

Symphony of Colour

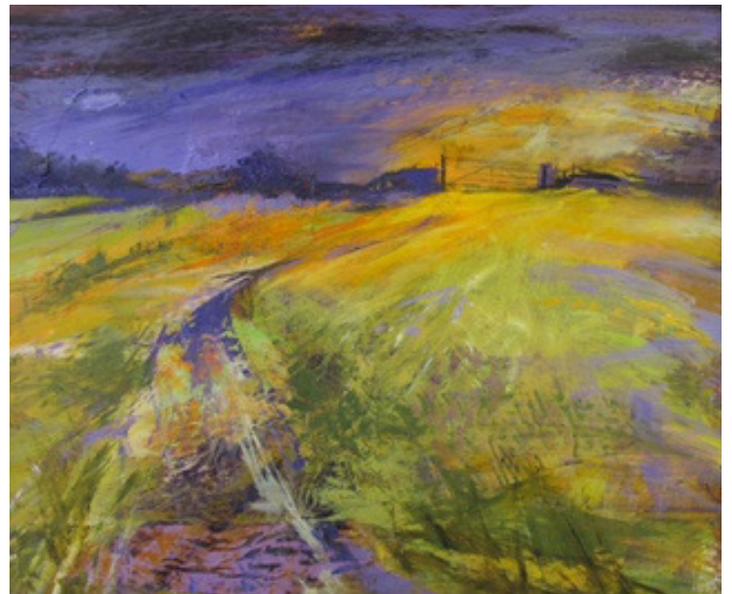
ERICA BROOK welcomes this well chosen exhibition, luxuriating in a symphony of colour, for the dull grey days of England's winters.

A delight in colour, fresh, dramatic, gentle, energising, is the strong connecting factor in our next Gallery exhibition, curated by John Pursaill, a good start to Foxlowe's sixth year!

Juliet Forrest works in stained glass, using traditional



leading techniques to produce pieces for an architectural setting, juxtaposing slabs of glowing colour, sometimes abstract in design, balanced against other work where close observation of natural forms, using kiln-fired stained glass painting allows her to present fine detail in her work. Also a painter, the cross referencing approaches in her two disciplines informs Juliet's work to advantage.



Blue-Tit Roundel, painted glass. Juliet Forrest

Top right: "Those who wish to sing always find a song" Opus 119, Mixed media, 90x80cm. Maggie Robinson



Left: Cutting Back. Janet Mayled

Right: Black porcelain vessel after multiple firings with glazes, slips and precious metals, 18cm tall 16cm diameter. Tony Laverick



Janet Mayled, textile designer by training, uses dyes with more conventional painter's materials which adds intensity to her palette. Her background in textiles is a firm foundation for the paintings she now produces, where landscapes are presented, with a strong consciousness of colour and shape leading the viewer through the picture.

Maggie Robinson uses textured layers of work to build up her landscapes, which combine touches of realism with bold areas of colour creating planes and movements of engaging energy, with complementary colours evoking a fresh rhythmic vibrancy in her work.

Bottom: "A chorus of contentment" Opus 137, mixed media, 74x67cm. Maggie Robinson



Tony Laverick's ceramics, with their sure element of geometric design and dramatic colour sit very well with the two dimensional work in the exhibition. The beautifully modelled shapes of his ceramics first attract in their classic simplicity, and then the surfaces invite exploration of the juxtaposition of shape and colour which suggest different climes from those experienced by the other exhibitors.

This stimulating and engaging exhibition gives opportunities to experience the approaches of four very talented exhibitors, where all the work invites thoughtful consideration about approaches of technique and understanding of the dynamics of form, shape and colour.

Meet the Artists

JULIET FORREST

Saturday 14th January 12noon - 2.30pm

MAGGIE ROBINSON

Saturday 21st January 12noon - 2.30pm

JANET MAYLED

Saturday 28th January 12noon -2.30pm

Symphony of Colour preview Friday 6th January 7-9pm

Exhibition open Wednesday - Saturday 10-4pm

and Totally Locally Sunday 5th February until

Saturday 11th February 2017.

The speakers 'gift' their talks to the Foxlowe, for which we thank them. Admission is free, with a Bucket Collection for the Foxlowe funds, for which we thank you.

