

As President of the Friends SASA, on behalf of the Board, I too welcome our distinguished guests, artists, members of Friends of the South Australian School of Art, and visitors- welcome to this our "Second of the Friends" exhibition.

This is our second show-you no doubt will agree with me –“**brimming with first-rate work**” -a highly competitive selected exhibition, where we have been generously supported by our sponsors.

My main task this evening is to thank our SPONSORS

However before I do this I would like to take this opportunity to say a few words in public about our former Patron Dr Kym Bonython. As we all know Kym passed away on 19th **March** 2011-many of the Friends members attended the funeral and have read the eulogy posted on our website presented by the Premier Mr Mike Rann and made available through his office.

Kym always attended our functions-he will be sadly missed-he loved coming to openings of art exhibitions and said to me on a number of occasions the South Australian School of Art has produced over its fine long history in SA, many great artists, who have and are still making a valuable contribution nationally and international. To Chris Bonython, Nicole and family we extend our condolences and know Friends SASA will continue a strong relationship with the Bonython Family in the future because of what Kym started with us from the beginning of our organization.

I have already had discussions with Karen Holthouse Sponsorship Manager of the Royal Adelaide Show for continuing the Kym Bonython Encouragement Award for Artists aged 18 to 25, with sponsorship from Pro-lab Imaging, at this years Art Purchase exhibition at the Adelaide Show in September 2011.

Just to illustrate what value our organization brings to our history in SA - in 1979 Margie Hooper won the Kym Bonython Prize for painting-she is exhibiting here today. In March 2011 Nina Rupena a recent graduate of the SASA won the 1st prize of \$5000 for her works on paper at the Brunswick Street Gallery in Victoria.

Making a difference-

To add to our positive claim of making a difference to the artistic work of our society the Board would like you to know that over 100 of our members have now exhibited with our organization in a variety of venues in SA. A number of our members exhibit a number of times each year in group or individual shows in many different venues which we support in a variety of ways.

One particular venue that the Minister would be interested to hear about- in the past 12 months -4 shows have been staged at the Regency Medical Clinic with the support of the Administration, Partners, Doctors nurses and patients- these shows have made a valuable contribution to not only the aesthetics of the clinic, but to the environment and well being of many who work there and visit as patients.

We have had a barrage of positive comments and succeeded in some sales of works. Maybe Minister we can embark on a similar venture with the aesthetics, the environment of the new Adelaide Hospital being built so close to the South Australian School of Art at the Unisa.

Currently Hugh Adamson has his work showing at the Regency Medical Clinic until 16th April, to be followed by Board member Brian Budgen's show later this year.

Now to the main purpose of my standing here.-

TO THANK OUR SPONSORS

1. It is pleasing to be able to inform you that The Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre at UNISA is a sponsor, generously supporting the "Second of the Friends" exhibition. Through Dr Elizabeth Ho, the Director and Louise Carnell, Project Officer, they have kindly continued their support. The Hawke Centre originally contributed to and kindly supported the first exhibition, which was successfully held in September/October 2009 at the Kerry Packer Civic Gallery at Unisa.
2. Mr Chris Waples, Director of Barton's Chartered Accountants & Wealth Advisors, has continued his company's support for this year's exhibition,
3. Sam Hill -Smith as director of the Hill Smith Gallery has been generous as always to our Friends Board,

4. Sonja Fantozzi, Director at Pimlott Framing,
5. Clive Mungovan, Director at Premier Art Supplies,
6. Tim and Amanda Russell of Tim Russell Constructions
7. The Real Distributor. (Thankyou to the Condous boys)
8. We are also grateful this year for the support of the Marketing and Development Unit of Unisa, as well as the School of Art, Architecture and Design incorporating the South Australian School of Art and the Louis Laybourne Smith School of Architecture and Design.
9. Support also has come from Pro-Lab Imaging in a variety of ways.
10. To Michael Scarpantoni for his continued generous support throughout the year.
10. A further generous offer was made by Desk Top Publishing, printing the invitation for the show designed by Board member Yvonne East, a 2000 Graduate of SASA

Without our sponsors (financial or material assistance) we would not be able to stage this show. Thankyou to all our generous Sponsors from the Board of the Friends and members of the South Australian School of Art.

Thankyou and presentations

As we all know a show like this doesn't come about overnight-a lot of hard work and planning occurs. You will agree this show is wonderfully Curated by Board Member Gloria Goddard, working hard over the past 5 months, with a team of dedicated members. This exhibition is on display until 26th May 2011, has all been done, together with the support and assistance of the staff of the Adelaide Festival Centre. I thank the staff here for their assistance in the presentation of the 32 art works.

I have the pleasure to make a few presentations on behalf of the Board of Friends of the SASA.

I would like to present gifts to;

Philippa Robert

Alison Main

Tony Jeffrey

Kon Heyer
Yvonne East
and to the Curator Gloria Goddard.

Lastly

HOW CAN YOU HELP FRIENDS SASA?

We wish to continue our scholarship program in the future for students studying at SASA/Unisa and a variety of important projects in the future. Profits made by sale of works will assist us continue the Prize and Travel Scholarship (valued at \$2500)- in the future.

How-we hope you will buy works-please see Garrie , our Treasurer, Bente our Secretary with Lois Turner or Pamela Smith for any sales. We hope you will assist us by inviting others to come visit our exhibition at this major venue of Adelaide. No doubt we have added a lot of colour and flavour this year to this great venue.

We hope like you, a number of people will visit, buy the work and write their comments in our visitor's book-we want all to enjoy what we have presented for you.

If you wish to know more about Friends SASA I encourage you to take a membership form and visit our web site that has had over 150,000 hits since its start.

To make this evening even more entertaining we have a lucky prize kindly donated by Premier Art Supplies. (Jack Select spot at random and present gift.)

Thankyou for your attendance -this concludes our formalities.

Thankyou - enjoy the exhibition.
