

THE STORY OF THE ARTIST'S VOICE

The Artist's Voice was established in 1997 when Hahndorf artist Helen Lyons sought the assistance of Mt Barker District Council's Tourism Officer, Barry Wilkins, to inaugurate an art prize to honour the memory of the iconic Australian artist, Sir Hans Heysen, who had lived at The Cedars, a property which adjoined her own just out of Hahndorf.

Helen wanted "a week where artists came together to study Heysen's techniques and to paint."

Barry was an unusual tourism officer because he had a strong interest in "cultural tourism." He met with local artists who had staged exhibitions in businesses in Hahndorf as part of the Heysen Festival. These exhibitions later became known as "The Artists' Trail." Barry wanted to understand these artists' visions for art in the Hills.

ATTENTION ARTISTS
at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 2nd July
the inaugural meeting of
THE ARTISTS VOICE
A NETWORK OF ADELAIDE HILLS VISUAL ARTISTS
will be held at the
OLD MILL, HAHNDORF
Stay an individual but reap the benefits of a collective voice
Our aims are many, but primarily:
To have a voice in community events, both practically and
as an advisory body.
To get more public exposure for the wealth of talent that
exists in the Adelaide Hills area.



For further enquiries, please ring
Helen on 8388-1011, Pam on
8391-0649, Penny or Donald on
8398-2185 or Ivan on 8278-7570

The Heysen Festival of Hahndorf 1997

Artist's Trail

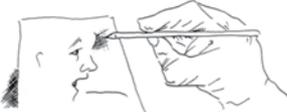
location map



the artist's trail

Follow these trail markers

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Penny & Donald on 83982185
or Ivan on 82787570

An extract from Helen Lyons' proposal for an Artists' Trail in Hahndorf

"The Heysen Trail comprises a group of professional artists who established a temporary studio space in one of the businesses in the main street of Hahndorf. They still work from and exhibit their work at this site. They also provide demonstrations and workshops for the general public . . . with the assistance of Barry Wilkins, the culture and special events officer from the Mount barker District Council, the local traders and The Artist's Voice. . . one of the outcomes from last year's event was that many of the locals expressed their pride that this event happened in Hahndorf and came to see the town in a new light. It was something they could relate to - not only something for tourists, but for themselves." Helen Lyons (1997).

In March 1998, The Artist's Voice held its first exhibition in the Hillstowe winery in Hahndorf. It was part of the Adelaide Fringe Festival. Before exhibiting, it was necessary to install picture rails, find plinths for the sculptures, create and post invitations, cater for the opening and devise a roster of persons to "sit" the exhibition.

After this, the show was opened by Don Dunstan. He had recently returned to South Australia after an involvement with the Tourist industry in Victoria, where he met Barry who had been managing the Begonia Festival in Ballarat. The Exhibition was a major success with over 2000 visitors and quite a few sales.



Barry Wilkens, Andrew Nicol, Larry Oien and Don Dunstan at the opening of the first exhibition of The Artist's Voice at the Hillstowe Winery Fringe Exhibition (1998).



Donna Brink-Reid at the Hillstowe Winery Fringe Exhibition (1998).

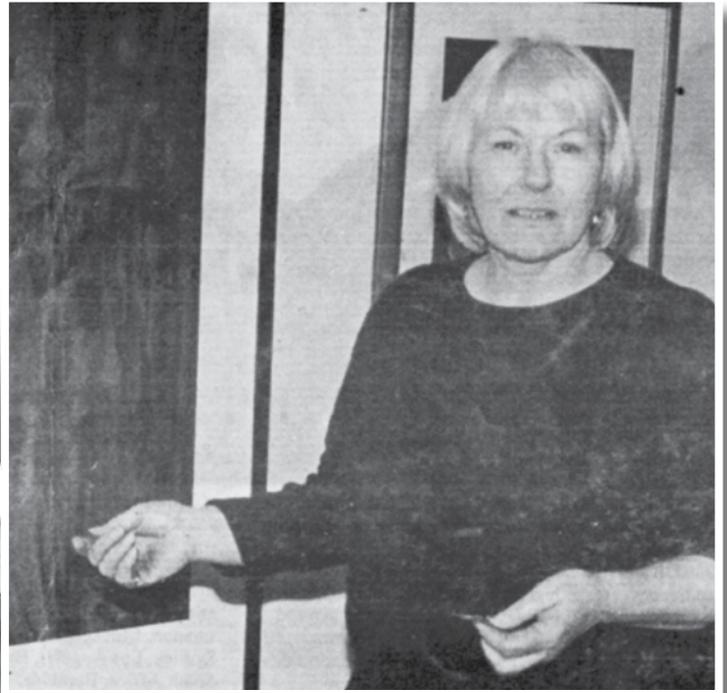
By April 1998, The Artist's Voice had become an Incorporated body. It held regular meetings in various Members' homes wherein a range of ideas, details of exhibitions and opportunities to exhibit as a group were discussed.

By 2000, a mutually beneficial collaboration between the Mount Barker Council, the Hahndorf Academy and The Artist's Voice had been established. At that time, the Artist's Voice agreed to upgrade the largely unused gallery upstairs in the Hahndorf Academy for use as its exhibition space.



In 2001, members held a silent auction to raise money for the Academy's Roof Replacement Fund. In that same year, three exhibitions were held and the first was opened by Barry Wilkins. In 2006, members repainted the gallery.

*Kym Afford with his sculpture at the first Artist's Voice exhibition at the Academy (2001).
(The Courier, 28 March 2001).*



Penny Choate with one of her works in the second Artist's Voice exhibition upstairs in the Academy (2001).



