



## February 2022 Newsletter

“Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time” Thomas Merton

February	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>17</b>	6.45pm to 8.30pm Live meeting at Bowls Club, AGM, in-house competition with theme ‘Welcome Back.’ Party with snacks provided by BASE and fun quiz by Renee
	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>26</b>	Plein Air outing to Lighthouse Trading next to On The Rocks Restaurant in Blaauwberg. Meet from 8.30am Contact Gayle 0723755657
March	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>17</b>	Live meeting 6.45pm at the Milnerton Bowls club: interactive workshop demonstration by Sandy Duffel-Canham: Abstracting the landscape. Small board provided, bring all other materials for acrylic or oil painting. A vote on the best result will see a participant receiving a Voucher
April	<b>Friday</b>	<b>8</b>	Exhibit at Blouberg Beach Hotel until 8 May (info to follow)
	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>21</b>	Live demo at Bowls club 6.45pm demonstrator TBA

It was lovely to see so many members at our AGM, the atmosphere was like a party with Base providing tasty platters. **1<sup>st</sup> place** for our in-house competition went to **Liz Jones** with her stunning water colour titled “Sunset from Lion’s Head.” **Shaun McCormack’s** “Pipetrack” was voted as **2<sup>nd</sup> place**. Thank you for those who remembered to bring an artwork to participate. Thank you to Renee for the fun quiz: questions to follow, with the answers on the last page of this newsletter.



PLEASE COME TO OUR LIVE meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> of March, start promptly 6.45pm. Sandy Duffel-Canham presents: Abstracting the landscape: **Interactive Workshop/demo** where you will have the opportunity to paint something to take home. We will provide a small primed MDF board for painting with oils or acrylics. Please bring with: paints of choice incl. white + a dark such as black or burnt sienna. Palette or other mixing surface, small rigger and small flat brush, palette knife and any other mark making tools eg. Old credit card, small ruler, toothbrush, toothpicks. Rags, roller towel/toilet paper. Apron. Oil painters: please bring odourless turps and a container for this. Acrylic painters: please bring small water spray bottle. We will be painting flat on the tables but you are welcome to bring a small table easel and your own small table. Plastic bag for rubbish. Any questions? Welcome to contact Sandy 0828028715

We would like to start a BASE WhatsApp group specifically for Broadcasting announcements of BASE events, Plein Air, Meetings and exhibitions, Please let Gayle know via WhatsApp 0723755657 if you are interested, and you will be put on a list. When we have enough interested members a cell contract will be purchased specifically for this. Follow us on Instagram @Blaauwbergartsociety\_

**Exhibitions:** Table Bay Mall have not been forthcoming with dates. The committee are actively following up on other possible exhibit venues, such as local wine estates and other local shopping centres and we will let you know the progress of this as soon as we have feed back. Please contact Glenda 082 222 2820 if you have any other suggestions or contacts in this regard. **Good News:** Glenda has obtained a venue for our next exhibition: **Blouberg Beach Hotel**, dates to diarise: **start Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April to Sunday 9 May**. As soon as we have more information like the number of stands they can accommodate we will let you know.

**Facebook:** Michele Collins, together with Lindsay Tedder will be contacting each of our members to put a short 'blurb' about themselves and images of at least 5-7 of their artworks onto BASE Facebook and Instagram platforms. Individual album's will be created for each member, which can be updated with new artwork in the future. Please make use of this opportunity to promote yourself and our Society. They will contact you in Alphabetical order, with a new member featured every week.

**Plein Air Outing:** Next outing will be to Lighthouse Trading next to On The Rocks Restaurant in Blaauwberg on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> February 8.30am for 9am. Contact Gayle 0723755657 if you would like to join us.

**News:** Cape Painters and Sketchers is a group of like-minded artists who go out plein air painting every Monday. If you would like to join in with this group, please email [sonjafrenz@gmail.com](mailto:sonjafrenz@gmail.com) so that your name can be added to the WhatsApp group. Another WhatsApp group to join: Urban Sketchers, link invitation: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/HBq88D8lVVMLGH0N2F7iye>



**Annual Subs:** Annual fee of R200 ABSA Bank Blaauwberg Art Society Acc: 9238594101 Branch: 632005 with an additional R65 fee for cash deposits. It is best to pay via EFT . A really big drawcard for our society is that we are a member of SANAVA which allows our members to apply to stay at the Cite Internationale des Arts in Paris. Your 2022 membership card will allow you to claim a 5% discount at Creative Atelier, 44 Oxford Street, Durbanville, Art Source in Cape Town and a 10% discount from Deckle Edge, all branches, and the Italian Art Shop in Rondebosch; and Oxfords Garden Centre and Table Bay Mall. 10% discount at Artland: Art Van Go will offer deliveries to BASE members. Any orders are to be emailed to Linda ([linda@artland.co.za](mailto:linda@artland.co.za)) or call 021 671 6001.

