



NEWSLETTER

From the President's Desk

Happy New Year, or whatever your celebration may be. Welcome to 2024 and an exciting year ahead with upcoming Exhibitions and Workshops.

I hope everyone has had a peaceful break with family and friends. We held our Annual General Meeting on Sunday, 10th December, where we welcomed two new Committee Members, Julie Slade and Jyothi Mohan. We thanked our Inaugural Member and Secretary, Fiona Nicholson Stocker, for her tireless work over nearly eight years. We wish her well in her new endeavors, and we will see her around, just as a member, which will be wonderful. We also thank Fiona's daughter, Alison, who has grown up around us and has helped with the first few editions of the Newsletter.

We are fortunate to have an amazing line up of artists who are willing to share their skills at our monthly workshops. Pratibha Madan does an exemplary job of coordinating the exhibitions and workshops, but I am sure she could use some assistance.

We look forward to seeing you all at our upcoming Exhibitions.

That's all for now,
Felicity Smith OAM JP
President MONCAS Inc.



Acknowledgment of Country

MONCAS acknowledges the Traditional Owners of this land, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong People, and recognises their continuing connection to the land and waterways. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging and extend this to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.

DIARY DATES WITH MONCAS

3 Feb 2024

'Creating Textures with Plaster'
Art Connect session
with Laila Tabassum

21 Feb - 3 Mar 2024

'AWAKENING'
Solo Art Exhibition
Sandhya Padma

22 Feb 2024

'MONCAS Online Meetup'
(Topic TBA)

2 Mar 2024

'Jesmonite Casting'
Art Connect session
with Renu Tiwary

OUR LINKS:

www.moncas.org.au

www.facebook.com/thetrackgallery

www.instagram.com/moncas_thetrackgallery

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In the October Art Connect session, artist Rahila Zeeshan led 'Expression with Nature,' a workshop exploring unconventional painting with elements like twigs, sticks, leaves, using ink as the medium. Participants embraced the ever-changing forms of nature, finding joy in the creative process. The session catered to both creative individuals and those seeking relaxation and appreciation of art.



ART CONNECT MONTHLY SESSIONS

The Art Connect project, supported by the City of Monash, offers a range of engaging art sessions and workshops that are open to the public and are held on the first Saturday of each month at the Craft Room in Mount Waverley Community Centre.

MONCAS is inviting expressions of interest from all our members to facilitate one of the monthly Art Connect sessions. Kindly email us your proposal with the theme and preferred dates (6th April/1st June 2024)



December's Art Connect session featured the captivating talent of artist Ratiphan Bunthanorm, specializing in Collage techniques. With a focus on reverse collages on glass, she brought vibrancy to her art through magazine cutouts and upcycled materials. Participants delved into the creative process, discovering the unique and engaging world of collage art, creating beautiful pieces on the upcycled glass containers.

January Art Connect session was led by Chris Hutchinson, exploring the techniques of mosaic with glass. Due to the nature of workshop, bookings were essential to participate in this session.

MONCAS ONLINE MEETUP

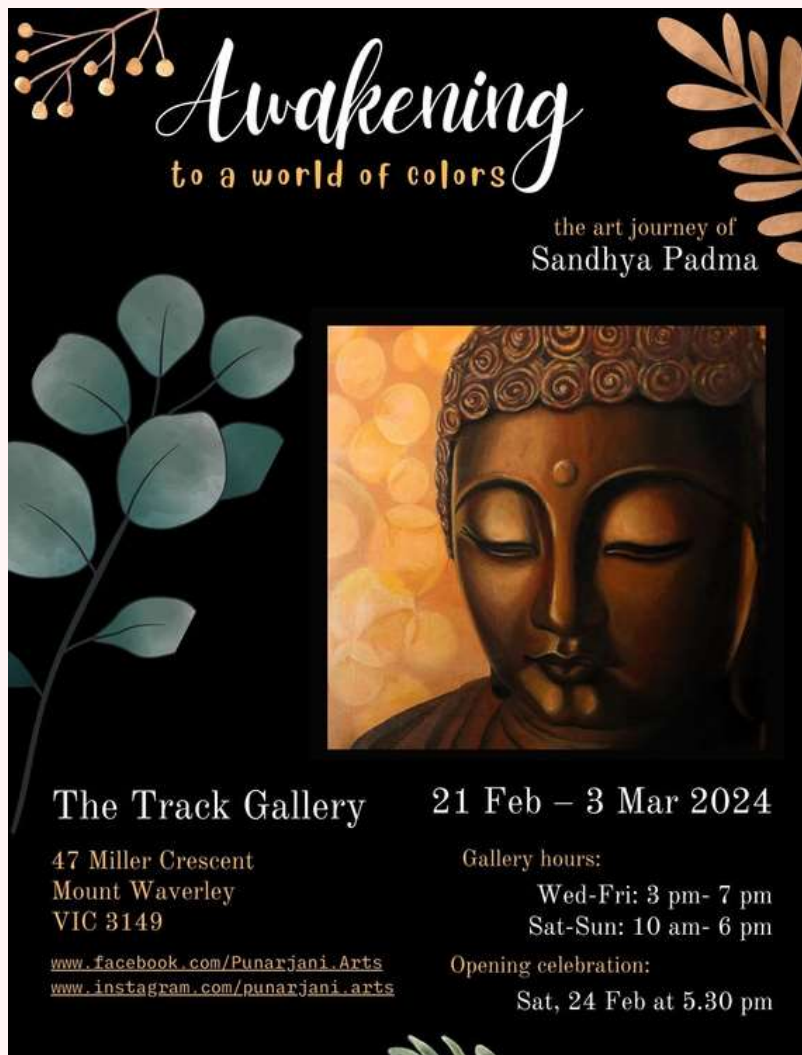
The MONCAS Online Meetup will take place on Thursday, 22 February, during which we will connect with our member artists to discuss a common topic. Further information regarding the discussion topic and the session's timing will be provided via email. A Zoom link will be shared once a member confirms their participation. These online discussions aim to inspire, troubleshoot, or share guidance and are not intended to provide legal conclusions or advice.