Heather Mc Donald, Helen Lyons, Margie Hooper, Karen Glink (Manager of the Hahndorf Academy), Pamela Kouwenhoven and Penny Choate at a SALA exhibition called "Ways of Seeing Wood" (1999).

HELEN LYONS

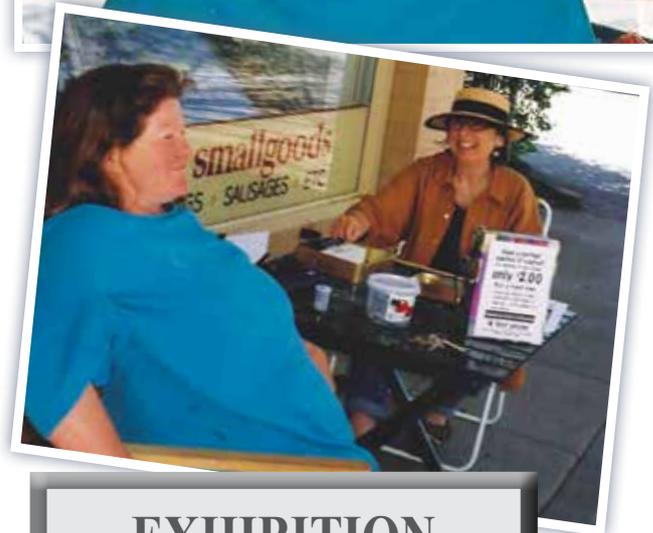
“The instigator and founder of The Artist’s Voice, Helen Lyons, is remembered as a generous, energetic and innovative artist and environmentalist.

I met Helen at Art school in 1981. Helen was upgrading her teaching diploma to a fine art degree and I was in my final year. What fun we had – as proper art students should! Over the next twenty years we discussed literature and philosophy as well as art, the environment and the artist’s role in the community. Numerous gatherings in Helen’s kitchen were gourmet feasts – her legendary homemade wine was produced bare-foot peasant style!

In 1997, whilst living in Hahndorf, Helen organised a successful exhibition called “Views through Rajasthani Windows.” It was exhibited in the Adelaide Festival Theatre Foyer and was created by a range of diverse artists. Many of these artists lived in and around the Adelaide Hills. Social networking within this group led to the establishment of The Artist’s Voice.

Helen was also able to convert ideas into other actions. As a devout Pagan, she set up “Trees Please” which was an offshoot of “Trees for Life”. She also organised working bees to re-vegetate and rid The Cedars of invading broom. Helen’s intelligence and enormous love for life was cut short in her 53rd year, but her influential legacies are ongoing. Twenty years of The Artist’s Voice bears testament to her perceptive vision. She is so very sadly missed.”

Margie Hooper (2016).



Helen Lyons and Margie Hooper.

EXHIBITION

THE ARTIST’S VOICE INCORPORATED
An association of Hills professional artists

Invites you to the opening of an exhibition of members works by Mr. Trevor Curnow
at 2pm. Sunday. September 29th 2002.
Hahndorf Academy. 68 Main Street.
Hahndorf SA

**This exhibition is dedicated
to the memory of Helen Lyons**

The 2002 exhibition at the Hahndorf Academy was dedicated to the memory of Helen Lyons.

HIGHLIGHTS OF ARTIST'S VOICE EXHIBITIONS THROUGHOUT THE YEARS

Over the years, there have been a few stand out exhibitions that are worth a special mention.

In 2004, The Artist's Voice presented an exhibition called "Dirty Laundry" as a SALA event. It was assisted with funding from Country Arts.

This exhibition comprised washing lines on which the public was invited to hang hand printed fabric created by them under the guidance of The Artist's Voice members. Each participant paid \$10 for their participation and this money was later donated to the Hahndorf Academy.

All works were auctioned at the close of the exhibition and all proceeds also went to the Hahndorf Academy.

Come Air Your Dirty Laundry



Donald Richardson, Penny Choate, Pat Mepham and Colin Rogers hanging "Dirty Laundry."



"Dirty Laundry" hanging from the Hahndorf Academy building.

MYSTIC MORN 2005

During Heysen Week in 2005, The Artist's Voice held an exhibition in which its members displayed their own interpretations of Sir Hans Heysen's famous painting "Mystic Morn".

The President of The Artist's Voice at that time was Colin Rogers. He noted that "Mystic Morn" resembled his own home country. He commented: "Hans Heysen painted a picture called "Mystic Morn", which was somewhere over at Meadows . . . cows walking amongst some very thin sapling-type trees, which is exactly the landscape I've got on my place now. . . . We had one exhibition of The Artist's Voice during the Heysen Festival where we all had to interpret that "Mystic Morn" painting, and everyone did it in a different way, and I just sat on my veranda and did a picture of my place."

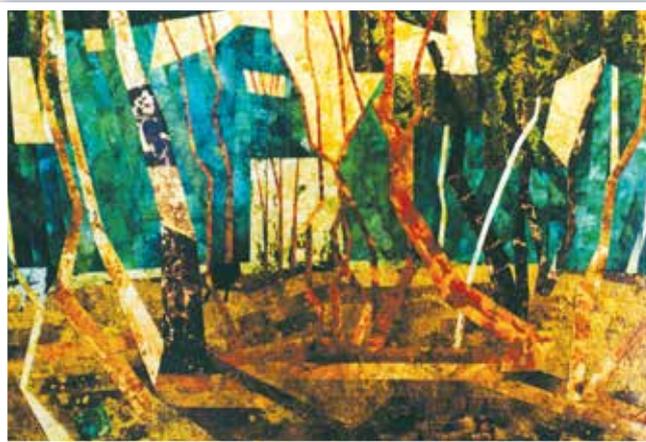
One of the exhibits in this exhibition became a prize in a raffle that The Artist's Voice held to raise money for the Hahndorf Academy.



