

Media Release: “Caring for our Planet”

13th Solar Art Prize: 9 – 28 April 2022 – RSASA Gallery

Winners Announced: Overall Prizes \$66,000



Climate change, nature and the environment; expressed through landscapes, seascapes, wild fauna or flora or environmentally aware people or thought-provoking images.

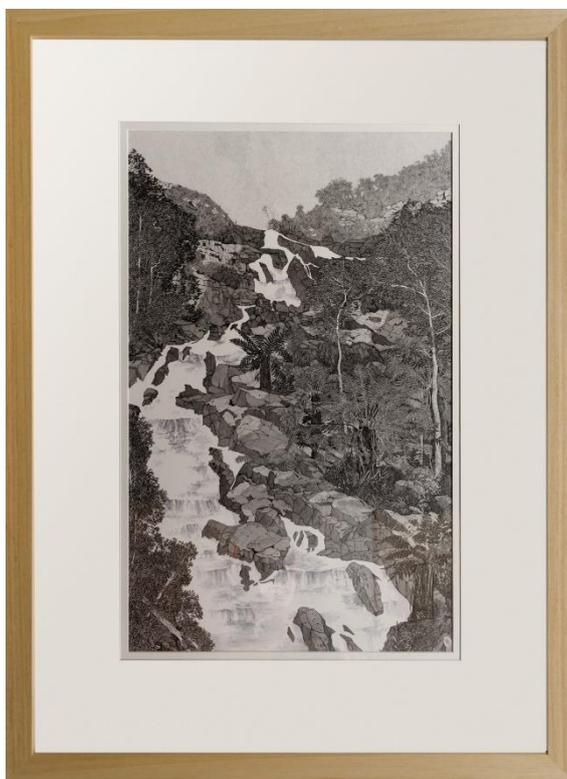
Winners receive **Natural Technology Systems**, **Prospect vouchers** towards the purchase of Solar Q Cell Panels/solar hot water/battery/refrigerator (low power)/ composting toilet /or solar pool pump - Winners choice - All fully installed.
Prizes are transferrable to family or friends in SA.

Overall Prize – Winner:

Mirjana Dobson – A Whiter Shade,
porcelain/slip/lustre 10x60x40
\$1,950

**\$9,000 voucher for Natural
Technology Systems, Prospect
or \$500 cash Plus 1 year RSASA
membership**

All other prizes have \$100 cash alternative



**2nd Overall Prize – David Braun – A
Stream run through it,** pen drawing with
watercolour 93 x 65cm
**\$5,000 voucher for Natural Technology
Systems**

**NATURAL TECHNOLOGY PRIZE – \$5,000
voucher**

Wild nature. Beauty of
the natural
environment.

**Winner: Suzie
Fewell, Disappearing
Landscape: Yellow
Mountains,** digital
photo 56.5 x 56.5cm



Section Prizes – Vouchers for \$4,000 each with Natural Technology Systems

Sec 1. Climate Change –

a) results and causes. **Winner:** Janet Makaev, *Land clearing:-the death of trees*, graphite on paper, 98 x 68cm

b) People who harm the environment (Caricatures - Satire highlighting social or community Irresponsibility).

Winner: Dan Withey, *Steering the environment*,

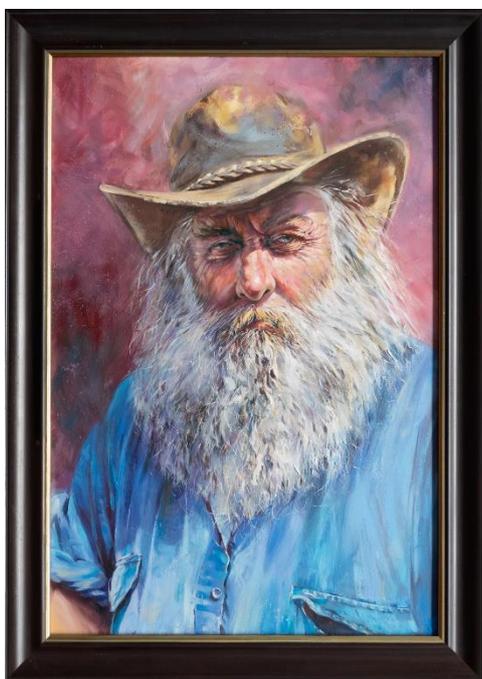


acrylic on canvas,
90 x 120cm



Sec. 2– People who help the environment.

a) People in action – **Winner:** Peter Noble, *How Dare You*, oil, 76 x 61cm (Greta Thunberg)



b) Life portraits of those who take responsible action for combatting climate change-

taken from life, not accessed through the net unless we are again 'shut down'.

Winner: Paul Whitehead, *The Organic man – (Ian - An organic farmer)*, oil, 70 x 90cm



Sec 3 - Natural Environment - Endangered or threatened fauna or flora (ideally in their natural environment)

Winner: Kate Lewis, *Introvert*, acrylic on wooden artist panel, 66.5 x 66.5cm



Material Prizes - \$3,000 vouchers each for Natural Technology Systems. -

a) oil/acrylic **Winner:** Terry MacDermot, *Blah Blah Blah*, mixed media, 54 x 103cm



b) encaustic/mixed media. **Winner:** Bev Bills, *The sky is the limit*, encaustic, 40 x 50cm



c) works on paper
w/c & pastel & print
& drawing.

