



THE ART SPACE

NEWSLETTER

The Art Space online!

While the Art Space is closed, we are working on having a dynamic online presence, starting by showcasing some of the work completed for *Burnt*. We will be exhibiting these items for sale on Facebook, Instagram and our web page. If you were going to exhibit in *Burnt*, you would have received a separate email about this.

We still have a long way to go and quite a few issues to nut out, including payment and shipping, but the prospect of selling online is exciting. 20% of all online sales for *Burnt* will be going towards Bush Fire Relief.

We will keep you informed of developments as they happen.

And to Adrienne...

It is hard to say 'thank you' to someone who deserves so much more than that. Adrienne has been an inspiration to all of us; her dedication to the Gallery has seen the Art Space grow in leaps and bounds. No doubt she will put the same enthusiasm and dedication into her new business venture, and we know it too will be a success.

- The Art Space Team

<https://www.facebook.com/TheArtSpaceUrunga/>

<http://www.urungaart.space/>

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At this unprecedented time, those in greatest need are very much in our thoughts.

As you know, our next exhibition was due to be *Burnt*, a themed exhibition exploring our reactions as artists to the recent devastating bushfires. None of us had any idea that so soon after the bushfires, we would be facing a world-wide pandemic.

Ensuring we're doing all we can to support and protect our Art Space family, customers and community during this unsettling time is our priority. As a result, in accordance with Public Health guidelines, the Art Space will be closed until further notice.

THE ART SPACE



ART IN INTERESTING TIMES:

Now, more than ever, local artists and creative freelancers need your support!

Please see our virtual shows and online sales via www.facebook.com/TheArtSpaceUrunga/



Featured artist, Ian Watson

Although we have all been affected in some way by the recent catastrophic bushfires, few have been more devastated than Nana Glen artist, Ian Watson. Well known for his exquisite rosewood furniture, sculptures and lifetime collection of old Tiringham rosewood, Ian lost everything in the fires. His home, many beautiful artworks and his entire rosewood collection were destroyed. However, like the phoenix arising from the ashes, Ian has emerged and is transcending this tragedy through art making. Fossicking through the debris, Ian is transforming the burnt and melted into remarkable works. Ian's resilience is an inspiration not only to artists, but also to all whose lives have changed through the fires.

President's message

As we all make an effort to 'flatten the curve' as COVID-19 sweeps across Australia, we face an unprecedented few months, regardless of where we live.

In response to this emerging public health challenge, the NSW government has mandated the closure of all non-essential services. This means that from Tuesday, 24 March the Art Space Urunga will be closed until further notice. It is very difficult to know at this stage when the gallery will reopen. The impacts on future shows, including *Burnt*, due to open in April, as well as the subsequent Members' Show in Winter are impossible to predict. As soon as the directive is lifted, the Committee will regroup and communicate the updated set of arrangements to all members.

Our meeting in March before the true impact of COVID-19 significantly hit, was highly energised and full of great suggestions to secure the future of the gallery over the coming year. Obviously these ideas will need to be put on hold (but certainly not forgotten) as we wait for containment.

Along with the very worrying news about COVID-19, this month brought the sad news of the resignation of our Gallery Manager, Adrienne Hmelnitsky. Adrienne has been an integral part of The Art Space since its inception. Her focus and commitment have been key elements of the quality of the gallery today. Adrienne's day-to-day management and strong contribution to the strategic vision of the gallery have meant that The Art Space Urunga has earned a reputation as one of the most cutting edge contemporary galleries in our region. Her unerring dedication to art and to artists, her incredible attention to detail and importantly her talent to both engage local artists and put beautiful shows together have made the gallery the treasure it is today.

As a result of her resignation Adrienne will sadly no longer be a member of the Art Space Committee. Even though her contribution from month to month as Manager will be missed, she will be strongly encouraged, as are other members, to raise agenda items and attend meetings to discuss them. There will also be future opportunities for her of course, to nominate and be elected as a Committee member.

Adrienne leaves her role as Manager to pursue the development of an exciting business venture, and we wish her the very best. She leaves the gallery in great administrative shape and in the healthiest financial position since it began. Congratulations, Ade, on a wonderful contribution to the town and to the artists of the area. Thank you very much for your incredible efforts and we look forward to arranging an event to show our gratitude once life returns to normal.

Penny Adams

