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## NEWSLETTER December 2011

President Alan Whitten 4844 2332 ~ Vice President Helen De Jonge 4829 2300  
Secretary Lesley Whitten ~ Treasurer Liz Wilkinson

### NEXT MEETING

THURSDAY

9th February, 2012 at 5pm  
at the Art Shed

*Happy New Year*

MAY 2012 BE ONE OF THE GDAS MOST  
SUCCESSFUL YEARS AND MAY IT BE SUCH A  
YEAR FOR EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US.

### SOME ITEMS FROM THE DECEMBER MEETING

#### 1. OCTOBER EXHIBITION

- Will replace Pastel Section with "Any Other Medium"
- Abstract & Contemporary Section will be re-named to Non-Traditional & Abstract. It is hoped this will help sort out the Modern from the Traditional in future.
- We will explore the idea of involving Yr 11 art students in the October exhibition

2. We will continue meeting in the Art Shed.

3. Lesley and Alan attended the GDAC meeting and BBQ.

#### OUR REGULAR SPONSORS

**Goulburn Workers Club** prints our newsletter.  
**Telaustralia** for sponsoring our website and giving assistance when needed. [www.telaustralia.com.au](http://www.telaustralia.com.au)  
Ph: 1300 783 528

### XMAS DINNER

We had a very pleasant Xmas dinner at the Workers Club following our December meeting. including spouses, there were about 20 of us at the dinner.

#### Wishing Well

Wishing Bruce Laybutt well after his successful operation. It was good to see Bruce at the Xmas dinner.

### RENAISSANCE

RAPHAEL, BOTTICELLI, BELLINI, TITIAN

15th & 16th century Italian paintings from the Accademia Carrara, Bergamo.

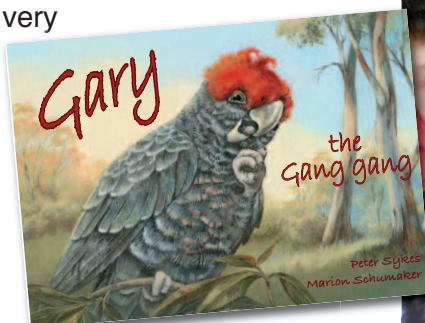
This wonderful collection can be seen at the National Gallery, Canberra from 9th December to 9th April, 2012

Ticket prices: Adult \$25, Concession \$16  
Catalogue \$39.95

### CONGRATULATIONS MARION AND PETER

Quite a number of GDAS members along with many other people attended the *Gary the Gang Gang* launch. It was a very successful day with numerous copies of the book being sold.

Contact Marion or Peter if you would like a copy.



## XMAS DINNER PICS



Do you have any news items, paintings or other information to put into our newsletter or website?

Please send it to Katya, Lesley or Alex

## GDAS PAINTING DAY THURSDAYS

Our room at the Art Shed, Blackshaw Road, is open every **Thursday 10am - 4pm** approx.

Come along to paint and socialise. If a member with a key is not here, then ask at the Men's Shed for someone to open our room.

Check with Lesley or Liz for January.

## ART TERMS MEANINGS

# CONTEMPORARY ART

The following extracts from the internet may help members come to some conclusion as to what is contemporary art. Of course you may like to find other definitions of it. You may well enjoy reading this. (Alex)

Source: **ART HISTORY**

[http://arthistory.about.com/od/current\\_contemporary\\_art/f/what\\_is.htm](http://arthistory.about.com/od/current_contemporary_art/f/what_is.htm) (Resourced 24.11.2012)

**Question:** What is "Contemporary" Art?

**Answer:** This is an excellent question, and one that isn't asked often enough. Presumably, this is another one of those art definitions we are all supposed to know - most likely by osmosis, or some other telepathic means, because (heaven forbid) you wouldn't want to ask a "stupid" question at some Art World function. (Well, you might, but I wouldn't. At least, not ever again.)

Anyway, the answer is divinely simple. Contemporary just means "**art that has been and continues to be created during our lifetimes**". In other words, contemporary to us. Now, of course, if you are 96-years old and reading this (By the way, congratulations, if this describes you. Way to keep up with the times!), you can expect a certain amount of overlapping between "Contemporary" and "Modern" art in your lifetime.

A good rule of thumb is:

**Modern Art:** Art from the Impressionists (say, around 1880) up until the 1960's or 70's.

**Contemporary Art:** Art from the 1960's or 70's up until this very minute.

Here at About Art History, 1970 is the cut-off point for two reasons. First, because it was around 1970 that the terms "Postmodern" and "Postmodernism" popped up - meaning, we must assume, that the Art World had had its fill of Modern Art starting right then.

Secondly, 1970 seems to be the last bastion of easily classified artistic movements. If you look at the outline of Modern Art, and compare it to the outline of Contemporary Art, you'll quickly notice that there are far more entries on the former page. This, in spite of the fact that Contemporary Art enjoys far more working artists making far more art. (It may be that Contemporary artists are mostly working in "movements" that cannot be classified, due to there being around ten artists in any given "movement", none of which have shot off an email saying that there's a new "movement" and "could you please tell others?")

On a more serious note, while it may be hard to classify emergent movements, Contemporary art - collectively - is much

more socially conscious than any previous era has been. A whole lot of art from the last 30 years has been connected with one issue or another: feminism, multiculturalism, globalization, bio-engineering and AIDS awareness all come readily to mind as subject matter.

SO, THERE YOU HAVE IT. CONTEMPORARY ART RUNS FROM (ROUGHLY) 1970 UNTIL NOW. WE WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT shifting an arbitrary point on the art timeline for another decade, at least. Go, be of good cheer, and fear not the term "Contemporary Art".

Source: **THE TATE**

<http://www.tate.org.uk/collections/glossary/definition.jsp?entryId=583>

**Contemporary Art:** Term loosely used to denote art of the present day and of the relatively recent past, of an innovatory or avant-garde nature. In relation to contemporary art museums, the date of origin for the term contemporary art varies. The Institute of Contemporary Art in London, founded in 1947, champions art from that year onwards. Whereas The New Museum of Contemporary Art in New York chooses the later date of 1977. In the 1980s, Tate planned a Museum of Contemporary Art in which contemporary art was defined as art of the past ten years on a rolling basis.