

TOP OF THE TORRENS

art gallery newsletter

| edition : October 2022 |



Dates at a glance:

Current Exhibition:

'What a Mix'

Mixed media solo exhibition

by Joe Dennis

- showing until 4th December

Next Exhibition:

TOTT Summer Members'

Exhibition - 'Celebrating

Diversity'

- showing from 9th December

Next General Meeting:

10 am Tuesday 15th November

at the Gallery

Next edition deadline:

5th December

Material for future newsletters

can be left at the gallery

marked:

Attention-Rosie Trenerry

or emailed to:

topoftorrens@gmail.com

Please type TOTT NEWSLETTER

in the subject field.

When first sitting down to start a newsletter it can sometimes be a case of 'where & how to start... what to say'!

When preparing for this edition, I got to thinking about how being a member of any group means that you belong to a network of like-minded folk who generally have a similar, but at the same time, very often diverse range of interests, experiences and valuable knowledge waiting to be shared.

Did you know for example that TOTT Member Artist, Ann Davenport is a volunteer Gallery Guide at the Art Gallery of South Australia?

So yes, you guessed it, I decided to approach Ann to ask if she would consider being our roving reporter inside the AGSA - and I am delighted to say that she agreed! – *Thank you Ann.* Look for her first bulletin later in this edition.

I understand that not everyone will want to undertake such an initiative, however there are many ways in which we can embrace and develop the TOTT network to our mutual benefit, enlightenment and enjoyment.

So, if you have something interesting to tell or show to others - like winning an award at your local art-show; have something you no longer need that you wish to sell or give away; or if you've discovered a new artistic technique or hack that you would to share, then why not do it via the TOTT network [material for consideration can be forwarded to the email address at the lower left of this page].

Remember that our newsletter is published soon after the opening of our latest exhibition – next one due in early December.

We all look forward to hearing from you soon 😊

Rosie Trenerry - Editor TOTT News

It would be my pleasure to see you at the opening of our Summer Members' Exhibition...

-enter Sunday 11th December in your diary now!

I had the pleasure of attending the opening of Joe Dennis' solo 'What A Mix' exhibition at TOTT recently - what a multi-talent is Joe! - I encourage everyone to take the time for a visit.

Which brings me to my thoughts on exhibition openings at TOTT. They provide a wonderful opportunity for members and friends to meet and converse over a drink and nibbles. At 'What A Mix' I was able to meet some of our members for the first time - people who I previously knew only by name.

It is a great forum to exchange ideas about your art - to find out the latest news - to become more involved with your fellow member artists.

On another note, our TOTT website is up and running - there was an article in our last newsletter - check it out at <http://www.tottgallery.com.au>.

I encourage all Member Artists to have their profile included within the websites artist's pages - it is all good for TOTT publicity! All you have to do is supply your info to our dedicated email address admin@tottgallery.com.au - with the following detail:

- how you became interested in your art-form(s)
- how long you have been displaying your art
- who or how you are inspired to create your art
- ideally it should be between 200-300 words but that is not essential, and it doesn't have to be a detailed article
- you can also add between 6 and 10 images of your artwork as well as one portrait picture (maybe of you creating your art)

*John Ragless
Chairperson, TOTT Committee*



Just a reminder...

to ALL TOTT Member Artists & Artisans...

Remember that the **Summer Members' Exhibition** is fast approaching, so please keep up your creativity.

'Celebrating Diversity'