**Art Quiz by Renee Morkel for our February 2022 AGM:** just for fun, test your art knowledge (answers on the last page of this newsletter) Art Quiz 2022: Questions:

- 1 What is French artist Matisse's first name? Was it Henry; Edgar or Claude?
- 2 Did Matisse and Picasso know each other? Were they friends, rivals or both?
- 3 True or False: Picasso's mural-sized oil painting on canvas "Guernica", which was a comment on the German bombing of that town, had to be displayed behind bullet-proof glass at the Prada, Madrid in 1981.
- 4 In which country did South African musician and social realism painter Gerard Sekoto spend the last years of his "self-imposed exile".

- 5 Painter and printmaker, Maggie (Maria Magdalena) Laubser is generally considered, along with Irma Stern, to be responsible for the introduction of Expressionism in which country ?
- 6 Which feminist artist painted mainly flowers explaining that: "They sit still and they are cheaper". Was it Georgia O'Keefe; Frida Kahlo or Irma Stern
- 7 French painter Gauguin was addressed as: Peter; Paul or Pierre?
- 8 The surname used by Dutch painter Hieronymus was: Bosch, Blake or Dürer?
- 9 True or False: The intention behind works done by Hieronymus (such as "The Garden of Earthly Delights") was to convey moral and religious values using fantastical imagery. Today his works are seen as a vital precursor to surrealism.
- 10 Who was the most famous Surrealist painter from Spain?
- 11 Which nationality was surrealist painter René Magritte? Was he from France; Belgium or Canada?
- 12 True or false: Was failing eyesight a contributing reason to why French Impressionist Claude Monet worked on an increasingly large scale?
- 13 Which invention is the oldest? oil pastel; soft chalk pastel or wax crayon?
- 14 Which French impressionist became famous for his pastel paintings and is greatly responsible for its transformation from portrait medium into other genres? Was it Edgar Degas; Joseph Turner or Edvard Munch?
- 15 True or false: Consisting of a very high concentration of pigment and held together by the least amount of binder, soft pastel sticks can be described as being "the closest medium one can get to pure pigment".
- 16 Does Sennelier water colour paint contain natural honey; bees wax; gelatin or ox gall.
- 17 What do you call the process of coating watercolour paper with gelatin, to prevent paint from sinking straight into the paper? Is it called sizing or grouting?
- 18 Do all paint manufacturers uniformly use the same name for a paint colour and does it always reflect the actual pigment used?
- 19 Are all pigments used in paint lightfast when exposed to UV rays or do some colours fade in time?
- 20 What types of wood are most popular for the commercial manufacture of natural charcoal sticks? Is it carbonized willow branches, burnt grape vines, or both?
- 21 On what surface was Leonardo da Vinci's "The Last Supper" painted in the late 1490's? Was it painted on wood panel; oil primed linen or fresco/plaster.
- 22 On what surface was Leonardo da Vinci's Mona Lisa painted? Was it painted on wood panel; oil primed linen or fresco/plaster?
- 23 True or False: The different panels of Andy Warhol's "32 Campbell's Soup Cans", done with synthetic polymer paint on canvas in 1962, was initially sold separately. However, they were tracked down and reunited to remain a set - as it pushed up their price value.
- 24 To which art movement did Andy Warhol belong: OP art; POP art or Modernism
- 25 True or false: South African artist Ronnie Biccard, describes her approach to colour as "synesthesia". This is when you experience one of your senses through another. The painting and use of colour must be "almost edible". You must be able to "taste the colours" and "sounds".

**Synopsis for 2021:** Most of our meetings were via Zoom due to Covid restrictions. Our **March 2021 meeting saw Sonja Frenz** giving us a ZOOM presentation. Sonja discussed how to make backgrounds interesting and emphasized the importance of colour mixing. Despite working from photographic references, Sonja left out information that would distract from the composition. She reminded us that "just because it is a photograph, it doesn't mean you HAVE to put it in." Sonja simultaneously worked on the background and foreground, standing back often and checking that the painting did not get overworked. The final outcomes was a harmonious, natural looking still life



During **April Erika van Zyl** gave us a ZOOM presentation of a Still Life in Oils. The plus of the Zoom demonstrations is that we could see demonstrations by artists not residing in Cape Town. Erika took us through all the stages from planning phase where she does a Noton sketch to establish the tonal values, to under painting and finishing touches. She detailed materials and painting process.