*The Dawn of
Divine Mystery
(Alison Brown).*



*Misty Morn
(Pamela
Kouwenhoven).*



*Morning Mist
(Kon Heyer).*

From the Catalogue entry of Pictures at an Exhibition.

“Pictures at an Exhibition by Mussorgsky is a piece of music which was inspired by an exhibition at the Academy of fine Arts in Saint Petersburg, Russia, in 1874.

Six weeks after viewing the exhibition, Mussorgsky composed this music which depicts the imaginary tour of an art exhibition.

After much discussion and fine tuning, The Artist’s Voice in collaboration with Barry Wilkins as conductor of the Augmented Concert band, will re-create the event. The Artist’s Voice is proud to stage



this exhibition which will run parallel with the concert.

Each artist represented in this show has responded to a movement or promenade by Mussorgsky’s composition. The promenades depict Mussorgsky roving through the exhibition, now leisurely, now briskly, in order to come close to a picture that had attracted his attention.

This has been a unique opportunity for The Artist’s Voice to work with music as a muse. The story behind “Pictures at an Exhibition” is so compelling that as an artist it is hard to refuse the call to create while listening to the music.”

Monika Morgenstern, Chairperson (2009).

Promenade (Donald Richardson).





The Converse[ly] exhibition forged new ground for The Artist's Voice. Funded by Country ArtsSA and curated by the professional curator, Fulvia Mantelli – who selected the works from the studios of Artist's Voice members – the exhibition expressed the plurality of spirit and style within the group.

CONVERSE/LY 2010

“Based in the Adelaide Hills and Fleurieu, the inception of The Artist's Voice in 1997 was spurred by a few like-minded emerging artists' dissatisfaction with the lack of local opportunities to present and debate contemporary art. Today it's a support network for dialogue surrounding art making and thought; a vehicle through which to shift common perceptions of contemporary art; and a catalyst for the momentum of individual practices. I am honoured to be the group's inaugural invited curator.

In search of the group's core qualities, I opted against imposing a theme, in favour of exploring the ongoing machinations of each artist's practice and the conversations between them. I sought to eke out where they meet and where they challenge each other, and discovered vastly diverse practices, with connections between them both underlying and overt.

An uncanny commonality is attention to detritus – industrial, agricultural, domestic, and environmental. Rescued and rearranged remnants pay homage to forgotten toils of trade and mechanical craftsmanship; or warn of the foibles in new technology and consumerism. There are colliding notions of order and chaos (natural and man-made); of beauty in humanity and of human shortcomings; of our impact on the environment and our intrinsic connection to it.

Also evident are congruent ideas of memory as useful nostalgia; meditations on mortality and the cosmos; socio-political deliberations and references to popular culture. Environmental investigations include landscapes that resound with the topography of the human body, speak

of fragility and search for identity of place; suggesting that our environment's plight is also that of humankind. A number of members absent from here are at a pivotal time in their practices; in the throes of jettisoning the underwhelming moulds that they found themselves in and - turning to what really makes them tick - awakening to inquisitive, formative risks burgeoning with potential.

Of the featured artists, some have recently made that transition, with works evidencing their launch into a new era of practice. Others are well established and widely recognised, represented here by explorations in conceptual and/or aesthetic departures, or quintessential key works. All of the works here are conceptually underpinned and come from passionate and personal places.

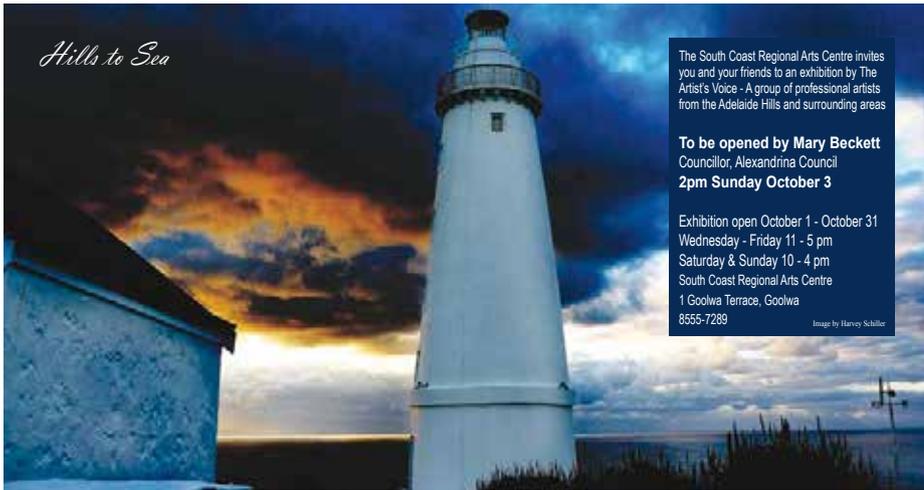
Converse(ly) marks a turning point in the life of The Artist's Voice; welcoming constructive scrutiny and lively debate, and refocusing toward critical dialogue among members, throughout their communities and into the wider sphere of contemporary art in South Australia. I wish them all the very best!”

Fulvia Mantelli (2010).
(Invited Curator Converse/ly).

Converse[ly] was shown in the Country Arts SA gallery in Port Adelaide and then included in its Touring Program for 2011.