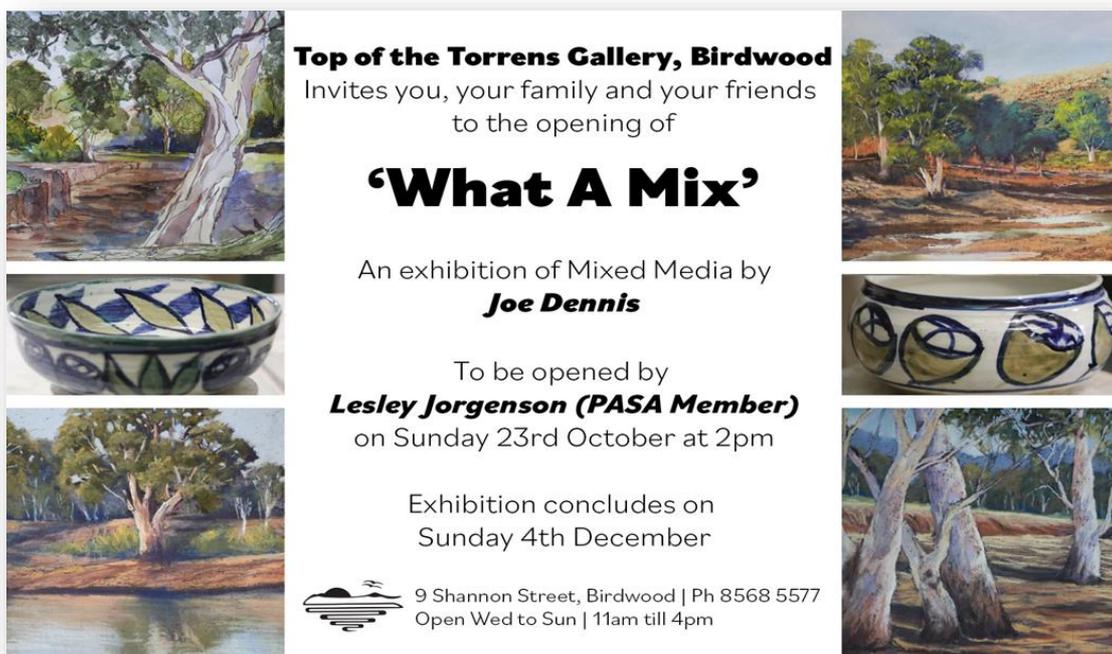
Opens in the TOTT Exhibition Space on the **9th of December**,
[with the official opening to follow on Sunday December 11th]
and we would love to see some of your work in the exhibition.

If you wish to participate in this display, please make sure your name is on the list on the gallery desk as soon as possible, or phone the gallery during open hours and ask the gallery attendant to enter it for you.

*Annette Dawson
Exhibition Convenor*

Now showing in the TOTT Exhibition Space

- a solo exhibition by TOTT Member Artist & Ceramicist Joe Dennis



Top of the Torrens Gallery, Birdwood
Invites you, your family and your friends
to the opening of

'What A Mix'

An exhibition of Mixed Media by
Joe Dennis

To be opened by
Lesley Jorgenson (PASA Member)
on Sunday 23rd October at 2pm

Exhibition concludes on
Sunday 4th December



9 Shannon Street, Birdwood | Ph 8568 5577
Open Wed to Sun | 11am till 4pm

It is with pleasure that we once again welcome well known Mount Pleasant Artist and TOTT Member Joe Dennis to our exhibition space.

An accomplished artist across many mediums, including pastel, acrylic and water colour, Joe is also a skillful potter.

This exhibition features her latest works including a large selection of striking wall art along with an array of pottery and ceramic pieces that are both decorative and functional.

Unframed originals as well as a selection of handmade printed cards are also available.

You too could be the headline act!

If you have ever considered the possibility of holding a solo exhibition, or if the idea of teaming up with some friends to feature your collaborative artistic endeavors appeals, then make sure you contact TOTT Exhibition Coordinator Annette Dawson [tottgallery@gmail.com] to discuss the possibilities.

Limited opportunities for the 2024 exhibition calendar will be available soon.

‘What A Mix’

The conditions may have been un-seasonally cool, damp & grey however there were visitors-a-plenty and smiles all 'round at the TOTT on Sunday 23rd October for the official opening of 'What a Mix', a mixed media exhibition by Joe Dennis.

In opening the exhibition, Joes' longtime friend and Member of the Pastel Association of South Australia Lesley Jorgensen raised the questions of

“What makes an artist & Why do they create?”

“If you make Art, you are an Artist” she said, “It is not dictated by financial or professional success.

You don't have to have been to Art School to be an Artist. A true Artist constantly educates themselves. They walk a path of self-development and try to keep up with the changing times. True artists are learners for life, they believe in growth and are always trying to improve.”