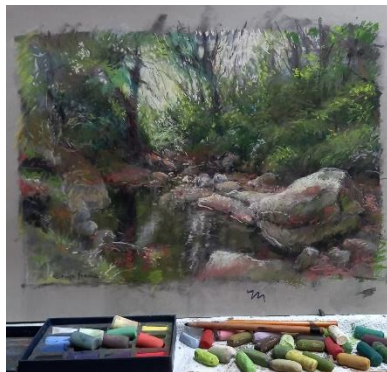


During our **May meeting**, **Glenda Chambers** did a ZOOM demonstration of a still life of Bougainvillea in oils. A simple, harmonious still life with a vase of Bougainvillea was created. On a big, course cotton canvas Glenda freely applied her oil paint with a palette knife in wet-on-wet and impasto techniques. Glenda demonstrated a variety of palette knife handling skills with great speed and confidence. Colour harmony was maintained, by using a limited palette of colours.



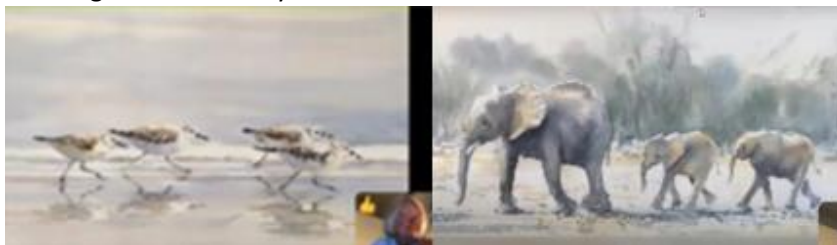
During our **June meeting**, artist **Val Watt** did a pastel drawing ZOOM demonstration. It is felt that soft pastels, is the closest medium one can get to pure pigment. Val shared her considerable knowledge with us from the different types of pastel and substrates that can be used, to a detailed method, step by step, where she created a portrait.

Our **July meeting** saw portrait painter **Elize Bezuidenhout** demonstrated via ZOOM painting a magnified section of a face. Even though her career started off as Graphic designer for approximately 28 years, she always had a passion for fine art. After being retrenched, she filled her new job's smaller income by painting animals. As she got bored with painting animals, she started doing portraits of people. As her very detailed portraits take a long time to do, she demonstrated just one feature of a face, namely, an eye.



For **September** we had a **Charcoal Drawing ZOOM demo** by **Sonja Frenz**. As always Sonja was very thorough in her demonstration, introducing us to the varied materials and how she uses these. She added colour with pastels on top of her finished charcoal drawing.

The **October meeting** we attempted a **LIVE meeting**. **Ronnie Biccard** did an acrylic painting demonstration. The meeting turned into a very entertaining interactive evening. Ronnie's motivation for creating colourful, joyful paintings is that "people always need that around them". Art and creative activities have become Ronnie's passion and her life. Currently Ronnie enjoys the very versatile acrylic paint medium as it suits her short, spontaneous, fast brush strokes which she applies with such confidence and certainty. Being a fast worker, Ronnie was able to demonstrate three different approaches that she uses to start a painting. One of our members purchased 2 of the paintings on the night. Unfortunately, there was such a poor turn out for this live meeting we decided to have the rest of the meetings until February AGM as zoom demonstrations.



At the **November meeting Zoom demo** **Penny Steynor, Watercolour**. She did three quick watercolour demonstrations for Tuesday's evening's zoom demonstration. This included a group of elephants; birds running on the wet beach sand and a vase with Sweet peas. Penny's approach to

watercolour is subtle, delicate, loose, lively and energetic. Instead of complete photorealism, her style captures the essence of what she paints, bringing the objects to life.

**Sonja Frenz 20 January** : art Journaling in sketch books: She introduced us to her many sketch books and discussed different approaches to Art Journaling. She shared her traveling kit and what motivates her. How to find the time to draw and what to draw. She has tried a set approach with a specific theme and also the freedom of just drawing what is in front of her, trying to capture the atmosphere rather than a literal image.