Winner:
Diana Bradshaw,
Life Within,
watercolour &
pastel, 105 x 84cm



d) photography, videos & installations.

Winner: Mark Standerwick, *Progress*, photography 30 x 80cm



e) textiles/3D/ recycled/books & others **Winner:** Zara Zannettino, *Absurd Birds*, textile, 53 x 153cm



Aussie Sanctuary Prize: Winner: Margaret Thomas for her two works – *Steve Wright – 1000 Trees m.m.gum leaf*, watercolour, 60 x 47cm & *There's plenty more plastic in the sea* m.m. 160 x 67



3 Merits - \$3,000 vouchers each for NTS. - (at the judges' discretion)

Carol Bann: *Dry River Bed*, coloured pencil, 69 x 86cm

Tricia Ross: *Vanitas for a changing world*, wet plate collodian photography, 41 x 35.5cm

Hadley Johnson: *Housing Crisis*, clay & found rubbish (on net)

Honorary Mentions:

Janet Makaev: *Down at the dam: pobble book spawn*, gilee print 70 x 50cm

Paul Whitehead: *Climate refugees*, photography, 40 x 120cm

JUDGES: -Janet Ayliffe – artist & teacher, Rod Bax – artist & teacher, Megan Roodenrys – artist & teacher

GUEST SPEAKER at opening Saturday 9th April :- Professor Bronwyn Gillanders – Marine scientist – information relating to speech to be provided.



RSASA

Where: RSASA Gallery, Level 1, Institute Building, Cnr North Tce & Kintore Ave, Adelaide.

Contact: Philippa Fletcher

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Photographs by Victoria & Alex Yurkova.

HOW WE CAN

CHALLENGE CLIMATE CHANGE

Looking on the positives *“..if emissions are slashed then temperatures will stop rising in a decade or two and the increases in deadly extreme events will be strongly limited.” ...*

BUT ... “If emissions do not fall in the next couple of decades, then 3C of heating looks likely – a catastrophe. And if they don’t fall at all, the report says, then we are on track for 4C to 5C which is apocalypse territory.” Damien Carrington environmental editor p16 The Guardian Weekly 13 Aug 2021

The 2050 goal of 1.5°C a distant memory – possibly valid 20 or 30 years ago - instead we redoubled emissions. Temperatures at the poles have passed this, permafrost & glaciers are melting. Were we so anxious not to be the last making a profit from fossil fuels, enjoying our boundless travel & over consumption too much to be responsible or were we just gullible, accepting the misinformation put out by fossil fuel companies? **Already at our current greenhouse gas levels we have species extermination, rising temperatures, resulting floods, fires, droughts, famines, water shortages, melting icecaps & resulting wars & refugees - do we need any further proof?**

EVERY POSSIBLE ACTION WE CAN TAKE, WE MUST TAKE, to achieve a sustainable level of emissions BY 2030 AS SCIENCE IS NOW SAYING IT MUST BE.

a few suggestions-

Put the world on a climate war footing.

1 **EDUCATE** the public, industry and the politicians. Prioritise climate change for public, government and business. Train our own workforce. Educate women worldwide to reduce family size.

2. **PLANS** – Give responsibility to CSIRO and THE CLIMATE COUNCIL to plan & advise all Government departments in Environmental matters. Adopt the world’s best practices as a **minimum** requirement.

3. **CUT EMISSIONS.** - Close all coal mines in stages by 2025 & replace gas extraction with green hydrogen which can also be exported.

Change to electric or hydrogen vehicles including an enlarged cheaper public transport with suburban parking hubs. No new fossil fuelled vehicles registered after 2025. Adapt these to green energy or recycle them. The RAA is putting in power outlets SA state wide. New trackless trains are used overseas

Unless aviation & ocean liners run on e-fuels, stop tourism & air-freight on luxuries. Until then, tour booking & advertising should advise passengers of their emissions responsibility.

Tax plastic production.

Tighten building & planning regulations & reduce demolitions & increase length of guarantees on both products & buildings. Stop land clearing, plant trees instead.

Produce steel & concrete with green energy; value add on site to also reduce transport emissions

Bit coin & the net also use massive amounts of power.

Parallel to this:- Scale up sustainable 'green' energy & interstate grid connections with solar, wind, hydrogen & batteries etc., to replace fossil fuels while encouraging alternative industries with incentives to replace carbon intensive jobs for more environmentally friendly work.

12 off shore wind farms planned around Australia.

Companies have wanted to start up EV car companies; but need government policy changes.

Local value adding instead of exporting raw materials (eg wool & cotton) then reimporting them. Advances in robotics make this possible. Change funding prioritises away from space & luxuries back to basics.

Build safe separate networks of bicycle tracks with better public transport to reduce car use..