Lesley offered many reasons as to why artists create including *“for fun & personal satisfaction – the joy they get from mixing paint or the tactile qualities of having clay on their hands.*

The pleasure achieved from making something beautiful or useful.

Some people use it as a means of expressing emotions, beliefs, feelings and memories.

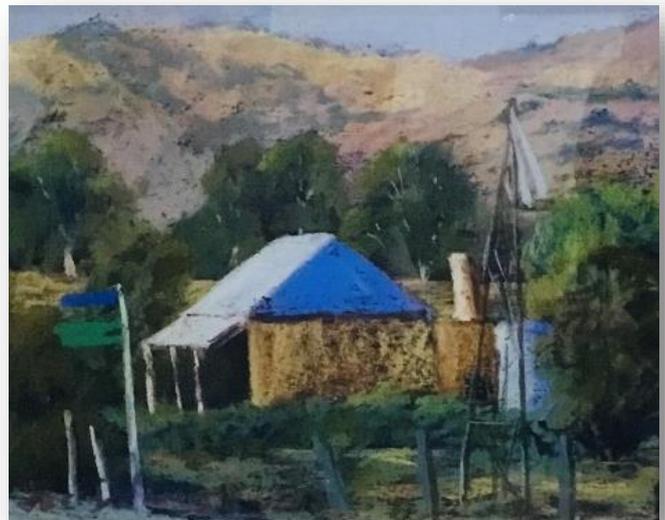
Others use it to try and influence people, to have either a positive or negative affect on the viewer.

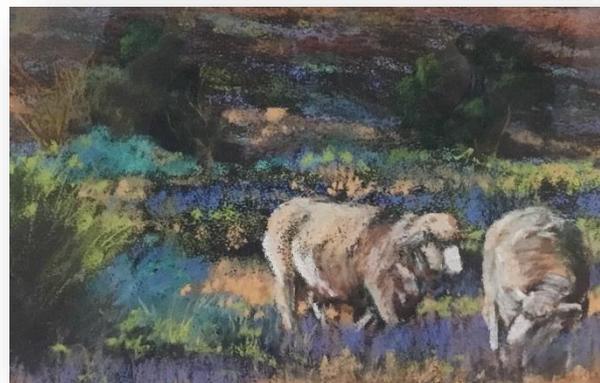
For many artists it is a way of celebrating the aesthetics of the ordinary or common and mundane things and for others such as Joe, it is a way of depicting the beauty that they see in nature and the landscape”.

The exhibition is on display until 4th December.



Above: Lesley Jorgensen (left) with Joe Dennis





More of the beautiful wall art and ceramics on display in 'What A Mix' – an exhibition by Joe Dennis

What's on now at AGSA?

What's AGSA you say? It's our very own **Art Gallery of South Australia**, situated on North Terrace Adelaide, and what a centre of energy and creativity it is!

I'm now lucky enough to be a volunteer Gallery Guide at AGSA which enables me to indulge my love of art and art galleries and share this with visitors of all ages.

Currently the Gallery is resetting after the very successful exhibition **Archie 100: A century of the Archibald Prize** which ran from 9 Jul to 3 Oct 2022. The next exhibitions are either already up or nearly so. Here's what's on at the Gallery from now until the end of the year.

WAVE, 19 Oct 2022 - 8 Jan 2023 – "This genre-defying work of art unites digital imagery, ceramics and sound in an immersive 360-degree installation in the Elder Wing of the Art Gallery of South Australia... Visitors are invited on an epic journey from sea to sky through this new form of storytelling that unites the mythic imagery of Gerry Wedd and the sonic intensity of Gabriella Smart.
<https://www.agsa.sa.gov.au/whats-on/exhibitions/wave/>

Richard Bell – Embassy, 21-23 Oct 2022 This installation is inspired by the Aboriginal Tent Embassy, the protest camp set up 50 years ago on the lawns of Parliament House in Canberra. It's situated on the AGSA forecourt on North Terrace as part of Tarnanthi, AGSA's acclaimed celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art, and features a three-day program of talks and film screenings. <https://www.agsa.sa.gov.au/whats-on/exhibitions/richard-bell-embassy/>