BASE only managed to organize 1 **exhibition** during 2021, as our venue at Table Bay Mall was used for Covid Vaccinations . This exhibit saw the opportunity for you as members to send a photo of your artwork so that an individualized digital poster could be designed and then printed to stick onto your car window. Our exhibition held from the **23 April to 30 May at the Table Bay Mall** had 27 participants of which 11 artists sold 26 works to the value of R16 085.11

The committee are actively continuing to look for more venues this year Base were privileged to be invited to take part in the SASA art in the park at Rondebosch Park last year.

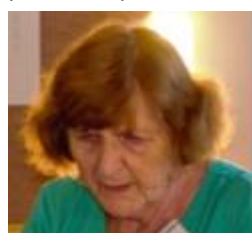
Our Plein Air outings during the year included outings to Montebello in January, 13 February: Mouillepoint



Lighthouse, March 13 Arderne Gardens in Claremont, 10 April Biodiversity Gardens in Green Point, 22 May Onse Huisie Blaauwberg, 12 June, Pink Geraium Nursery near Paarl. 11 September: Majik Forest – public gardens in Durbanville area. 9 October: Biodiversity Gardens in Green Point. 11 December outing to Toeka Store at Domaine Brahms wine farm, Agter Paarl area.

A special thank you to those members that formed part of the committee for 2021 and who are all prepared to remain on the committee for 2022.

**Lynn Douglass**- our secretary and treasurer, who keeps Minutes at the committee meetings, and is responsible for banking, balance sheets, verifying deposits and annual financial statements. She also updates the membership data base and sends correspondence to the portfolio person



**Vera Van Der Molen**- our librarian who catalogues, keeps records of library books and DVD's. Purchases new and mans the library at meetings And

**Renee Morkel**, who helps Vera with the library cataloguing onto an Xcell spreadsheet and running of library at monthly meetings. She also compiled the fun group quiz after our AGM proceedings. Also helping write up the articles on the demonstrations included in the newsletter.



**Glenda Chambers** has been an indispensable help with our ZOOM demonstrations and is also our data base and correspondence person.

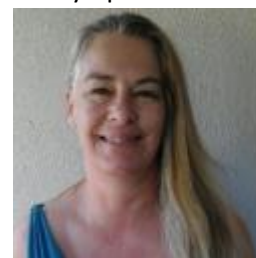
Glenda is our exhibitions coordinator who negotiates with the venue contact, sets up paperwork and together with helpers sets up our exhibitions, delegates duties during intake of paintings, organizes portfolio bag, money box to be stored, takes photos of the work and makes sure that the artists are contacted when work is sold so replacements can be hung.

**Lindsay Tedder** together with **Michele Collins** who posts on Facebook and Instagram events such as meetings, exhibitions and how-to info at least once a month. Michele is also prepared to put onto Facebook an album for you the member; if you are interested email her photos of your art: [petportraitsbymichele@telkomsa.net](mailto:petportraitsbymichele@telkomsa.net). They continuously update our website with new info and photos if possible. Lindsay also transports our stands to and from exhibitions.



**Gayle Gerber**, as president her duties include chairing committee meetings, announcements at monthly

meetings, compiling the newsletter, organizing demonstrators, advertising our meetings in local newspapers and on radio and designing and printing posters for our exhibitions.



### Quiz Answers:

1. Henri Émile Benoît Matisse
2. Both friends and rivals. They enjoyed each other's company, especially the many heated conversations when Picasso visited Matisse at his Villa and studio in the French Riviera.
3. True
4. France
5. South Africa
6. Georgia O'Keeffe
7. Paul (Birth names is Eugène Henri Paul Gauguin)
8. Bosch (born as Jheronimus van Aken)
9. True
10. Salvador Dalí
11. Belgium
12. True
13. Soft Pastels
14. Edgar Degas
15. True
16. Honey – it allows high pigment loads and contributes to smooth washes
17. Sizing
18. No: the exact pigment used is usually listed in the small print on the container.
19. Not all colours are lightfast, such as Alizarin Crimson. Some colours fade slightly and some fade entirely. However, some colours are extremely permanent, such as chrome green.
20. Both: Willow Charcoal (Sennelier, Coates) is darker and produces a range of tones. Vine Charcoal (Grumbacher) is slightly harder and comes in shades of grey.
21. It is a huge fresco 4.6 meters high by 8.8 meters wide
22. Wood panel
23. True
24. POP art (referring to popular culture and mass media)
25. True