Establish much more seaweed farming. (Could it be produced with vertical farming sheds, closer to its market?). Make it mandatory that sheep & cattle farmers reduce methane production – by both breeding, special plant propagation & feeding seaweeds to their stock.

As individuals - reduce consumerism, buy local, mend if possible, insulate houses, be carbon neutral.

4. DRAW-DOWN OR DECARBONISATION of the atmospheric green-house gasses is vital.

Technical means of withdrawing CO₂ from the atmosphere to produce energy (in development) needs to become economically viable. Trees, mangroves, algae, burying charred wood & changing agricultural practices, including feeding cattle seaweed to reduce methane are some more of the measures needed to avoid calamity.

A CHALLENGE, NOT HEDONISM, BUT NOT LOCKDOWN EITHER

CARBON CHART -

Sustainable Aim -1 ton(1000kg) CO₂e(CO₂equivalent)/person/year based on the world's ability to absorb CO₂

The world as a whole is emitting far, far more than it can reabsorb raising atmospheric CO₂ every year. Australia with only 0.33% of the world's population is currently emitting 1.3% of this or about 3.6% when including our coal exports, overseas travel & transport.

Electricity –

Power generated from wind, concentrated solar power(CSP), wave, tidal, hydro, pumped hydro, geothermal, methane, hydrogen, battery, thorium and nuclear* is free after the construction emissions of plants and equipment has been met, (this takes about a year for solar & wind).

Transport – Flying -

Australia to Europe return is approx. 3tonnes CO₂e /person.

More CO₂e emissions are created by flying than driving on land with the same amount of fuel.

Driving – 4WD/large cars = kilometres x 0.274 =kg CO₂e (need a number of passengers to be efficient) hybrids/small cars = kilometres x 0.128 =kg CO₂e, (electric depends on the power source) train = kilometres x 0.053 =kg CO₂e
bus/coach = kilometres x 0.03 =kg CO₂e

Boats – efficiencies vary, **sail is free**, (after their construction emissions have been met). but **motor** boats are not.

Cruise ships however emit a great deal. (A 10 day tour from Broome to Darwin in a relatively small cruise ship, used 60,000litres of fuel with 60 people including crew aboard).

Consumerism – the power used in production & transport must be accounted for - local or imported.

Coal mining & oil drilling – We share responsibility for their emissions, where ever it is used.

Methane is produced in low oxygen rotting matter – as in poorly maintained rubbish dumps (especially if waste food is included), the stomachs of sheep & cattle (research is finding ways to reduce this), heath swamps and from the Tundra where gas is being released as the covering ice thaws.

It takes methane less time to decompose in the atmosphere than CO₂ but it is a more powerful greenhouse gas.

SOME INTERESTING FACTS (approximations)

Deforestation/ hectare (fire, logging) = 500 tonnes CO₂e (a hectare =100mx100m, 100hectares = 1² Km)

Cement 1 Kg = 710g CO₂e (1,000g = 1Kg - 1,000kg = 1tonne)

Computer laptop = 12g CO₂e /hour (200Kg CO₂e built in cost) Smart phones and the net? Huge

Coal power 1KWh = 1kg CO₂eSpace shuttle flight = 4,600 tonnes CO₂e

Australia's aluminium production (bauxite smelting to alumina then to aluminium) uses..? Too Much!

The internet use of power is huge; though we don't see it in our power bills. All those connections & checks use massive banks of computers usually in cold northern countries to aid cooling. Bit coin is a disaster.

***In 2012 it was suggested the world could absorb 10 billion tonnes CO₂e per year (however this would have reduced with deforestation, kelp forest & mangrove destruction and warming seas); with world population fast going towards 9 billion people this allows approximately 1tonne CO₂e per person to reach sustainability. Every year we delay decreases the gap we must strive to achieve sustainability.**

By Pip Fletcher

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Previous Solar Art Prize Winners

2010 - 1st Solar Art Prize – Jack Briner ‘Just a drop in the Ocean’

2011 - 1st Solar Art Prize – Hans Koppan ‘Salisbury Wetlands’

2012 - 1st Solar Art Prize – Uta Mooney ‘On the Edge’

2013 - 1st Solar Art Prize – Peter Noble ‘Danger Zone’

2014 - 1st Solar Art Prize – Frey’ Micklethwait ‘Homin – ID’

2015 - 1st Solar Art Prize – Daniel Hurditch ‘Earth Patterns’

2016 - 1st Solar Art Prize – Babs Sinclair ‘Channel Country’

2017 - 1st Solar Art Prize – Janet Ayliffe ‘Banded Stilts’

2018 - 1st Solar Art Prize - Miriam Dobson ‘Synthetic Organisms’

2019 - 1st Solar Art Prize – David Braun ‘Rocky Top - Mt Lofty Ranges’

2020 - 1st Solar Art Prize – Terry McDermot ‘The Deep Shadow of Ocean Drilling’

2021 - 1st Solar Art Prize – Elizabeth Doidge ‘Man leaving the Land wearing a hat’

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