Talks Co-ordinator: ERICA BROOK

Wednesday 18 January 7.30pm

Vintage Punk Pike

NICHOLAS FERENCZY

After working as an in-house writer for a London publisher on popular magazines, such as *The Horrible Histories Collection*, Nicholas moved back to the area he grew up, to find a place that looked much the same but that had changed beyond all recognition. Factory apprentices, mythical fish, informal after-school sports, local landmarks and the changing face of the "our" local high street all put in an appearance, as the author uses text and projected drawings and graphics to share experiences of growing up and living in the north-west. Nicholas will give an audio-visual reading performance from his illustrated collection, *Oscar the Pike and other (Potteries) Poems*. (ISBN 9780 992 880378)

Wednesday 15 February 7.30pm

Arthur & Merlin - 3 Steps to Hollywood

PAUL OSBORNE

Paul has worked throughout Eutopre as a senior project manager. He has recently been involved in financing small independent films and in particular, designing new business models for digital markets. Paul found that traditional film marketing was expensive, and not very effective for low budget films. "Fundamentally, the new model I created" Paul explained: "starts with the marketing strategy, defining exactly who we think the audience are and how we will reach them. The model covers all aspects of the film process, and in particular delivers an attractive prospectus for potential film investors."

Wednesday 15 March 7.30pm

Leek's Chocolate Soldier

RICHARD BENEFER & BILL CAWLEY

Local historians Richard and Bill will take you through the story of Ted Hassall, a Leek man serving in the British artillery on the Somme in the First World War, and his war-time correspondence with the Burbidge family from Cornwall. This talk will launch the publication of the *Chocolate Soldier's Letters*.

Wednesday 19 April 7.30pm

Writing Biography - Recovering Past Lives

Katherine Frank PhD
Writer, biographer
and former university
lecturer, Katherine
was born and



educated in the USA. She taught in West Africa in the 1980s while writing her first two books and has lived in Leek since 1991. Her five biographies focused on Mary Kingsley, Emily Bronte, Lucie Duff Gordon, Indira Nehru Gandhi, Crusoe: Daniel Defoe, and Robert Knox and the Creation Myth.

Katherine's talk will explore the history and practice of researching and writing biography, and how and why we seek to recover the experience and stories of those who have gone before us.

Foxlowe Talks



Paul Klee's 'Gaze'

Cover illustration of the Talks leaflet

Simon Edwards
Steve Hammersley
Andy Norton
local voluntary promoters
of up-and-coming
musicians
aka
The Situation



present
Goya
The King's Puzzle
Dreamwave
Eyre Llew
on
FRIDAY 3rd MARCH
Don't miss the first of
the 2017 First Friday
monthly *SITUATIONS*

Above, some of
the creative
wreath makers
and below
right one of
their creations.

Garden News

ALISON McCREA, Foxlowe Garden co-ordinator, reports on the excitement of averting trench warfare and concluding the year with wreath makers.

What devastation – a trench dug across the main Foxlowe lawn, dividing the garden in two and going straight through the wildlife area! Had we not been alerted in advance, there might well have been an irate metaphorical message to the Chair of Trustees, exclaiming "Get your tanks off our lawn, Peter!"

Fortunately, the advance notice allowed us to rescue the plants that lay in the path of the excavator and trench warfare was averted. Now that a drain has been placed in the trench and the soil and turves replaced, it will soon look good again and there should be no further flooding in the carpark. Definitely worth the temporary disruption.

After that excitement, it's been relatively quiet in the garden and we are now getting ready for the next growing season. After I mentioned in the last issue of ST13 that we were looking for a garden shed, film volunteer Sheena Barnes very kindly donated her old one, so that will be installed soon, once we have time to prepare the ground and lay down foundation slabs. Thank you, Sheena, and everyone else who was involved in moving it from the Silk Quarter to the Foxlowe garden. We're looking forward to having our tools in a much more convenient location than the far side of the building.



The final event of the year was our second Christmas wreath workshop, held on Saturday, 17th December. We provided foliage, pine cones, berries and tools, while the participants brought ribbons and



other decorations to create fourteen beautiful wreaths. Very little tuition was required, as they were so creative and inventive, and it turned into a lovely cooperative and social occasion, full of Christmas spirit. With the shorter days, we have moved the gardening sessions to Tuesday afternoons, with plans for some weekend work parties.

If you would like to become involved with the garden or take part in a weekend work party, please contact Alison McCrea (07753 172 564) or e-mail volunteers@foxloweartscentre.org.uk.