

## Grazia Napoletano At Fairfield



An exhibition of a selection of works by Grazia Napoletano has been on show during June 2021 at the electoral office of the Hon. Guy Zangari, MLA for Fairfield NSW.

Born in the city of Bari, capital city of the Apulia region of Italy, as a two year old Grazia suffered from epilepsy, polio and a stroke which left her paralysed on her left hand side. She attended schools for children with disabilities until she migrated to Australia when she was sixteen years old. Upon arriving in Australia speaking only Italian, she was enrolled for two years in an English language school for non-English speakers.

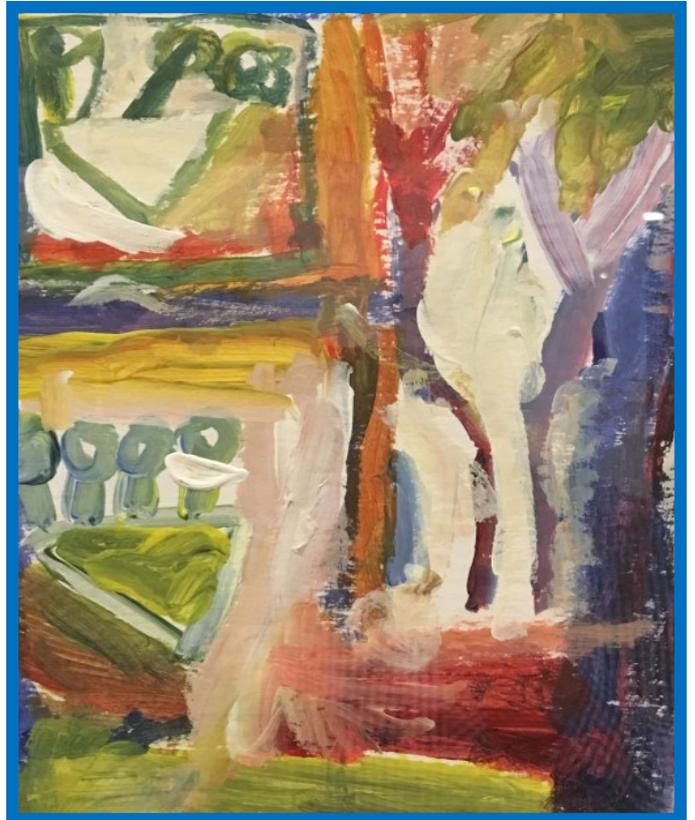
Due to her disabilities, Grazia was unable to get into paid employment and has been living on a government disability pension all her adult life.

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2017, Mr Frank Tegani, who was running for director at Club Marconi, introduced Grazia to the Fairfield City Art Society. At this meeting we suggested that Grazia would benefit from attending the Monday night art classes run by Linda Brescia at Club Marconi. Grazia took up our suggestion and started attending these classes. Under Linda's tutelage Grazia started to produce abstract and semi-abstract works of great vitality and brilliance. She decided to enter her works in our bi-annual exhibitions at Club Marconi resulting in being awarded the following prizes:

- Third Prize Works-on-paper in the 2018 Members Prize with a work titled "The Jungle";
- Highly Commended Works-on-paper - 2018 Members Prize with a work titled "Widow Boxes"; (Shown Below)
- Second Prize Works-on-paper in the 2018 Fairfield Art Prize with a work titled "Interior Landscape";
- Commended Works-on-paper in the 2019 Members Prize with a work titled "Colour Step";

This exhibition consisting of a number of works in acrylic on canvas displays the tremendous vibrance and excellent use of colour achieved by the artist in recent years.

The Fairfield City Art Society would like to thank the Hon. Guy Zangari MLA for Fairfield for the opportunity to display these works.



The Society congratulates Grazia Napoletano for her outstanding output in a very short time and her tenacity in pursuing her dream in spite of all the obstacles she had to overcome.

Members In Focus  
**Nika (Lototzkij) Norman**



TOP AWARDS: Nika Norman with her winning artwork. Photo: supplied

Artist a winner at Ipswich Show

Nika Norman, long-time member and life member since 2016, decided to retire from full time teaching and escape to the country with a move to Rathdowney in the sunshine state. Nika was an very active member of the Fairfield City Art Society holding the position of Education officer and ran the Art Classes at Club Marconi for a number of years.

