



H.A.G.A.S

Henley and Grange Arts Society
 Atkin Street, Henley Beach :: PO Box 215, Henley Beach SA 5022
 Clubrooms phone: 8353 3710 Email: enquiries@hagas.com.au Website: www.hagas.com.au

Sculptor Demo

HAGAS members were very fortunate recently to be able to see sculptor Trevor Brown demonstrating the skills that earned him a place as a 2012 finalist exhibitor in the prestigious Waterhouse Natural History Art Prize. His sculpture of an Emperor Penguin in transparent resin was very popular and brought Trevor several commissions.

Saturday afternoons in August found a small group of budding sculptors in the pottery studio being inspired each week by Trevor as we watched him work on his own piece in clay and as he generously shared his clay and tools and encouraged us to try making our own pieces. It was a very interesting and satisfying experience that left us wanting to do more!

It is hoped that Trevor will have time early next year to give some workshops or classes in sculpting at the club which would give members the opportunity to learn new skills and which are sure to be very enjoyable.



Christmas Cheer

Sunday 09Dec 3-6pm

The closing of the exhibition will also be an informal Christmas get together to celebrate the season. Come along and enjoy a social gathering with your fellow artists.

BYO a plate & drinks



Club Exhibition



Sat & Sun, 01&02, 08&09 December

It's time for YOU, the Member, to exhibit in your Annual Exhibition so we can show everyone what great talent we have at HAGAS. This exhibition is for **every member** so even if you are a beginner of art/pottery/glass it's a great time to show off your work.

THE EXHIBITION: This year we are going to do something different! The exhibition will run over **two week-ends early in December** and there will no opening night. We are going to put a bit of effort into advertising this exhibition in local papers and The Advertiser, so we encourage everyone to contribute and participate by submitting a piece of your art.

REGISTRATION: Read the Conditions of Entry sheet and complete the registration and tags for your paintings and deliver on the set times to the club rooms.

NOTE there is a maximum of two painting entry per person. Also note the drop off and pick up time.

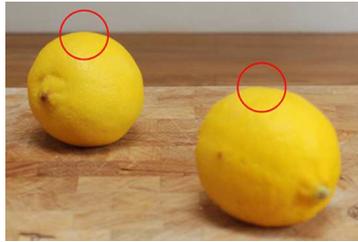
POTTERS & GLASS: members please let Jenni know if you intend to submit items for the exhibition. Set up will be Friday 30 November.

VOLUNTEERS: We need YOU to help with this fabulous event, even if only for a short time. More help is less work for everyone. There is a duty roster in the art room, please write your name in the area you would like to help in.

INVITATION: You are one of our best promotions to encourage people to visit our exhibition. So included with the exhibition information are three 'invitations'. Please hand out these invites to friends, neighbours, family, local shops, work colleagues or anyone! You will also receive (via email only) an A4 size poster of the exhibition. If you can put it up at your local café, library, or any notice board, it will help to advertise our exhibition. If you would like more copies ask in studio.

Are you unwittingly creating a compositional cardinal sin?

Ever looked at one of your drawings and something feels wrong? You just can't put your finger on it, 90% of the piece looks great but something is not quite right. You could have fallen prey to an easy slip up, you might have drawn a *'tangent'* by mistake. A few simple changes can transform your drawings for the better...



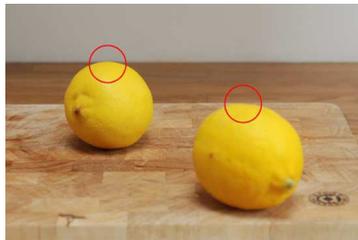
What are tangents?

Tangents are where 2 lines just touch each other in a way that causes spatial ambiguity and a slight jarring on our eyes.

It's not super obvious but can really ruin a perfectly good drawing or painting. Tangents aren't pretty! So let's look at a few simple examples to try and decipher any tangents hidden in your own works.

