

members events archive

Archibald Prize at the Art Gallery of NSW & Museum of Contemporary Art Bus Trip

Saturday 28 March 2009



Early in the morning on Saturday 28th March a bus full of art lovers left the Hunter for MRAGM's 5th Archibald coach trip to Sydney. With the weather on our side, the day started with a private tour of the Archibald prize at the Art Gallery of NSW (AGNSW) by the very informative guides Denyse and Janet.

After lunch at the Rocks, we met at the Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA) for a private tour of the exhibitions Yayoi Kusama: Mirrored Years and I Walk the Line: New Australian Drawing. Our guides at the MCA were Wendy, Susan and Pamela.

Thank you to those who donated prizes for the raffles on the bus. Altogether we raised an incredible \$2124.18 for MRAG Education Programs. Thank you to all those who were so generous in their raffle ticket purchases!!

A big thank you to our chairperson and photographer for the day, Craig Wilson and all those who helped to make this trip possible.

Judy Henry
Trip Volunteer Organiser for MRAGM

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legge gallery and sculpture by the sea coach trip

saturday 25 october 2008



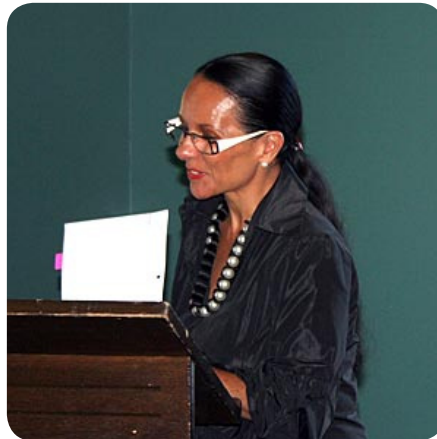
30 art lovers attended the members Sculpture by the Sea on saturday 25 october 2008. We were lucky enough to have a perfect sunny day for our annual sculptural excursion. On the way to Bondi we stopped at Legge Gallery in Redfern to view landscapes by Neil Evans and abstract work by John Smith. We were treated to some champagne and nibbles and a very interesting talk from artist and manager of Legge Gallery Neil Evans (pictured above). We arrived at Bondi around lunchtime and had a bite to eat before we embarked on the 2km of stunning coastline and viewed the array of sculptural delights. We had our usual raffles on the bus which raised over \$500.00 for education programs at the art gallery.

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Awards Presentation

Recognition and Appreciation for Volunteer and MRAGM work
to Maitland Regional Art Gallery at Maitland Town Hall 27 May 2008
Awards presented by Linda Burney MP, Minister for Fair Trading, Youth and Volunteering

left; Linda Burney MP, right;
Volunteer Jean-Paul receiving
his award from the Minister



MRAGM christmas cocktail party

friday 28th november 2008
6.00pm - 8.00pm

the central park cafe, maitland visitors centre
\$25 members
\$30 non members
includes entertainment, canapés and drinks
ph 02 4934 9859 to book

Archibald Prize at the Art Gallery of NSW & Museum of Contemporary Art Bus Trip

Saturday 10 May 2008

The Maitland Regional Art Gallery Members Archibald bus trip was on Saturday May 10 and was attended by 31 people. The day started with a private guided tour of the Archibald Prize at the Art Gallery of NSW. After that we headed to Circular Quay to visit the Museum of Contemporary Art . There we had private guided tours of the Fiona Hall: Force Field exhibition together with Southern Exposure: Works from the Collection of the San Diego MCA and They are Meditating: Bark Paintings from the MCA's Arnott's Collection . We held raffles with fantastic prizes on the way down to Sydney and on the way back. We received enthusiastic reviews from all who attended the trip and raised an incredible \$1328.65 for MRAGM Education programs.

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gorgeous threads: wearable art workshop

Saturday 23 February 2008

Artists, Margaret and Jane, lead participants through a free-motion stitching workshop to create their own wearable or hanging piece of art, created out of multiple threads, yarns, ribbons, fibres and textured fabric pieces.

adult and children soft toy workshop

with Olivia Parsonage

Friday 11 January 2008

This workshop was aimed at a parent or grandparent to attend with their child or grandchild.

graham kuo and michelle perry studio visit
sculpture by the sea

saturday 17 november 2007

Wow!! What a gorgeous spring day it was for a trip to Sydney.