Since moving interstate, Nika has continued pursuing her artistic endeavours full time setting up Frog Hollow Studio ([www.froghollow.net.au](http://www.froghollow.net.au)) where she runs art classes and workshops.



She has been successful in a number of shows, with the most recent being a first, second and a highly commended in the Boonah Show held 28-29 May 2021, and First Prize, Australian Landscape/Seascape at the Ipswich Show.

Well done Nika and best wishes for the future.

Members In Focus  
**Charlie (Vuokko) Wells**

Long-standing member and multi-award winner Charlie Wells won the 2020 Scholarship prize in the Liverpool Art Society annual exhibition with a work titled "Sunlit track" (shown below). The award consists of an exhibition titled "Marks And Memories" to be held Marsden Gallery at Casula Powerhouse Art Centre, opening Saturday, 18th October, 2021 closing Thursday, 18th November 2021.



Charlie states *"Winning the Scholarship with my painting 'Sunlit Track' has given me the impetus and confidence to explore painting more freely."*

*Rather than realistic representations, my works are an emotional response to the bush landscape surrounding me where I live. In this way the painting process takes over as I react to what has been put on the canvas previously."*



Lorraine Maggs and Joe Briffa visited Charlie at her home studio on Sunday, 6th June, in order to give her peer feed-back. It was an extremely enjoyable and fruitful visit, followed by lunch at the Oaks Hotel.

We look forward to viewing Charlie's exhibition in October (Covid19 restrictions permitting) and wish her well for a successful show.

## *In the pipeline....*

### **Fairfield Art Society Online Open Art Prize 2021**

Due to the current COVID19 pandemic all activities involving social gatherings have been **postponed** until further notice. This includes the holding of workshops, art classes, and especially physical exhibitions.

We are in the process of planning to an online only exhibition along similar lines as the exhibition we held last year. Stay tuned to our Facebook page (Fairfield Art Society - Est 1961) and our website (Fairfieldcityart.org) for updated information regarding this and all other activities.

**Please note that only members who have paid their dues by 30 September 2021 will be given a discount on their entry fees (see p 4 for membership details)**

The management committee would like to wish all our members, their families and friends the best of health.

Stay safe, follow the guidelines and continue to produce great works of art from the safety of your homes.

## *Other Forthcoming Exhibitions*

### **The Valley Art Show 9x5 ART PRIZE 2021**

Location: Wyong Creek Hall, 791 Yarramalong Road  
Wyong Creek NSW 2259

Dates: To be decided due to Covid19 restrictions - currently planned for 29-31 October with an alternative date 19-21 November

Entry forms can either be downloaded from:  
[www.wyongcreekhall.com.au/valley-art-show](http://www.wyongcreekhall.com.au/valley-art-show)  
or contact Barbara McCraig on 0419 512 820

**See below for a history of the 9x5 Art exhibitions**

### **History of Australian 9x5 Art**

The history of 9x5 art is very Australian and started in August 1889 at the 9 by 5 Impression Exhibition held in Swanston St Melbourne.

At that exhibition there were 183 works painted mainly by the up and coming young artists of the day Tom Roberts, Charles Conder and Arthur Streeton.

The "9 by 5" wording used in the title of the exhibition referred to the 9x5 inch size of a cedar cigar box lid, easily obtainable in those days, and used as the "canvas" for many of the works in the exhibition. Part of the reason for such a restricted "canvas" size exhibition was to make art affordable for the general population, although today many of the works from that exhibition have sold for hundreds of thousands of dollars.

In today's Australian art scene, many professional and amateur artists are intrigued by this 9x5 sizing and while not employing cigar box lids on which to apply their skills, they have embraced the concept by substituting plywood or masonite for their canvas. This 1889 Exhibition, that has gone down as a "celebrated event in Australian art history" has now spawned a number of 9x5 exhibitions across Australia in the last few years. Organised by major art galleries and local art societies, a number are billed as competitions offering cash prizes. Most of these exhibitions/ competitions offer the art work to the public at affordable prices, as with the original exhibition.

Yarramalong Valley does 9x5

(from: [wyongcreekhall.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/9x5-History-copy.pdf](http://wyongcreekhall.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/9x5-History-copy.pdf))

## **Activities**

Due to the current situation with COVID-19, we are very limited in the activities we are able to carry out safely and legally. The following activities have been ongoing or are in the planning stage.