*Penny Choate, Margie Hooper
and Pam Kouwenhoven at Converse[ly]
in the Country Arts Gallery at Port Adelaide.*



Hills to Sea

The South Coast Regional Arts Centre invites you and your friends to an exhibition by The Artist's Voice - A group of professional artists from the Adelaide Hills and surrounding areas

To be opened by **Mary Beckett**
Councillor, Alexandrina Council
2pm Sunday October 3

Exhibition open October 1 - October 31
Wednesday - Friday 11 - 5 pm
Saturday & Sunday 10 - 4 pm
South Coast Regional Arts Centre
1 Goolwa Terrace, Goolwa
8555-7289
Image by Harvey Schiller

Hills to Sea, South Coast Regional Arts Centre, Goolwa (2013).



The Artist's Voice is proud to present:

Things we do

Please come and view artists at work at the Academy between July 27 - August 5, 2015 (1st floor Gallery)

Official Exhibition Opening

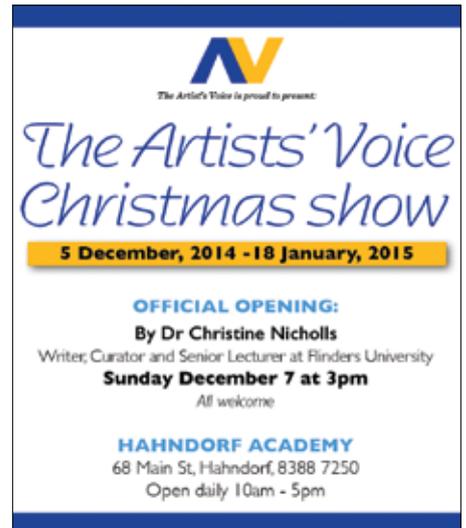
Sunday August 9, 3pm

By Kate Wake, Creative Director Hahndorf Academy
Exhibition closes September 6, 2015. *All welcome*

HAHNDORF ACADEMY

68 Main St, Hahndorf, 8388 7250
Open daily 10am - 5pm

Things We Do, Hahndorf Academy (2015).



The Artist's Voice is proud to present:

The Artists' Voice Christmas show

5 December, 2014 - 18 January, 2015

OFFICIAL OPENING:

By Dr Christine Nicholls

Writer, Curator and Senior Lecturer at Flinders University
Sunday December 7 at 3pm
All welcome

HAHNDORF ACADEMY

68 Main St, Hahndorf, 8388 7250
Open daily 10am - 5pm

The Artist's Voice Christmas Show, Hahndorf Academy (2014).



TRAVELLING NORTH

Presented by



The Artist's Voice Inc.

The Artist's Voice is an Adelaide Hills based group of professional artists, all determinedly individualistic. Their exhibition includes works in many different media and styles.

Official Exhibition Opening:
Thursday 13 March @ 6pm
Port Augusta Cultural Centre—Yarta Purtli
6 Beauchamp Lane, Port Augusta



Exhibition on display
14 March-26 April 2014

Travelling North, Yarta Purtli, Port Augusta (2014).



"The Holiday Show"

Hahndorf Academy, 68 Main St, Hahndorf
First Floor Gallery

December 11 - January 28 Open Daily 10-5

Official Opening: Friday December 11 at 7pm

by Tracey Hall Hahndorf Academy Board Member

All welcome!



The Artist's Voice



Maria's Dream by Megan Steiner

The Artist's Voice Holiday Show, Hahndorf Academy (2009).

CHRISTMAS SHOW 2014 THE HAHNDORF ACADEMY



The Hahndorf Academy has regularly made its upstairs gallery available to The Artist's Voice during the December - January period. In 2014, one such exhibition was opened by Dr Christine Nicholls, Senior Lecturer in English/Creative Writing and Australian Studies at Flinders University. She was so impressed by the work that she published a long article in the Asian Art News called *The Hills Are Alive With Visual Art* (2015).

Excerpt from this article by Dr Christine Nicholls:

“Professional artists are highly individual people. But when they come together, form a collective, and hold group exhibitions, their combined strength and mutual support make for delightful surprises that celebrate the singular and collective wonder of making art. Such is the case with The Artist's Voice group from the Adelaide Hills, South Australia.

With few exceptions, the artworks in The Artists' Voice Christmas Show speaks to a world of artistic appreciation, control, order, and a high level of knowledge and awareness of Western art history. A number of works in the exhibition reflect acute environmental

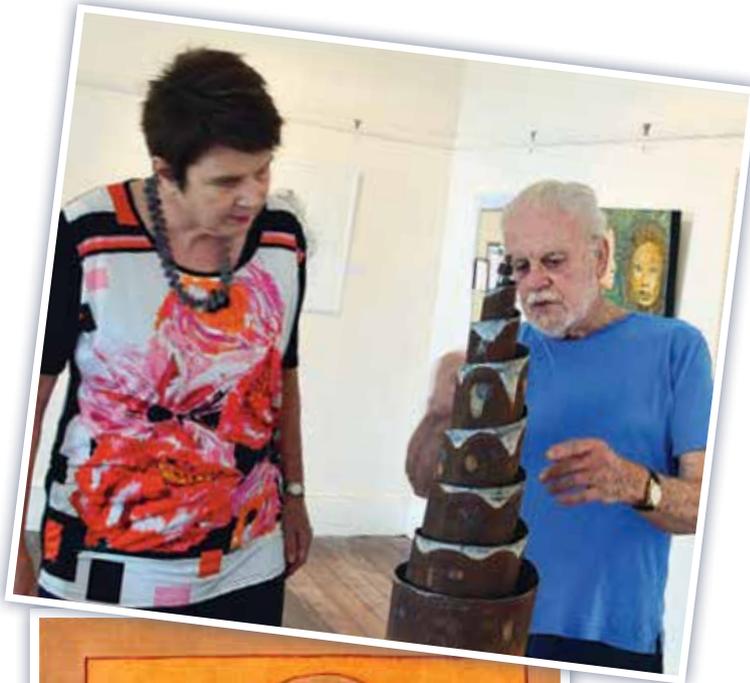
responsiveness and a willingness to engage with serious artistic, secular, and religious themes—the big questions that frame our human existence.