Table top line

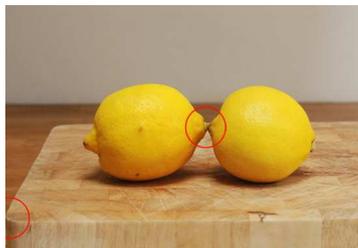
In the example above both tops of the lemons hit a horizontal line, it can start to make whatever is on the horizontal line feel like it is sitting 'on top' of the object.



You'll often see it in landscapes where the top of the trees hit the 'bottom' of the clouds. This creates a weirdness and it flattens the perspective. If you're working from a reference photograph these tangent lines can be harder to spot, but when anything is translated into paint the effect is amplified. It is worth taking a bit of time when selecting an image to paint from, to double check that overlaps are in the image to help with depth.

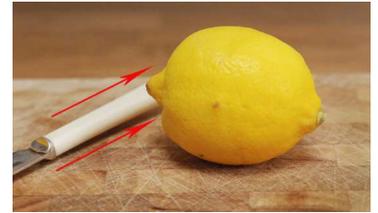
Edge to edge

Here we have another couple of examples. The edge of the chopping board (bottom left) hits the edge of the frame. This is a visual no no. It draws the attention to that point and 'charges' it, equally, where the two lemons touch your eyes are really drawn to that point. Notice how the space between them, the negative space, forms an x shape. This also visually blocks the back edge of the chopping board so prevents your eyes from wandering through the piece. On the positive, the top of the lemons are now looking loads better than in the first example as they break through the horizon line and each lemon is at a slightly different height. Being at a slightly different height creates a slightly different shape and the more varied you can make the shapes in your paintings or drawings the more natural they will appear.



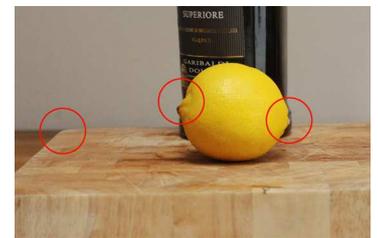
Parallel lines

This particular tangent needs a lot of help! The angle of the knife is the same angle as the tip of the lemon, this sends your eye to that focal point but then there isn't any gaps for your eye to go. You can't judge how long the knife is and thus creates an optical illusion where you're unsure if the lemon overlaps the knife or is butted up to it. When viewers are faced with these subtle questions, albeit on a subconscious level, it makes the finished painting feel forced *even* if you have loose brush marks and great colours. If the composition jars – you lose your audience.



Edge to edge

We have our old friend the 'table top line' back again but this time we have an issue with our objects that are edge to edge. Both sides of the lemon are hitting the wine bottles edges which creates a solid pillar of focus. If the lemon was moved to the left 2cm, we would suddenly have good overlap, a view of the curve of the base of the bottle and more interesting negative space. As it stands it feels unbalanced and lacks interest.



Before & after tangent composition

Before: Notice how awkward and squeezed in this image feels



After: By slightly adjusting the viewing angle we now have a much more balanced and less jarring composition.





SALA Bus Trip to the Barossa

On Sunday 25 August a group of our members travelled to the Barossa Valley for the last day of the SALA festival. We arrived at Chateau Barossa in ideal weather in lots of sunshine, and during the day visited quite a few wineries and galleries exhibiting many interesting and unusual works of art. A very enjoyable day was had by all with morning tea at the Lavender Farm, lunch at Tanunda and another cuppa at Seppeltsfield on the way home. Many thanks to our tour organiser Luisa for a well thought out trip, and to our driver Brendan who I suspect enjoyed his day as much as we did!

