

WAVE

ARTSSENTA

AUTUMN 2010

concerts

reviews

workshops

up coming
trips

exhibitions

outreach happenings

it's all going on inside!!!

Making Tracks Exhibition



At our wonderful station
Artsenta displays our creations.
There are pieces for all tastes
none of them were made in haste.
Some art is for sale
not all were painted by male.
Enjoy your look around
artistic talent does abound.
A platform for a hundred years
when steam arrives everyone stares.
At our wonderful station
platforms and art make an inspiration.

CHRIS felt inspired to write this poem for the opening and had these great railway pics on display



38 Artsenta artists put work in our eclectic and colourful group exhibition at The Art Station in March. Even our musicians took part by providing relaxed acoustic musical pauses during the opening. The gallery was alive with a transformed bike wheel, a crucifixion, macro photography and work that represented the range of mediums and subjects explored at Artsenta. Many artists had to bid farewell to their creations as they headed for new homes, one knitted boat even sailed for England. Thanks to everybody who put their work in the show, came and viewed it, and to those who helped our publicity by being photographed and interviewed by the newspaper. Thanks also to DCC Creative Communities whose funding made the exhibition possible.

Adorning a Hospital Corridor

The hospital display is a series of frames lining the Frederick Street Queen Mary entrance to the public hospital. Over the past few months these frames have been home to a collection of Glen Crosswell's colourful abstracts.

Glen and Kalee loaded the panels, each adorning three or four paintings, into the car and headed to the hospital to change the display. As they went about their business (as discretely as possible) there was a lot of interest and encouraging comments from passers by. Glen said putting the work up was a positive experience and that it was great knowing his work was exhibited out in public for a long period of time.

Vanessa Paton's work is up next so we look forward to providing yet another colourful experience to those visiting the hospital over the coming Autumn months.

Artsenta invited glass artist Dee O'Malley to join us during the months of November and December to share her expertise and stimulate our community to explore glass as an art medium. The cover of this edition of WAVE features some of the variety of art her workshops inspired. We explored slumping and casting in the Artsenta kiln as well as brushing up on lead-lighting techniques and glass painting. Thanks Dee we loved having you around.



glass workshops

Mike Brosnan Reviews 'Me and My Friend' by Gillian Plowman featuring our Steve

On Wednesday 2nd of September a group of us from Artsenta attended this play at The Globe Theatre. Our own Steve McNamara played one of the starring roles as one of the four characters in the play, all of whom are recovering from mental illness. In act 1 the plot concerns the two male characters (both recently discharged from the mental hospital to a community care module) talking together trying to get through a make believe interview in preparation for a try at a real appointment.

The two female characters likewise (in act 2) are shown in their community care flat attempting to get their act together to achieve some specific goals in society after release from hospital. In their case they are saving up for an overseas holiday.

In the 3rd and final act the four characters are portrayed at a party in the mensfolk's apartment where everything starts to go horribly wrong. Deep dark secrets are inadvertently revealed, quarrels between the four rear their ugly heads and the play ends with all four in total disaster mode having to face the fact that they probably cannot survive in "normal society" thus their lives are in tatters once again.

Steve McNamara produced a stellar performance which I hope wasn't drawn from real life! All in all a thoroughly enjoyable night out and everyone went home with food for thought about the state of our mental health services.

JILL'S COLUMN

Autumn has arrived and we are making the most of nature's bounty weaving together grasses, flax, leaves and bark. As often happens at Artsenta, activities can be slow to build momentum, but as we become inspired by each others work, one idea leads to another and before we know it, another gem has appeared.

Towards the end of last year staff, board members and artists took a day out from our usual routine to step back, take a look at where we are and make some plans for the future. It was a very productive day and with the help of Rayna Dickson keeping us on track we came away with some clear ideas about promoting Artsenta, trying to ensure that people know what we offer, who can come and how to get started. We cannot assume that people know about us, even though we've been around for so long now.

Following on from these discussions Kalee and I will be going to the Building Bridges Conference in Wellington later this month. Not only will that be an opportunity to tell people about Artsenta, but there will be time for us to learn about other services. We are also going to have the chance to showcase the work of 4 Artsenta artists. This work will be on show at the Michael Fowler Centre.

We have a full complement of staff as we welcomed Kaia back on board. Jacob is studying for the Mental Health Support Workers Certificate this year so he will not be around on Wednesdays.

Stay posted for the early warnings about the 2010 version of Arty-pants.....whatever next !



