



# The Sketch

The newsletter of the **Cambridge Drawing Society**

October 2020

## 2020 Workshops and Evening Events

The society is finalising its plans for a programme of workshops and evening events for the remainder of 2020. Inevitably we need to do things a little differently to ensure we minimise any risk of anyone being infected with the coronavirus. This does give the Society the opportunity to explore alternative ways of keeping members and Friends of the Society engaged in art. Some of these new approaches may become a progressive 'new normal' for the Society going forward.

### Evening Events (All on-line presentations using Zoom)

**Wednesday 28th October – Katherine Gravett presents 'The Interconnectedness of Art and Science; Drawing Order and Chaos'**

Katherine describes herself as 'a nerd with OCD trying to understand life and trauma through art and science!' Not a very academic sentence, but she is a human being fascinated and terrified by the butterfly effect. Katherine's art is my way of trying to understand how and why a sequence of events will occur and how much control she has (or has not). Her use of random chemicals with ink alongside obsessive fine pen work is an ongoing investigation into 'how' and 'why' by contrasting these mediums in the same space. 'Neuroscience, complexity, fractals and colour float my boat; I explore themes that interest me with each drawing.'

**Wednesday 8th November – Shane Swann 'High Detail Drawing Techniques, using fine tip pens and pencils'**

CDS member Shane Swann will run an online one-day interactive workshop, demonstrating the techniques that he uses to produce his wildlife drawings.

The introduction will include how he became interested in art, what lead him to focus on wildlife illustration and the message behind his work.

In the first part of the workshop Shane will focus on demonstrating multiple linear based drawing



Shane Swann



Katherine Gravett



techniques, using fine tip pens and pencils - to give viewers an idea of the mechanics behind his methods. Workshop participants can then practise themselves.

In the second part Shane will work on producing a wildlife portrait, which participants can observe and use as inspiration to create their own image using their own reference photo. Questions and advice throughout the session will be most welcome.

**Venue: Interactive On-line workshop**

*In the pipeline – A presentation on the history of the Cambridge Drawing Society. This is work in progress and we are hoping this will be ready to include in our 2020 programme. Watch this space!*

## News from our Chair

We have had some responses to the recent letter in August to CDS Members and Friends, all sadly accepting the inevitability of cancelling the autumn exhibition.

### Zoom talks

Zoom Talks were welcomed, particularly by those who cannot normally come to the evening talks due to not wanting to drive to the venue at night. The talks scheduled for this autumn will now be held online through Zoom. They will be advertised as normal on the website and we do hope that you will enjoy them.

### Painting 'en plein air'

There was some interest in drawing or painting outside with others. Debbie Baxter has kindly said she would be happy to host painting sessions on Jesus Green which is very near her gallery, Hub Co-Create at 4 Milton Road, which could be used as a base. She also runs a series of art classes there, and more information about these can be found at

www.artdkbaxter, or on 07597075738, so let her know if you are interested.

### Monthly art challenge

There was also some interest in the idea of a monthly art challenge, so the Committee has decided to initiate one. The first theme, suitable for Covid, will be 'Home' - to be interpreted as you will, to be finished by the end of November. The following theme, 'Natural World', starting December runs until the end of January. If you would like to take part, please email an image of your work to Steve Ashman, together with anything you'd like to write about your inspiration, and it will be put on on the Website for Members and Friends to share and enjoy.

### Local exhibitions and art events

The Newsletter would also welcome hearing from Members about local exhibitions and art events they have been to/know about, and their reviews of them - and also, of course, about their own artistic news.

**Lizanne Van Essen**

## Bollards!

CDS member Sonia Villiers received an invitation from Mark Starte (Saffron Walden Tourist Information Centre), to paint a bollard in the Market Square. Sonia was happy to take up the challenge and on a windy morning on Tuesday 26th August, Sonia set to work.

The first stage was to prime the bollard white (obligingly done by the local council) a few days before. Sonia's first task was to apply a stencil and spray part of the bollard green - tricky in windy conditions. This was followed by completing the work using paint brushes and enamel paint.

Well done Sonia!



## Paul Rodhouse presented a Zoom talk 'Artistic exploration of the Antarctic' on line on September 23rd

Paul's enjoyable talk explored the long history of artists visiting the Antarctic, from James Cook's voyages to the present day. He presented examples of their work in light of the changing motivations for expeditions to take artists to the Southern Continent, and explored how this influenced the various artists' approach to the subject. The presentation ended with a discussion of a few examples of Paul's own Antarctic paintings.



View towards Wimpole

## Paintings donated

### £5,000 raised from the sale so far!

Dan Walmsley has donated 20 paintings to be sold in aid of the Sick Children's Trust and the J Arthur Rank Hospice. The paintings are in the clubhouse of the Gog Magog Golf Club until the weekend of 10/11 October. See the painting at [www.gogmagog.co.uk/charity/walmsley-paintings](http://www.gogmagog.co.uk/charity/walmsley-paintings).

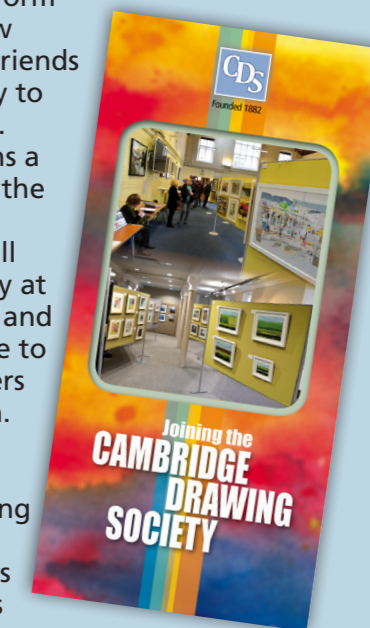
## New joining leaflet

A new information leaflet has been produced to inform prospective new Members and Friends of how to apply to join the Society.

It also contains a brief history of the CDS.

The leaflet will be on display at our exhibitions and will be available to present members for information.

It will also be mailed to enquirers wishing to join the Society either as a Member or as a Friend.



# CDS SPRING EXHIBITION

Booking for the Pitt Building, our usual venue, is confirmed for our forthcoming exhibition next March

- Hand-in: Tuesday 16th March
- Private View: Friday 19th March 5.30pm - 8.30pm
- Public exhibition: Saturday 20th - Saturday 27th March.

Between now and the exhibition we will be keeping a very close eye on the coronavirus situation, and this may well result in changes to the above. We will be keeping Members and Friends informed.



The Pitt Building



## Royal Academy Summer Exhibition re-opens!

For the first time in history, the Summer Exhibition will fall in winter. Discover a myriad of works by household names and emerging artists inside our joyous festival of art.

Opened 6 October 2020 — 3 January 2021. Mon – Sun: 10am–6pm  
Everyone (including Friends) must book tickets for a timed slot online or by phone.

Newsletter edited and designed by Colin Barker

Further information about the Cambridge Drawing society can be found by checking in to <http://www.cambridgedrawingsociety.org>