### **Monthly Creative Art Meeting (with Lunch)**



Since April this year we have been having a creative art morning at Club Marconi. Each session is held on the third Thursday of the month, running from 10.15am to 12.30pm, optionally followed by lunch. Location is the Café Piazza at the Club and everybody must bring their own materials and do their own thing so long as it is not messy. Cost is free but participants must be Club members. We have had three sessions thus far but had to stop until COVID-19 restrictions are removed and it is safe once again to have social gatherings.

### **Christmas Art Market**

We have provisional agreement with Club Marconi to hold an Art Market in the Club's underground parking station. The proposed date is Sunday 28th November from 9.00am to 5.00pm. More details will be given out closer to the event date, COVID-19 permitting.

### **Liverpool Art Society**

#### **24th Annual Art Exhibition 2021**

Due to the current COVID lockdown LAS EXHIBITION DATES HAVE CHANGED

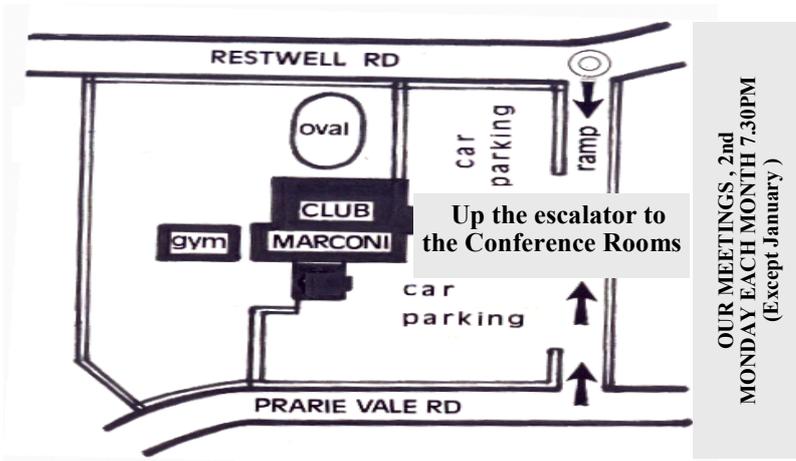
NEW DATES are as follows:

- Entries are Open
- Entries Close: Monday 13th September 2021, 5:00pm
- Artwork Delivery: Saturday 9th October 2021, 9:30am 3pm
- Exhibition Opens: Saturday 30th October 2021
- Exhibition Launch: Saturday 30th October 2021
- Exhibition Closes: Thursday 2nd December 2021, 5pm
- Artwork sale end date: Thursday 2nd December 2021, 5pm
- Artwork Collection: To be Confirmed
- Entry Form Help Day: To be Confirmed

NOTE: these dates may change again in response to NSW Health Restrictions.

### **Life Drawing Workshops**

organised by the Liverpool Art Society will re-commence at Casula Powerhouse Art Centre once Covid19 restrictions are lifted. Long pose sessions are on monthly every third Sunday from 10.00am to 1.00pm. Short pose sessions weekly every Friday from 7.00pm to 9.00pm. Cost per session \$20 for non-members and \$15 for members. For more information contact Peter on 0487 198 714



### Art Classes

Art classes recommenced on Monday 3rd May with art teacher Mary Tamras. Mary is a qualified art teacher holding a master's degree in Curatorial and Art History from the University of Sydney, a diploma of Fine Art from RMIT and a Diploma of Education from the University of Melbourne. We are extremely grateful for Mary to take on this activity which we have had running continuously at the club for over twenty years.

Unfortunately we have had to suspend the classes due to the resurgence of Covid-19 in the community with resultant restrictions to social activities. We are hopeful that this will be a short term obstacle and we are able to commence the classes once again.

For up-to-date information please visit our web-site, follow us on Facebook or call us on 0431 544 461. Stay safe.

### Physical Distance vs Social Distance

It has occurred to us in these days of enforced lockdown that one of the official instructions we have been given regarding Covid19 is to keep our social distance. This is not the right advice - the correct advice is to keep a minimum **physical** distance from each other. It is extremely important for our sanity and the welfare of our social community to keep socially close contact with each other by phone, video call or email. Stay safe and keep making those phone calls.

## 2021 F.C.A.S. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

### January to December 2021

Name .....

Address .....

P/Code .....

Tel: ..... (A.H.) .....

Email address: .....