The works of this cosmopolitan, multicultural group of professional artists, the majority of whom are Adelaide Hills dwellers, are currently on display in the small but historically significant satellite town of Hahndorf.

Exhibiting art in Hahndorf's only public gallery also means showcasing local talent to the large contingents of Australian and overseas tourists who make the pilgrimage to this crucible of Australian migrant history”.



Artwork
(Donna Brink-Reid).



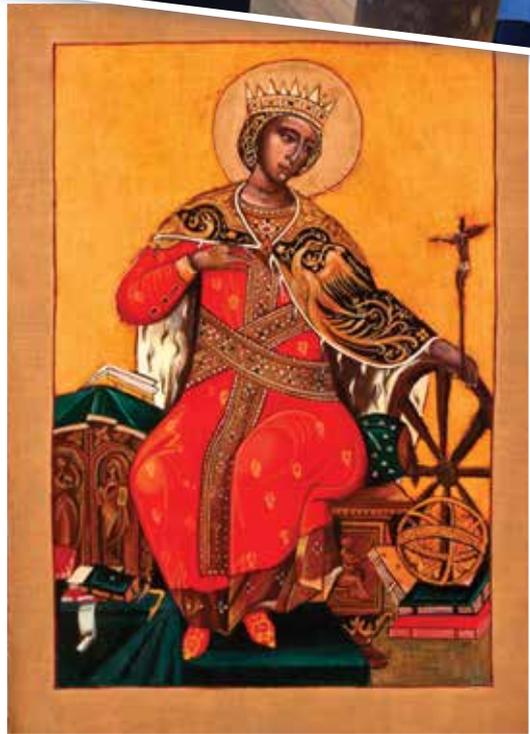
Dr. Christine Nicholls and Donald Richardson discussing Donald's artwork at the exhibition opening (2014).

Dr Nicholls continues:

“The Artists' Voice group, formed in 1997, comprises around 30 members spanning an age range of circa four decades, with the oldest (and exceptionally active) affiliate in his mid-late 80s. On several occasions each year, the group exhibits its work at the Hahndorf Academy, first named in 1857 by the pioneering German Lutheran Traugott Wilhelm Boehm, who, in 1839, at the age of three, landed in the newly settled colony of South Australia, having come by boat ('The Zebra'). The en masse migration of German Lutheran settlers to South Australia from that time onwards was due to religious persecution in their Prussian homeland.

Over the years, the Academy (like Hahndorf itself, the name of which was changed by government edict in 1917 to 'Ambleside' owing to anti-German sentiment during WWI, though later reinstated under the South Australian Nomenclature Act of 1935) has undergone several name changes reflecting the building's changing functions. The Hahndorf Academy's 'German Connection' lives on to this day . . .”

Dr Christine Nicholls, *Asian Art News*, “The Hills Are Alive With Visual Art” (2015).



Icon (Kit Neave).

Right: Philip David discussing his work and process at the Hahndorf Academy (2015).

Below: Ross Hill discussing his art at the Hahndorf Academy (2015).



Right: Kym Afford, Monika Morgenstern, Tess Magor, Penny Choate, Kathleen Munn, Alison Brown, Donald Richardson and Pam Kouwenhoven at an opening in Scarlati's Gallery, Clare (2009).





Above left: Kate Wake, director of Hahndorf Academy with Val Grapetin and Fulvia Mantelli.

Above right: Donald Richardson and Rita Hall.

Middle left: Julie Morris and Justin Pearson.

Middle right: Penny Choate, Pam Kouwenhoven, Kathleen Munn and friend, Alison Brown, Donald Richardson and Donna Brink-Reid.

Lower Right: Pamela Kouwenhoven, Penny Choate, Julie Morris, Monika Morgenstern, Joanne Freebairn, Dave Smith and Kon Heyer at the Exhibition named 'Hills To Sea' at Glenelg (2009).





Above: Some of the many Artist's Voice exhibitions held at the Hahndorf Academy.



Below L-R: Penny Choate, Kay Wiggins, Pamela Kouwenhoven, John Wiggins; Pamela Kouwenhoven; Kon Heyer; Kym Afford and Wendy Sheppard; Donna Brink-Reid and Val Grapentin; Fulvia Mantelli and Monika Morgenstern.





Above L-R: Alison Brown (2014); John Wiggins (2005); Ann Ferguson, Mayor of the District Council of Mount Barker, opening the Xmas exhibition at the Hahndorf Academy (2015).

Left: A recent Artist's Voice workshop in the Hahndorf Academy (2013).



Left: Daniel Cazzolato (2010).



Right: Colin Rogers during SALA (2004).



Left: Nita Clifton at the opening of "Things We Do" at the Hahndorf Academy (2016).



Right: Claire Hamdorf.



Left: Anni Luur-Fox.



Left: George Hackett and Colin Rogers in front of Colin's portrait of George (c.2005).

Below L-R: Penny Choate hanging her exhibition "Dress up Box" at the Murray Bridge Gallery; Kate Wake and Monika Morgenstern Hahndorf Academy (2015).



**SOME
MEMBERS'
ENTRIES IN
THE HEYSEN
SCULPTURE
BIENNIAL**



Entries in the Sculpture Biennial L-R: Work by Colin Rogers; Pamela Kouwenhoven; Donna Brink-Reid; Kon Heyer; Kym Afford; and Andrea Num-Glover.