A treasure from environmental sculpture month: Lois's bowl made from grass and peacock feathers.

Outreach Outreach Outreach

Artsenta has been involved in the usual pot pourri of activity for our Outreach programme. Oamaru has a new venue with a garden which has inspired the creation of some bright new planters. Central Otago recently enjoyed working with bone perspex and beads. Balclutha have been working on a group oil painting which arose out of games of Pictionary! We appreciated the show of support from your group at the Gardens concert complete with purple hats!



Central Otago Outreach group with their bone carvings and beads.

Murray "Leonardo" Smith- On Oil Painting

Murray did a year of sketching before trying oil painting. "I think its easier to express yourself in oils than in pencil. Must be the colour and brush strokes rather than a single line." Murray's paintings and drawings reflect his love of the sea of which he draws plenty of inspiration from the view from his coastal home. He enjoys getting the colours right. "I always wanted to build a substantial boat but have moved away from that. Painting is relaxing and doesn't require much physical effort. . . a good pastime in my retirement."

Murray is currently working on his third oil painting. This one is being used to advertise Artsenta's Monarch trip up the harbour. His first painting sold at the group exhibition in March.



MONDAY MOVIE MATINEE

Our Monday movies continue to be enjoyed with a variety of movies being shown. From musicals to magicals, documentaries and plenty of comedy to start the week with a smile. Snacks are also still provided to enhance your movie experience. Come along and enjoy!

concerts continue to delight us

After three years of in house concerts we celebrated Mental Health Awareness Week last October with a public performance in the sound shell at the Botanic Gardens. This event was a resounding success for the many groups and individuals who took to the stage. Our supporters and general public were treated to a free variety show that for many was a surprise treat to top off the first sunny day for weeks. It was great that you were there to share the day with us.

A huge **THANKYOU** to all the **PERFORMERS** who put so much time and energy into writing, reciting, rehearsing, playing instruments and singing on the day. It takes a lot of courage to get up on stage, let alone perform . . . and everybody did so with great style. Artsenta would like to acknowledge once again the **DCC** and **BOTANIC GARDEN Staff** for giving support to our idea, **The Event Production Company** who provided the technical equipment and sound engineers on the day, **Croque-o-dile** for the yummy muffins and of course our **Creative Arts Trust** who funded this event.

Our performers have continued entertaining us with another concert later in October to celebrate the purchase of our own public address system (P.A.) thanks to funding from **Eureka Trust** and **Community Trust of Otago**. . . Thanks to the team at **The Rock Shop** for your ongoing support. . .

The voices of our bards also helped us to celebrate Christmas, entertained at a lunchtime concert in February and warmed our aural senses at our Making Tracks exhibition opening.



THIEVES ALLEY MARKET STALL IN THE OCTAGON, PITY ABOUT THE RAIN!

Artists and staff got together to produce a great array of 'heritage boxes', handmade soap, soap dishes and some lovely prints to sell at the annual Festival Market day. The day started off well enough and sales were just starting to hot up (one customer bought 6 boxes) when along came the cold southerly wind accompanied by heavy showers. When our gazebo frame started to buckle and collapse in the wind so did we. We decided to pack up about lunchtime. Some brave artists turned up just then to help trudge all the gear back to the car. We managed to make over \$100 all the same and we still have some great artwork packed away safely to sell when the opportunity arises. Thanks to all those who helped especially on the day!

FASHION DESIGNERS RAISE MONEY FOR ARTSENTA

Artsenta is very grateful for an exhibition that took place in iD Fashion week, the proceeds of which were donated to Artsenta. "Fashioned Art" was organised by Amanda Waugh of Waugh's fashion store and Gallery De Novo. 9 fashion designers, who have participated in iD Fashion week, contributed a piece of art work that showed in some way the inspiration behind their design. The works included ironed and shrivelled money and watercolour painting incorporating fabric and beads. The money raised from the exhibition will be used to go on a trip on the Monarch (details in the Newsflash). Huge thanks to Dunedin designers and the organisers.

THE DONATION IS BEING USED TO
CHARTER THE MONARCH,
THANK YOU!!

THE STRIP 2.

Following the success of ARTSENTA'S previous comic book 'THE STRIP,' we decided to release a new version 'THE STRIP 2' There was interest from over 20 different artists including the front cover shown here by Cory Gilliland. The comic was lots of fun and produced many different styles. I hope people had as much fun reading it as we had making it. We look forward to THE STRIP 3 one day.