MONCAS Auspice Upcoming Exhibition

Embark on a visual journey with "**Awakening**," the inaugural solo art exhibition by our talented member artist **Sandhya Padma**.

Showcasing a captivating fusion of oil and acrylic paintings, this collection unveils Sandhya's artistic evolution over the past few years. From cultural and religious depictions to mesmerizing portraits, still life, and wildlife creations, 'Awakening' encapsulates the artist's diverse themes. Each canvas is a vibrant testament to her mind and soul, offering a harmonious blend of brightness and tranquility. Sandhya's deep connection to her Indian roots shines through in every stroke, reflecting the richness of her upbringing, culture, and tradition. Join us in celebrating the colorful and mystical world of 'Awakening to a World of Colors' starting 21 Feb.

Opening Celebrations:
Saturday, 24 Feb
5:30pm



Awakening
to a world of colors

the art journey of
Sandhya Padma

The Track Gallery 21 Feb – 3 Mar 2024

47 Miller Crescent
Mount Waverley
VIC 3149

Gallery hours:
Wed-Fri: 3 pm- 7 pm
Sat-Sun: 10 am- 6 pm

Opening celebration:
Sat, 24 Feb at 5.30 pm

www.facebook.com/Punarjani.Arts
www.instagram.com/punarjani.arts

Snapshots from our past Exhibitions

The 'Art by Marcelle' exhibition opening drew a vibrant crowd, celebrating Marcelle's artistic journey spanning nearly five decades. The event showcased a diverse collection, seamlessly blending monochrome and vibrant works. Attendees experienced the evolution of Marcelle's artistic expression, reflecting the artist's rich and dynamic career. The exhibition captivated visitors with its unique fusion of styles, offering a glimpse into the profound and enduring impact of Marcelle's artistic legacy.



The 'Festive Gifts 2023' exhibition, inaugurated by representatives from Community Bank Pinewood—Director Thomas Pewtress and Paul Lai—proved to be a resounding success.

Twelve skilled members of MONCAS, including artists and crafters, were joined by members from Wavlink Inc., showcasing a stunning array of handmade gifts. Wavlink Inc. joining us as a MONCAS member exemplified the spirit of community. Attendees reveled in the festive atmosphere, spreading holiday cheer and celebrating the talents of local artisans. The exhibition not only provided a platform for local artists but also strengthened community connections, making it a memorable and impactful festive affair.

More Snapshots from Festive Gifts 2023



Other Exhibitions at The Track Gallery

The list of exhibitions is sourced from The Track Gallery calendar on City of Monash website. If you need more information about a specific exhibition, you can contact the respective groups/ individuals involved.

24 Jan - 4 Feb 2024 :

Ash Khiani

Exhibition of Artworks by Ash Khiani and her Students

7 Feb - 18 Feb 2024:

Wenxin Community Art Academy

Traditional Chinese Ink Paintings and Chinese Calligraphy Exhibition



Out and About on our Local Trail

Civic Gallery at the Civic Centre, Glen Waverley is currently showing its first exhibition 'THE OBSERVER' by Florence Wang. The exhibition is open until 29 February 2024. City of Monash is seeking EOIs from artists or artist collectives to loan works for display at Civic Gallery. Details available at www.monash.vic.gov.au/civic-gallery.

Lineup of upcoming exhibitions and events at Museum of Australian Photography can be checked out at <https://maph.org.au/>

Once an ordinary pedestrian path, is now transformed into a creative community gallery in our local Monash neighbourhood. Do you know where this fun, vibrant, community art Laneway is located?

Answers to the Fun Fact Quiz from the last edition:

Did you find "The Stilt Walker" sculpture? If not, it is located in front of Mulgrave's Wellington Reserve Community Centre



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