Members of The Artist's Voice don't just exhibit . . .

**DEMONSTRATION WORKSHOPS
in the HAHNDORF ACADEMY
as part of SOUTH AUSTRALIAN
LIVING ARTISTS (SALA) WEEK**



Donald Richardson



George Hackett



Penny Choate



Val Grapentin



Liana Vargas



Nita Clifton



Adam Dutkiewicz



Anni Luur-Fox



Lauryn Arnott



Cynthia Schwertsic



Suzy Fagan



Kon Heyer



Monika Morgenstern



Julie Morris



Margie Hooper



Kit Neave



Peter McLachlan



Rita Hall



Betty Anderson



Norma Mansell



Philip David



Rose Hannaford

MEMBERS' SUCCESSFUL ENTRIES IN THE HEYSEN PRIZE

Congratulations to Pamela Kouwenhoven and Kathleen Munn



*Pam Kouwenhoven won the Heysen Prize three times.
This is one of her winning entries.*



*Kathleen Munn also won the Heysen Prize with her work
"Phases from a Dry Landscape" (2007).*

SOME MEMBERS OF THE ARTIST'S VOICE



Penny Choate



Philip David



Monika Morgenstern

"I joined the Artist's voice in 2004 after moving to the Adelaide Hills from Bendigo in Victoria. The group has helped me find my tribe in the Hills and I am profoundly grateful to the group for providing me with friendship and guidance.

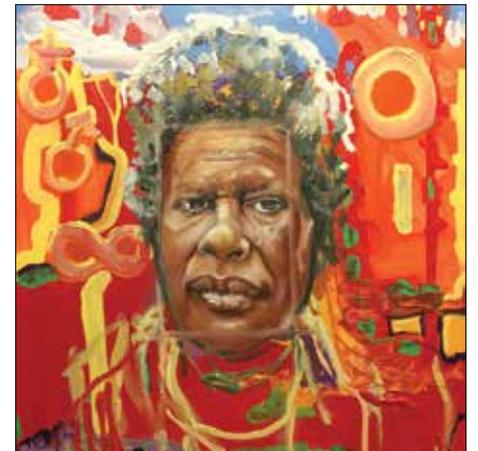
Art can be a lonely pursuit and belonging to a group such as The Artist's Voice has enriched my life tremendously."

"I was a foundation member of The Artist's Voice and became the initial president because Helen Lyons declined the position. I have participated in nearly all the exhibitions since 1997.

The membership of the group has altered over the years but it has always adhered to its principles as a group of professionals supporting one another. I have very much appreciated the group as a sympathetic and professional framework in which to exhibit one's work".

As a full-time artist since January 2014, being a part of a close-knit and friendly group such as the Artist Voice with its quantity of extremely professional and competent artists is my main reason for joining. I believe that when you mix with innovative and interesting artists you tend to gain ideas and by mixing with like-minded people one is spurred on to dare to push the edges a little bit further.

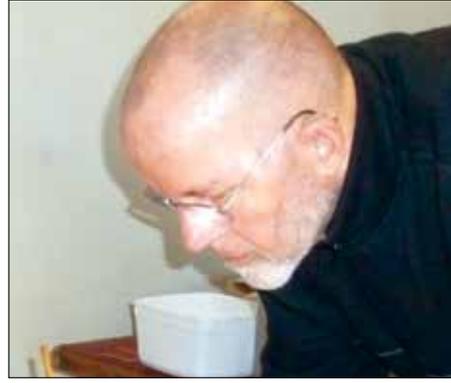
2016 is the year that I have decided to have a very hard go at pushing the boundaries that I have set up for myself and I aim to break rules as if I was 25 all over again."





Margie Hooper

“My association with the Artist’s Voice began in 1997 with an invitation from my dear friend, Helen Lyons, AV instigator and founding member, to exhibit in the inaugural AV exhibition. Although I have never lived in the Adelaide Hills, I have been welcomed as a member and included in decision making. Belonging to a group of professional and practicing artists is a wonderful way to maintain friendships with like-minded people who continually question the role art plays in a community.”



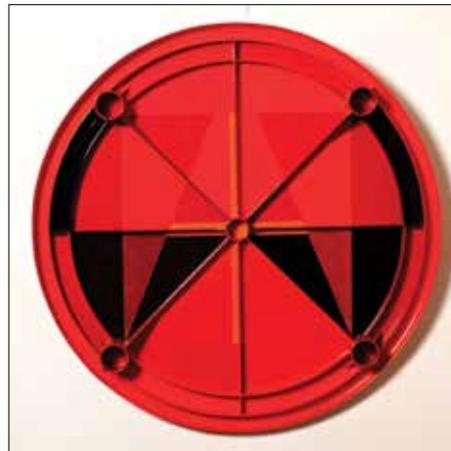
Kon Heyer

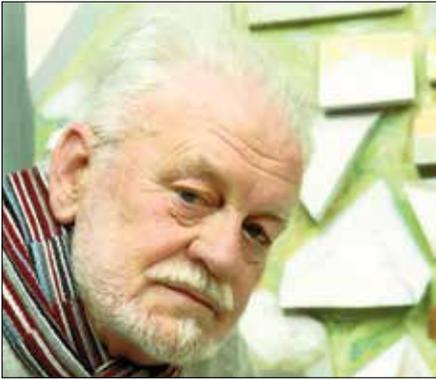
“I joined The Artist’s Voice in 2001 after I retired as student counsellor from Mt. Barker High School, to paint and sculpt full time. It was through working in the hills area that I heard about the group. Back then, The Artist’s Voice had almost exclusive use of the upstairs gallery at the Hahndorf Academy. And with as many as 5 exhibitions a year, one was kept busy in the studio. Belonging to such a group as this helped to mature and fast forward my art development.”