Ruth Pethers

It gives me great pleasure to organise Sala trips. This year a group of very enthusiastic people booked up the bus within two days of the trip details being posted on the

club wall, even before it made it into the newsletter (I hope to have extra seats next year). The above photo was taken on the Schild Estate Winery where we saw some great outside mosaics surrounded by a fantastic view. The weather was perfect and so were the lavender scones for morning tea. We enjoyed viewing beautiful art works including ceramics, pottery, glass, paintings, wire and metal works. We thoroughly enjoyed the food and all the wine tastings along the way. The highlight would have been the large flower paintings at Peter Lehmann cellars. These trips are always motivating and enjoyable, especially because it brings people with the same interests together, sharing friendship and inspiration. I would like to thank our very good driver Brendon and everyone for a cooperative and entertaining day.

Luisa Silvi

Impressionist Painting Workshop with Richard Rogers

Saturday, 03 November 10am - 4pm

Richard's work has featured in the *Artist's Palette*, *Australian Artist* and *International Artist* magazines. As an art coach and tutor he does demonstrations and workshops Australia wide. His first art instruction DVD 'A Simple Approach', produced in 2010, was given a five star rating when reviewed by painting.about.com and was included in their Top10 art books for that year. View his work and a great video of Richard painting on richardrogers.com.au

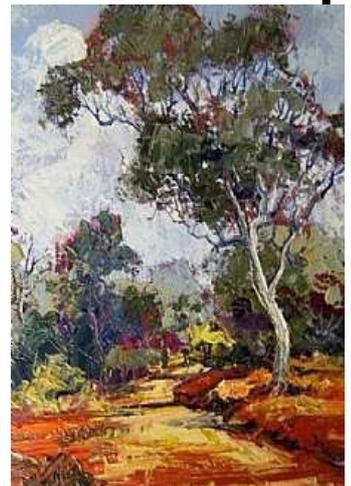
The workshop will begin with a painting demonstration and then participants will do a small study working from the tutors reference. A second painting will be done in the afternoon. Students can work from their own reference or from one supplied by the tutor. This workshop is suitable for acrylics or oil painters.

Acrylic paints and mediums will be available for participants to use. Bring your own painting equipment and either several canvas boards or a canvas pad. *BYO lunch.*

Members \$40

Book NOW!

Phone Alison 8356 5068



Boris Franco Watercolour Workshop



**1-3.30pm, Fridays
02, 09, 16 & 23 November**

BYO watercolour paints, 1/4 sheet of watercolour paper not less than 300gsm.
For more details phone Boris on 8443 7021

Members \$40

**BOOK NOW!!
limited numbers
Jean 8356 1350**

Life drawing

is a mirrored experience of the human torso!

Investigate proportions, the positive and negative space, light and shade with different materials and techniques from a life model.

If you would be interested in attending a life drawing evening phone Jean NOW on 8356 1350 to register your interest.



SA Watercolour Society

The South Australian Watercolour Society has moved into the Marchant Community Centre, the former Athelstone Community Centre, is now the new home of SAWS. The centre provides spacious office/meeting/conference facilities with 24/7 ADSL connected computers, a large wet area with tables, chairs and massive south facing windows to enable members to work in comfortable air conditioned surroundings. The attached gallery has a pass through to an ample kitchen and should make for convenient catering at openings. The Welcome Afternoon Tea recently held there augurs well for a successful Society - more than 60 people enjoyed the community plates, the demonstrations and the camaraderie.

Members can share in the activities from 10am to 4pm Tuesdays and Saturdays at only \$5 per day. Tea/coffee is available and shops are close at hand.

For details contact Gerhard Ritter on 0419 849 226 or bring your painting gear to join in.

PATRITTI WINES



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Mon-Sat 9am-5pm**

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'Art is much less important than life, but what a poor life without it' Robert Motherwell

Drawing & Painting Jean phone 8356 1350

Pottery & glass Rick phone 8242 0705

Children's Art Alison phone 8356 5068

Newsletter Editor

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email: lydia@picknowl.com.au

Contributions to newsletter encouraged ... an artistic tale or even a joke ... prefer email (or put in my pigeon hole)