

## Whitehorse Arts Association





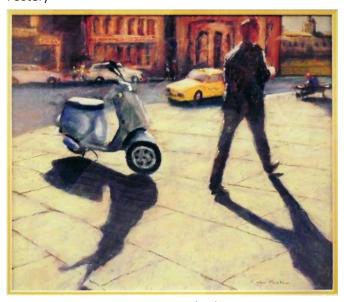
## **NEWSLETTER**

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## BOX HILL ART GROUP/WHITEHORSE ARTS ASSOCIATION ART SHOW 19TH OCTOBER TO 21ST OCTOBER 2018

WAA were the guests of BHAG at their annual combined art show at Box Hill Town Hall. It was a major event with 212 art works from 50 artists. The range of subjects, styles and media was diverse and the standard very high for a suburban art group. Judge, Mike Kowalski, a famous American professional artist, gave personalised comments to each prize winner. He focused less on the artistic skills displayed and more on the way the art works spoke to him, more on his response than on the technical ability or expertise displayed. Maybe a bit disconcerting for some who know they are good, but OK to me. We know who the stars are, already. Why should they win all the time? WAA members were delighted to see our Secretary, Col Foster's work, chosen as "Best in Show". The thing Mike responded to was the sense of mystery in Col's picture. Where was the man going, to do what? Was it his motor-scooter? In discussion around it, various people had different scenarios to offer.

Some of Mike's comments included: Best In Show (Col Foster)



Spring Street Shadows

"This intriguing little piece is really fun to look at. The technique is very good. A bit of roughness in the line which is very appealing. There is a strange dialogue going on between the scooter and the man, who is depicted with just the right amount of detail to make him an individual being and not a generic figure. The subjects mirror each other, with shadows in different directions. Where is that man headed? The yellow car/taxi adds a bit of colourful relief and almost a comic element to the

painting which I could look at and think about for hours .... And isn't that what we want to do in our paintings?" He had this to say about Eric Harvey's portrait of his son Chris:



Chris

"To me a portrait should have something alive about it. As artists I feel we should aspire to capture spirit and personality that beyond a goes likeness. I instantly comfortable felt with this fellow and would happy to grab a beer with him at the local pub with

him. Very positive energy comes from this painting. Well done".

He had this to say about Rosemary Price's "Portrait of Jon".

"Drawing from life is a lovely way to get to know your subject. I enjoyed all four drawings by Rosemary but felt this one struck a nice balance between strong character depiction and delicacy. At times, the pencil lines bounced around the figure in a very personable way. The



Portrait of Jon

variation of pencil line work is quite lovely as well."

 continued from page 1

It was a major undertaking for BHAG. The men, Eric, Jim, Ray, Robin and others put up the stands and extra lighting whilst the women hung the show, making decisions as to groupings by theme and style. It took a full day to set it up and judge it, but only half an hour to get it down. WAA had a few helpers, but not enough. In my speech on behalf of WAA, I said, "It is a bit of a oneway deal, they do the work and we get to show our art". Let's do better next year.