Donna Brink Reid (Founding Member)

“I was fortunate to see the notice in the local paper about the inaugural meeting to form a Hills art group. It turned out to be a vital and diverse group of artists, which morphed over the years, but always had a strong core group. The best part is seeing a stunning exhibition emerge from a big variety of submissions for each exhibit. Being part of The Artist’s Voice has been a big inspiration for me.”





Donald Richardson

“I have valued The Artist’s Voice both as a congenial group of fellow professionals, with whom I have had profitable discussions about art, and – because of its close association with the Hahndorf Academy – as a reliable means of showing the few works I produce each year. The fact that it does not regulate what members show (within reason) has enabled me to exhibit somewhat outrageous things from time to time. I enjoyed my several years as honorary secretary because members are mutually supportive”.



Nita Clifton

“I was introduced to the Artist’s Voice by Monika Morgenstern who I met at Art School. Delighted to be accepted into the group, I soon began to learn the practicalities of being a practising artist. The group for me is a great vehicle for exhibiting, sharing ideas, asking questions about, and broadening my experience of art, plus simply having fun with friends.”



Alison Brown

“In the late 1990s, after moving from Victoria to Nairne, I met Pam Kouvenhoven who belonged to the Artist’s Voice. Pam invited me to an opening of their exhibition at the Hahndorf Academy and introduced me to some of the artists there. I asked if I could join the group and was sponsored by Pam to do so. This group of artists have become my very good friends, as well as being a group with whom I have much pleasure in exhibiting and discussing art.”





Ross Hill

"I joined AV in 2012, after having a SALA exhibition. I wanted to connect with a group of positive, exhibiting Adelaide Hills artists. AV is an intriguing mob - it is comprised of professional artists and occasional exhibitors, profoundly confident, articulate people, and quiet observers. The mix somehow works, and is reflected in our diverse exhibitions. AV has become an important part of my own development, both for the strength of the group, and the warmth of the individuals."



Kit Neave

"I was lucky enough to be asked to join the ArtistVoice in 2010, it has been so good for me as an artist and person, challenging and pushing my ideas as a practising artist and the many components that come with working towards and setting up exhibitions.

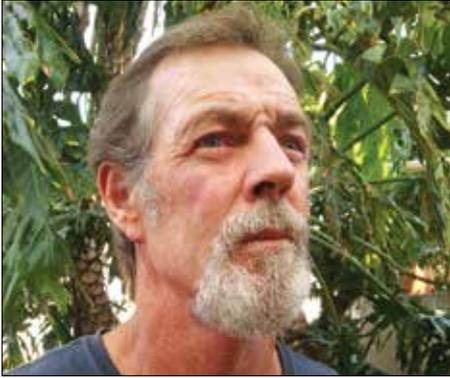
I do value the friendships formed and the ever expanding ideas each one gives to the group."



Adam Dutkiewicz

"I was introduced to The Artist's Voice a few years ago when Donald Richardson asked me to open one of their exhibitions. I spent quite a lot of time crafting that speech and remember it went down well. I enjoyed that exhibition a great deal. I joined about a year later, as a painter. Since then my artistic expression has branched out into digital photography. I have tried to exhibit as often as possible since joining."





Peter McLachlan

“Margie Hooper introduced me to the ArtistVoice group.

The members are hard-working and stimulating through their thought processes, have many years of experience and each exhibition has been serious, colourful, challenging and eclectic.

Being involved in such a group is a humbling experience.”



Pam Illert

“In 2015, whilst attending an opening at the Academy, I was delighted to be invited to join the Artists Voice and since then have met all of the members.

I was recently elected to the position of Secretary. This has kept me very busy and in my spare time I have been working on artworks for future exhibitions.

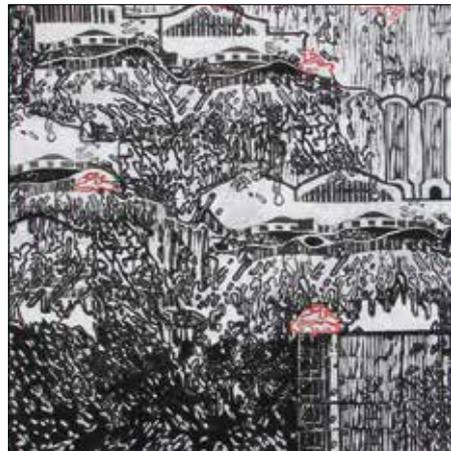
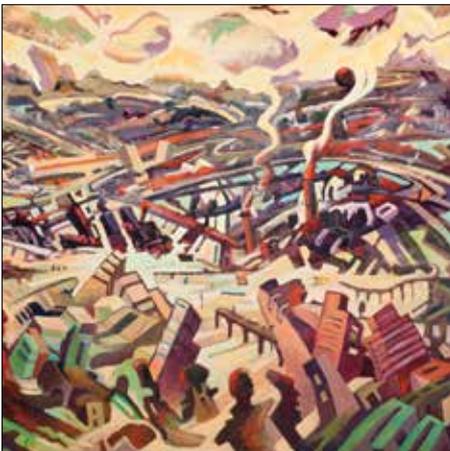
I am particularly excited to note the high standards, wide variety of talent and artistic individuality within the group.”



Val Grapentin (Founding member)

“I have fond memories of the early years. Fossicking with Pam Kouwenhoven at Windmill Hill recycling depot and cemeteries (in the bins) looking for treasures - other peoples junk! to turn into artwork.

Outings and homecooked lunches with Helen Lyons. Many enjoyable visits to Kym Affords. Good friends now gone. I hope the group continues to provide friendship for many years to come and continues to prosper.”





