

Box Hill Art Group 67th Annual Exhibition
Judges comments by Ben Winspear 6th September 2019

Best In Show

Blooms Against The Sky Oil Maureen Harris Smith

To me this painting has everything going for it that a winning work should have – technically and aesthetically. Skilfully handled oil paint from thin to textured, good control of tone and colour and interesting pleasing and interesting composition lead the viewer on a meandering journey where you can almost hear the bees buzzing and feel the warmth of the sunlight. A very deserving winner.

Best Oil or Acrylic

Dusk Oil Princy Kroon

The colours and the feel attracted me to this work – a mood painting of a wet landscape at dusk. Lovely light reflected on the water with heavy skies above. Confidently painted and certainly capturing the time of day. A nice simple frame sets it off too.

2nd Prize Oil or Acrylic

The Grand Canyon Acrylic Kathy Best

While I am myself a representational artist – every now and then I see an abstract work that speaks to me in some way as this painting does. A fine and interesting use of abstract lines and shapes combines with a limited colour palette to much evoke a sense of the Grand Canyon as I'd imagine it to be- one of abstract forms.

3rd Prize Oil or Acrylic

Red Callistemon Oil Jude Marganis

Very impressionistic brushstrokes and lost and found edges I thought really brought these vibrant flowers to life. Painted with surety and confidence. Well done.

Best Work on Paper

Naomi, Drawn From Life. Charcoal Rosemary Price

This charcoal portrait immediately caught my attention when I saw it. The contemplative pose, drawn with sensitivity and searching lines all came together to make for an excellent and masterful work that took me back for a second and third look.

2nd Prize Works On Paper

Dandenong Magic Watercolour Gerald Howell

A beautiful watercolour with a great sense of light and atmosphere. Technically very well executed – clear colours and washes underpinned by good drawing. Certainly makes me want to explore where those steps lead.

3rd Prize Works on Paper

Moore Road Ink Eric Harvey

An intriguing little pen and ink drawing. Very good use of mark making to convey depth and textures – not an easy thing to do with an unforgiving medium. A little gem – somebody should buy it.

Highly Commended

London Bridge Portsea Acrylic Judith Steinberg

A pleasing use of palette knife to depict the rock texture in this painting. Nicely framed too.

Highly Commended

Backwater of Venice Pastel Margaret Harvey

A vibrant little pastel of Venice – good colour harmonies, particularly the complementary colours of the boat – makes me want to go back to Venice again.

Highly Commended

Margaret Ollie Pastel Terry Ryan

A well painted portrait of Margaret Ollie that I feel captures something truthful about this much loved Australian artist.

Highly Commended

Flowers On The Run Watercolour Nancye Davison

A sensitive little watercolour flower study using a good mix of both washes and detail to lead you around this delightful work.

Highly Commended

Swan Hill Paddle Steamer Watercolour Gerald Howell

Another pleasing and well executed watercolour – loose washes and wet in wet giving moody atmosphere to the steamer on the river.

Highly Commended

Poppies Ink Nancye Davison

I really like the flow of this ink drawing – how your eye is led from the foreground all the way through to the distant hills. Excellent drawing skills here too.