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# CENTREPIECES ARTISTS UPDATE

# JUNE/ JULY 2019

### CENTREPIECES 2019 AGM

**Our 20th anniversary AGM will be taking place on Tuesday 16th July at 12pm in the Great Chambers upstairs in the Historic House at Hall Place. After the formalities, speeches and awards there will be a buffet lunch in the Lodge. All welcome.**

### LODGE WORKSHOP TIMETABLE (details below timetable)

MONDAY: INDOOR SCULPTURE (Mixed Media) 10:30 – 1:00pm (Lucy Thomas)

TUESDAY: CREATIVE PORTRAIT MAKING (June) 10:00 – 1:00pm (Merissa Hylton)

 PAINTING FROM SKETCHES (July) 10:00 – 1:00pm (Christie Cassisa)

**WEDNESDAY: PHOTOGRAPHY 10:00 – 12:00pm (Terry Longley)**

**THURSDAY: THIS IS YOUR LIFE (June) 10:00 – 1:00pm (Merissa Hylton)**

 **EMBELLISHMENT ART (July/August) 10:30 – 1:00pm (Lucy Thomas)**

FRIDAY: OPEN STUDIO 10:00 – 1:00pm (All artists)

 OUTDOOR SCULPTURE 10:30-1:00pm (Christie Cassisa)

 CREATIVE WRITING 1:00 – 3:00pm (Jo Morris)

SATURDAY: VARIOUS WORKSHOPS 10:30 – 1:00pm (Various Tutors)

ART WORKSHOPS AT THE LODGE

SCULPTURE Lucy continues to run weekly Mixed Media sculptural workshops on Monday mornings, currently working with wire and plaster, which cost £3 and do not need to be booked in advance.

Christie continues to run Outdoor Sculpture Sessions on Friday mornings which will start with a Maquette Workshop on Friday 7th June with a life model utilising grogged clay, which is free (WK workshop). Christie will then be running a series of 3 workshops on Sculptural Portrait Carving from Breezeblock on 14th, 21st and 28th June which need to be booked at a cost of £10 for the 3.

CREATIVE PORTRAIT TECHNIQUES Following on from Merissa’s successful Life Drawing course she will be running a 3 week course on learning and practising how to draw and paint a self portrait or someone else, using different media with a photo as reference. Dates are Tuesday 11th, 18th and 25th June, cost £10 for the three sessions (NOW FULL).

PAINTING FROM SKETCHES This is a 2 part course on Tuesday 2nd and 9th July where Christie will be teaching how to paint from sketches as notes and reference to create something with more artistic expression than a photograph, on canvas. Cost £7, to be booked in advance.

WILLIAM KENDAL FUNDED WORKSHOPS

The grant to support the programme of workshops free to artists has almost run out. The last in the series will be an Acrylic Pour workshop in August run by Karen Larkin.

##### THIS IS YOUR LIFE Merissa will be finishing the last 2 workshops on this theme on 13th and 20th June, that involve making smallish modroc sculptures which are then covered in collage, painted, decoupaged or decorated with words, pictures, quotes etc so people can tell their own stories. Cost £3, no need to book in advance.

##### EMBELLISHMENT ART WORKSHOPS Lucy Thomas will be running these workshops using buttons, sequins, die cut shapes, etc on Thursdays from 27th June throughout July and August. Cost is £3 per session, no need to book.

**PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP This group meets on Wednesdays between 10 –12pm either in the Cafeteria at Sainsburys in Crayford, at the Lodge or in the Hall Place Visitors Centre to discuss photography and plan field trips (£1 donation). Contact Terry Longley, Dawn Tomkins, Neil Butler or Alex Spendley if interested, for details of venue.**

**CREATIVE WRITING Jo Morris continues to run these Friday afternoon sessions, costing £1, no need to book.**

SATURDAY OPENING AT THE LODGE

Opening is normally from 10 – 1pm subject to keyholder availability.