We arrived at the home/studio of painter Graham Kuo and printmaker Michelle Perry. They were a little surprised to have so many people on their door step, 41 in fact!! We were divided into 2 groups to make the group more manageable. Our group went downstairs to the studio areas with Michelle where we were first taken through Graham's studio. Here we were able to leaf through his sketch books to see his creative processes. There were finished paintings on the walls and 3 large canvases in progress on the floor.

We then looked through Michelle's studio where she showed us prints by artists such as Charles Blackman, David Boyd, John Coburn and David Aspden. She shared some great stories about working with these prominent and well known artists.

After this rare treat we were taken back upstairs to the kitchen to indulge in the most amazing tiramisu, cheeses and champagne!!! Michelle's son Julian was a perfect host. Everybody was touched by the incredible generosity of Graham, Michelle and Julian. Many thanks go to them for their warmth and hospitality.

Then it was off to Bondi for some lunch and then the walk to Tamarama to view the sculptures by the sea. I had never been to Bondi before and was amazed at the stunning beauty of the place. We walked slowly along the track and enjoyed the sculptural surprises that lay around each corner. The above images speak volumes about the skill of the sculptors involved in the event.

I must say I regretted not bringing my bathers. It was a hot day and the water looked incredibly inviting. After the sculpture walk Craig and I walked back to Bondi to have a beer and who should walk past but Cate Blanchett!!!!

As anticipated we raffled all the way down and all the way back. Some very happy winners indeed!!

We raised over \$1600 for MRAG Education.

It was a top day and I am definitely looking forward to the next MRAGM bus trip. And I can't forget to mention the awesome and wonderful Judy Henry who organised the day which ran seamlessly.

Cressy, the web mistress

members events archive

the archibald trip may 2007

Getting up at 5.00am on a Saturday morning was not at all pleasurable. However, we must suffer for our art.

We left MRAG at 6.30am with a full bus of excited art enthusiasts. Coordinator Judy Henry had us raffling all the way down the F3 for some great prizes. We arrived at the Art Gallery of NSW at 9.00am, an hour before the gallery officially opens. We were then treated to a very informative private tour of the Archibald.

After enjoying the Archibald we had some free time to view the rest of the gallery until we met up for a light lunch in the AGNSW member's lounge.

We got back onto the bus all set to go to the Brett Whiteley Studio. However, two of our party (who shall remain nameless) were a little tardy. After they had been reprimanded, we headed for Surrey Hills. The Brett Whiteley Studio was fantastic and we were very privileged to receive a talk by the coordinator of the Brett Whiteley Studio.

Then it was off to 2 Danks Street, Waterloo to visit 9 contemporary art galleries. Our first stop was Utopia Art Sydney where director Christopher Hodges spoke about their current show by sculptor Marea Gazzard. We then viewed the rest of the galleries in the Danks Street complex at our leisure.

After this, we filed back onto the bus and driver Matt handed out lollies!! We then headed back for Maitland and it wasn't long before Judy and her raffles came out again. We stopped again at the Caltex where Matt revealed the biscuits and cakes he had hidden underneath the bus. They were very yummy!!

We arrived back at the gallery at about 7pm. It was a great day and I am sure everyone enjoyed themselves AND we made over \$1000.00 for education programs at MRAG. Big, big, big thanks go to the fabulous Judy Henry for organising the trip, she did an exemplary job.

Cressy, the MRAG web mistress

the sculpture by the sea trip november 2006

My wife and I had previously been to "Sculpture s by the Sea" and were never disappointed. This year I was pleased to see the members organise a coach trip to Bondi and we jumped at the opportunity and to not have to fight our way through traffic to get there and then find a car park on arrival.

It was great to relax and arrive at Bondi calm and collected, ready to fully appreciate the art. The walk along the headland, viewing the sculptures along the way, was as I expected a tremendous experience. This year was made all the more exciting by being able to sit and discuss the works with different people along the way.

We all had our favourites and we did not agree on many but it made for interesting reviews. In my opinion "Sculpture by the Sea" is up there with "The Archibald" on the Maitland Regional Art Gallery Members Calendar and as I said I have never come away disappointed.

It was so good to be able to just climb on the coach and be driven and not have to worry about petrol prices, traffic and parking and to be able to fully enjoy the day with enjoyable friends. If I get the chance I'll be doing it again next year.

Cheers Ron