Nalini Malani: Gamepieces, 5 Nov 2022 - 22 Jan 2023 This is an immersive sensory installation which draws on AGSA's substantial holdings of Malani's work from her early experimentation with film and photography to what she describes as 'video shadow/plays' such as *Gamepieces*, 2003–09/2020.
<https://www.agsa.sa.gov.au/whats-on/exhibitions/nalini-malani-gamepieces/>

Bewilderness: Recent acquisitions, 26 Nov 2022 - 16 Apr 2023 Showcasing recent acquisitions in painting, printmaking and sculpture, this exhibition considers landscape as a form of representation deeply embedded in questions of identity and belonging.
<https://www.agsa.sa.gov.au/whats-on/exhibitions/recent-acquisitions/>

Pure Form: Japanese sculptural ceramics, 21 May - 6 Nov 2022 – this one is ending very soon so if you haven't seen it, it's well worth a visit. Abstract sculptural ceramics emerged in Japan in the aftermath of WWII. It was a daring movement, totally opposite to the functional and minimalistic ceramics of the past. The forms are breathtaking in their beauty and creativity. A must-see.

Neo Teen Takeover, Sat 22 Oct, 6.30-8pm - Neo is a free after-hours event for young people aged 13-17 years. This month is a special *Neo Teen Takeover* celebrating the power of young people through costume, aerosol art, live music, and one-of-a kind dance experiences. For more information see the website at <https://www.agsa.sa.gov.au/whats-on/event-calendar/neo-teen-takeover-2022-oct/>

Yayoi Kusama: The Spirits of the Pumpkins Descended into the Heavens, Until 2 April 2023. This is one the children love! "Yayoi Kusama is best known for her immersive polka-dot and mirror installations. Over the course of her 70-year career, she has engaged with an expansive idea of space and the human body. She uses several recurring motifs – dots, eyes, nets and pumpkins – to investigate repetition and to create sensory experiences that hint at the infinite. "<https://www.agsa.sa.gov.au/whats-on/exhibitions/yayoi-kusama-the-spirits-of-the-pumpkins-descended-into-the-heavens/>

START is another exciting program aimed specifically for children 3-12years and their families as an introduction to art. It's held on the first Sunday of every month from 11am to 3pm and is a FREE family-fun day including art activities, tours, live performances and entertainment. No bookings are necessary. Each monthly event is themed around current exhibitions or the general collection. I'm always there on the Discovery Tours.
<https://www.agsa.sa.gov.au/whats-on/ongoing-programs/start-gallery/>



The Art Gallery of South Australia is open daily 10am – 5pm. Why not browse through the website at <https://www.agsa.sa.gov.au>

I hope to see you there!

Ann Davenport

Artist of the month - October

Rosene Kotz



Rosene is a self-taught artist working in a range of mediums.

Her practice as an artist began through a desire to recreate what she was seeing in everyday life and as a creative outlet to express herself.



As a painter she works with oils, acrylics and mixed media. She is also a photographer, delighting in capturing images of South Australia.

The creation of jewellery and sculptural pieces is a new passion and she enjoys the challenges of working with resin, clay and native quondong stone in her art works. She finds experimenting with new materials inspires her creative process.

Rosene has been a member and volunteer at Top of the Torrens Gallery in Birdwood for several years. She enjoys interacting with visitors and talking about the gallery, the artists and their artworks. She also volunteers monthly at the Kapunda Community Gallery.



Rosene has exhibited in group exhibitions at Birdwood, Kapunda, Gladstone, Laura, Port Pirie and Peterborough over the years; in addition, her paintings have been exhibited in several SALA exhibitions. Highlights include being the runner-up in the SALA Creative Photography Award and winning the open photography prize at Peterborough both in 2014.

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textiles & embroidery,
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& more

contact:
rosietrenerry@gmail.com



With a fabulous range of unique, quality, value-for-money items on offer, Top of The Torrens Gallery & Gift Shop is the perfect place to browse for that special gift idea this festive season. And, remember that your **TOTT Membership entitles you to 10% discount** on all purchases.



Don't think about making ART,
just get it done!

- *Andy Warhol*