Please return to PO Box 2035, Carramar, NSW 2163, with your yearly membership fee, of

(Tick one) ..... Pensioner/Student: \$15 \* Card No.: .....

..... Adult: \$20 ,

..... Youth \$5,

..... Organisation \$30.

Cheques & money orders payable to Fairfield City Art Society or by direct deposit to our bank account : BSB: 062217 A/C No.: 10340711

I agree to abide by the rules of the Fairfield City Art Society

Signature

Date / /

## www.fairfieldcityart.org

Check out our web-site and be a part of its continuing construction and development. Here you can:

- ◆ Find out about upcoming association activities
- ◆ Down-load exhibition entry forms
- ◆ Contact the association by e-mail
- ◆ Check out members' profiles & their virtual galleries
- ◆ Find links to other associations, galleries and other places of interest
- ◆ Set up your own gallery

Contact webmaster : Joe Briffa 0430 478 570

We are on Facebook - please "like" our page: "Fairfield Art Society - est 1961"

## JJ's Penultimate Words 81

THE AIM OF ART IS NOT TO COPY NATURE, BUT TO EXPRESS IT. YOU ARE NOT A SERVILE COPYIST, BUT A POET.  
— HONORE DE BALZAC

IT'S A TRUTH EVERY GOOD ARTIST KNOWS : THE TRULY GREAT WORK DEFIES EXPLANATION. TAKE THE MYSTERY OUT OF ART AND YOU HAVE REMOVED A FUNDAMENTAL SOURCE OF ITS APPEAL.  
— JOHN MCDONALD.

DRAMA IS LIFE WITH THE DULL BITS CUT OUT.  
— ALFRED HITCHCOCK.

BLESSED ARE THE CRACKED, FOR THEY ARE THE ONES LETTING IN THE LIGHT.  
— ANONY MOUSE.

SOLITUDE IS A WONDERFUL THING, AS LONG AS YOU CAN TALK ABOUT WITH SOMEONE AFTERWARDS. — LUIS BUNUEL.

LIFE IS TO BE LIVED. NO MATTER HOW OLD, HOW FRAIL OR INCAPACITATED WE MIGHT BE, HOW RICH OR POOR, WE ALL HAVE THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT TO WELLBEING, ENJOYMENT AND FULFILMENT AS WE AGE.— LYNELLE BRIGGS,  
AGED CARE ROYAL COMMISSIONER.

WE HAVE ALL HIS ANNOUNCEMENTS, ALL HIS PRESS RELEASES ALL HIS ENQUIRIES, ALL CLAIMING TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT HARASSMENT AND MISOGYNY, HE IS THE PROBLEM. WE NEED A PM WHO ACTUALLY CARES ABOUT THESE THINGS, AND WILL DO SOMETHING.—JULIA BANKS, EX LIBERAL MP.

LEARN FROM YESTERDAY, LIVE FOR TODAY. HOPE FOR TOMORROW. THE IMPORTANT THING IS NOT STOP QUESTIONING  
— ALBERT EINSTEIN.

EVENTUALLY, EVERYONE IS EITHER GOING TO GET INFECTED OR VACCINATED. — PROF. ALLEN CHENG, ATAGI.

THE GOVERNMENT HAD TWO JOBS THIS YEAR— TO ROLL OUT THE VACCINE AND FIX THE QUARANTINE SYSTEM AND IT'S FAILED AT BOTH. — ANTHONY ALBANESE

THE FIRST DUTY OF THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT MUST BE THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF IT'S CITIZENS.  
— PROFESSOR CHERYL DURRANT.

AT THE 2007 ELECTION JOHN HOWARD'S COALITION AND KEVIN RUDD'S LABOR AGREED THAT AUSTRALIA NEEDED TO CUT EMISSIONS URGENTLY. THEY BOTH AGREED THAT AN EMISSIONS TRADING SCHEME WAS THE MOST EFFICIENT WAY TO DO IT.  
— PETER HARTCHER.

TODAY, THE GOVERNMENT IS FAILING TO ADDRESS THE GROWING IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND THEREFORE FAILING TO PROTECT ITS OWN PEOPLE.  
— ADMIRAL CHRIS BARRIE.

Please read the fine print.....This newsletter is composed & edited by Joe Briffa & JJ Supe. The views expressed in these pages are not necessarily the views of either one , or any of us , and we take no responsibility for anything and these are literally the absolutely final words.