**See the website** [**www.centrepieces.org**](http://www.centrepieces.org) **for workshop updates or** **artists@centrepieces.org** **email group, or telephone the Lodge on 01322 554 589**

**BODY IMAGE EXHIBITION As part of Mental Health Awareness week in May Centrepieces put on a show at the Drill House in Sandwich Kent, on the theme ‘How we Think and Feel about our Bodies’ which took place for the whole month. The Drill House is an art gallery within a renovated warehouse, which is also a very friendly community based pizza restaurant. The exhibition went down very well, with a great response and interest from the public. On Sunday May 12th the Drill House hosted a launch/ opening with Indian Currys for the MH Awareness Week idea of having a curry and ‘chaat ‘. About 20 people from Centrepieces made the trip down to Sandwich. C/P tutor Lucy Thomas had run a series of workshops which culminated in collaborative collage artwork on large boards, which had a high impact with the Body Image theme.**

**BEXLEYHEATH RAILWAY STATION Following previous discussions this station is now under new management, and C/P artist Mark Harrison who also works there has now secured the waiting room for Centrepieces art exhibitions on a rotating basis. Mark’s artwork is currently showing there, with more C/P artists to follow. Let us know if you are interested, all work will be safe and secure.**

**POP UP SHOP in BEXLEYHEATH We are now finalising negotiations to take on a temporary lease for the very large empty Argos shop in Bexleyheath Broadway, and have been discussing how we might use this space. A number of C/P artists have already expressed interest in studio space there, with one or two proposals for workshops being worked up such as the creation of larger work eg life size papier mache figures and group collages. The space will also be used to exhibit C/P artists work and to promote Centrepieces, with some access by the public and their possible involvement in some of the workshops. Centrepieces will be subsidising the rental cost, but will need to recuperate a small amount from those artists using it as a personal studio, probably about £10 per month. Please contact the Lodge asap if you want to get involved, we may be taking the space on as early as June 17th.**

**SOLO/ SMALL GROUP EXHIBITIONS We have visited Creek Creative in Faversham where Fatma Durmush and Fiona Johansen (August), and Christie Cassisa (October) will be holding solo shows this year. Dates to be arranged and circulated for private views to which all Centrepieces artists are invited, transport will be organised by car. Let us know if you would like to be considered for a future solo exhibition either at this café/gallery or elsewhere.**

**LIBRARY EXHIBITIONS Erith Library has been booked and artwork selected from recent submissions for 11th June – 23rd July, and Sidcup Library for 18th June – 1st August 2019.**

**STABLES GALLERY Most will probably know by now that the available space in the Stables Gallery will be reduced due to the creation of a shop space within, which is part of the Council’s attempt to create more income for Hall Place including charges for entrance to the gardens. This decision has been hotly contested and campaigned against by many local art groups, but is going ahead in any case in the late summer. Centrepieces next Stables exhibition runs from the 12th September – 11th October 2020.**

**SLADE GREEN COMMUNITY CENTRE We continue to rotate artists work being shown here and will be putting forward proposals for workshops for people with dementia and their carers (Christie), and Mosaics workshops (Karen), both of which will need to be funded.**

**BEXLEY COLLEGE Centrepieces artist and tutor Merissa Hylton continues to mentor BTech Design students undertaking art as part of their course at this College in Erith.**

**RBA at HALL PLACE On 24th May two members of the Royal Society of British Artists gave a free guided tour of their current exhibition in the Historic House at Hall Place to 15 Centrepieces artists, which was followed by a drawing session with tips.**

MERCHANDISE 50 Centrepieces T shirts with a colourful design by Kim Campbell have now been made and should be ready by mid June. These are primarily for workshop tutors and public events, but will be on sale to Centrepieces artists and volunteers at £10 each. Aisling has started to produce more General Cards utilising selected images of Centrepieces artists work, for fundraising purposes. Karen will soon start to produce a Calendar for 2020. Centrepieces Trustee Britta Von Zweigbergk’s second new book, ‘Centrepieces, A Story of Mental Health and Art in Bexley’ with input from many people involved in Centrepieces over the years is now on sale at the Lodge at £14.99, available to Centrepieces artists and volunteers at the reduced rate of £12.99.

FUNDRAISING There will be another Eltham Garden Fundraising Event this summer hosted by Karen Larkin’s mum, which has been scheduled for Sunday 18th August.

MORE HALL PLACE INSTALLATIONS We are asking for ideas to put together outline proposals for further artwork in the Gardens at Hall Place, for which Centrepieces will require funding. We are currently thinking of scaling down the ‘TWELVE’ as it was called, down to about ‘SIX’. Please get in touch if you have any suggestions/ feel able to take on one of these projects.

ALCOCK and BROWN Centrepieces has been involved in workshops creating designs for Ceramic artwork in Crayford Town Centre for the Centenary Celebration of the first flight across the Atlantic from Ireland to Canada. The local connection is the Vickers factory where the plane was built and one of the pilots (Alcock). There will be an event at Hall Place on Sunday 21st July when the Lodge will be open and Centrepieces will be running a workshop (see Karen for details), and an opening event in Crayford on Tuesday 23rd July.