush to finish.

Many thanks to Janis and also to Josephine for organising attendees and delicious refreshments.

Alison Ainslie



© Sophie Cousin

We had a fantastic time at the weaving workshop. The workshop was well organised and really well taught. Janis was very attentive and always there with an extra tip or piece of advice. Company was excellent and the lovely strawberries and drink really topped off an excellent afternoon. Looking forward to the next craft afternoon, thank you!

Sophie Cousin

Friends Summer Exhibition



© Richard Thompson

Following another excellent response from our members, this year's summer exhibition began with the submission of works on 13th July. Thirty-one artists submitted 56 works. During the hand in members were invited for refreshments, hosted by the Contemporary Art Club in the Learning room. It is always interesting to hear about the various views and opinions held by others on the art scene.

A group of volunteers set out the artwork to maximise on presentation then, working in two teams, proceeded to hang the works. With some minor adjustments the exhibition was in place by 3pm the same day.

The preview took place in the evening of 15th July. Hosted by our Chairman, Geoff Mills, this was attended by over 70 members and guests who enjoyed the evening, viewing the work accompanied by a light buffet with drinks.

A good number of members volunteered to invigilate during the course of the exhibition, which at the time of writing is on-going. The Exhibition will end on 2nd August.

Many thanks to all those who submitted art work, our volunteer organisers, invigilators and helpers and the galley staff for the loan of tools and equipment and other furniture and facilities that helped the process run smoothly.

New Bulletin Item: Friend's Feature

With this edition we are introducing a new addition to our bulletin: the Friend's Feature! During the coming issues, we will be featuring one of our Friends and their work at this year's Summer Exhibition. This offers a platform for a Friend to introduce themselves and their work to the community. If you are interested in being featured, please email Tomke at fothevents@gmail.com

This Issue's Friend - Caroline Coode

Q: Caroline, please tell us a little bit about yourself and your passion for art:

A: I often made little cards for my mother when I was quite young but was not a compulsive 'scribbler'. As an adult I went to local adult art classes. Eventually to art college age 45 and specialised in printmaking. I graduated at 50!

Q: Can you tell us more about the artwork featured on the title page?

A: These are conte and pencil drawings of the kind I make on the spot for a travel journal. Sometimes these get used as reference for a collagraph or wood engraving

Q: What are you currently working on/planning to work on?

A: I have an ongoing project about my allotment. It is a large 'map' - mixed media piece. I will make a set of small 'books' about some individual vegetables and fruits, with printed elements, to accompany this. Also a set of small wood engravings about Castlerigg Stone circle which may also be a concertina book.

Q: Are there any events/exhibitions upcoming that you're particularly excited about?

A: I have quite a lot of work in The Biscuit Factory summer show [open till August 25] My one paper sculpture 'Bumblebees and Beans' in an exhibition called 'Seeking Routes'.. That is at the Quaker house Swarthmoor Hall in Ulverston, Cumbria and is supported by the Quaker Arts Network. Open until September 8th.

It is accompanied by other activities throughout the open period.

Q: Who is your favourite artist and/or what is your favourite art movement?

A: Impressionists and wood engravers!

Q: When did you become a Friend of the Hatton Gallery and why?

A: I think about 1995, after I moved to Newcastle from Surrey. I needed to find a group to be involved with. I was chair from 1998 to 2005.

Q: What is your favourite part of being a Friend of the Hatton Gallery?

A: Meeting like minded people and sharing ideas.

Upcoming Talks & Events

Contemporary Art Club at the Hatton (CACH)

Saturday 10th August, 11:00-13:00, Learning Room, Hatton Gallery

The purpose of CACH is to give an opportunity for Friends of the Hatton who are interested in meeting informally to talk about their work and how it relates to art of today. The Club also hosts guest lecturers, most of who are highly qualified speakers or practitioners in art (see diary dates below).

If you are interested in joining CACH or want more details, please contact Marion at marion.c.thompson.t21@btinternet.com CACH is only accessible to Friends of the Hatton.

Dates for the Diary

Further details of the following events and talks will appear in the next bulletin issue.

In the meantime, please make a note in your diary where appropriate.

Lecture by Prof Richard Talbot

Wednesday 6th November, 13:00, Venue to be confirmed

Organised jointly by FotH and Newcastle University Retired Staff Society (RSS)

Title: Should all art students learn to paint and draw

Lecture by Jeffrey Sarmiento, www.jeffreysarmiento.co.uk, National Glass Centre

Sunderland and Sunderland University

Saturday 9th November, 11:00, Learning Room, Hatton Gallery

Organised through the Contemporary Art Club

Title to be confirmed

Short Course in Printmaking by Vhairi Cardinal & Caroline Coode

Saturdays 23rd & 30th November 2019 and 25th January & 1st February 2020, 10:30-16:00,

Learning Room, Hatton Gallery

The course will include an introduction to simple screen-printing and the 2-plate process in addition to other techniques. Booking forms in the September bulletin.

Christmas Market

Awaiting confirmation of dates. We are aiming for Saturday 7th December with a second option of Saturday 14th December, 10:00-16:00

What's on at the Gallery?

- Out of Place: A re-representation of 5 new contemporary art works. 29th June - 10th August
- Platform: Harriet Sutcliffe. Exploration of the innovative exhibition of Richard Hamilton and Victor Pasmore. 29th June - 10th August
- Newcastle University Master of Fine Art Degree Show 2019. 24th August - 7th September

Gallery Opening Times: Monday to Saturday. 10am to 5pm