Gordon Thurmer

Gordon once said, “My art and my family are my life and my saviours”. Unafraid to illustrate the frailty of the human condition, Gordon’s art was his “best medicine” in confronting the bleak depression he suffered since childhood.

His strong, honest and often humorous art, along with the man himself, is sadly missed. Gordon died in 2015.



Pamela Kouwenhoven

A founding member of The Artist’s Voice, Pamela’s work is shown both in Australia and internationally. John Neylon commented: “Pamela Kouwenhoven’s contribution to a sense of connection to place was remarkable. Her ability to allude to this through renditions and evocations of nuanced primordial landscapes begging for recognition in a twilight zone of coalescence was born from a fierce determination to coax ‘dumb’ materials into telling stories worth listening to.” Pamela died in 2014 and The Artist’s Voice exhibition “Solstice” was held in her memory.



Kym Afford

Painter, sculptor, author, poet, photographer, conservationist, family man and dog lover go only some way to describing long time member and past President of The Artist’s Voice, Kym Afford.

He died peacefully at home in 2015 with his family and dog by his side. His family arranged for a retrospective of his work to be held at The Hahndorf Academy in 2015.



Julie Morris

Julie was a renowned and awarded wildlife artist, writer and illustrator. She said: “Most of my life’s work has been in conservation. I hope for more education and an understanding of all living animals. Not only that each one has its own beauty, strength and character. I hope to see a positive difference to dwindling numbers of species in my lifetime.” Julie worked in many mediums including oil, acrylics, gouache, pen and pastels. Many of her paintings hang in public and private collections all over the world. Julie died in 2015 after a long illness.

ENDORSEMENTS



Barry Wilkins OAM CFE

It is hard to believe that 20 years has passed since the formal inauguration of “The Artist’s Voice”. I first came to the District Council of Mount Barker in 1996 as Manager of Tourism and Special Events (having been in these industries previously for more than 25 years) and Cultural Tourism has been my passion and the platform upon which I have sought to develop vibrant communities through the Arts. I had the good fortune to establish a very positive relationship early in my appointment with Donald Richardson and the late Helen Lyons (whom I remember with fond affection) and the support I received from them both, and also other talented and enthusiastic artisans was a “dream come true” – it was there already to build upon. I worked closely with Helen and as the network, interest and activity grew, the time came to formally

incorporate “The Artist’s Voice” and I wrote its first Constitution.

During that early period, I also established the Heysen Festival at Hahndorf and The Artist’s Voice became an integral part of those celebrations - along with the Hahndorf Academy – in addition to other key projects which the group collaborated with Council at other times of the year.

I was fortunate to have got to know the Honourable Don Dunstan personally when he was the Chief Executive of the Victorian Tourism Commission before he returned to SA. When I arrived in the District, Don was one of my first “catch ups” and that led to him becoming the Patron of the Heysen Festival and I well remember him opening the first Artist’s Voice exhibition at Hillstowe Wines.

I am sure throughout your Anniversary Brochure, details of the many exhibitions

the group has staged will be highlighted, but one of the highlights for me was the collaboration with The Artist’s Voice, The District Council of Mount Barker and the Mount Barker District Concert Band and Adelaide Hills Concert Band in the presentation of Modest Mussorgsky’s famous “Pictures at an Exhibition” – a wonderful “live” celebration and collaboration of music and art. It is encouraging to note that Council has continued its strong support for the Arts and I congratulate The Artist’s Voice on the key role it has played over 20 years in developing and maintaining a vibrant cultural landscape within the District, and wish you all every success for the future.

Barry Wilkins (2016).



*The Hahndorf Academy, AV exhibition 2014.
Image courtesy of South Australia Media.*

CURRENT AND PAST MEMBERS

Adam Dutkiewicz

Alison Brown

Allen Campbell

Andrea Num Glover

Anna Herbert

Anni Luur-Fox

Annika Robertson

Ashleigh Lower

Audrey Kooyman

Barbra Leslie

Bernadette Van Eyke

Betty Anderson

Billy Clelland

Bluey Byrne

Cameron Doyle

Cindy Hrvatin

Clair Hamdorf

Colin Rogers

Cynthia Schwertsik

Daniel Cazzolato

Dave Smith

Dianne Carver Carter

Donald Richardson

Donna Brink-Reid

Felicity Martin

Floortje Costain

Frances Eaden

George Hackett

Gordon Thurmer

Harvey Schiller

Hayley Ledgard

Helen Lyons

Inta Alander

Ivan Pederson

Jane Munt

Janice Argent

Jeffrey Missen

Joanne Freebairn

John Wiggins

Julie Morris	Melanie Fulton	Robyn Haworth
Justin Pearson	Michael Bryant	Ron Orchard
Karen Windle	Mikyla Thompson	Ros Branson
Kathleen Munn	Monika Morgenstern	Rose Hannaford
Kathryn Schneider	Norma Brimson	Ross Hill
Kay Bridge	Norma Mansell	Sally March
Kit Neave	Pam Illert	Sara Stanley
Kon Heyer	Pam Kouwenhoven	Stephen Skillitzi
Kym Afford	Pat Mepham	Susan Sherrah
Liana Vargus	Penny Choate	Suz Robin-Gadd
Mardi Martin	Peter McLachlan	Suzie Fagan
Marg Talbi	Peter Surguy	Tess Magor
Margaret Verjal	Philip David	Valerie Grapentin
Margie Hooper	Ria Willering	Vit Jurevicius
Mark Herburt	Richard Crookes	Wendy Sheppard
Mark Wilson	Rita Hall	

