



Press release for immediate release

Norfolk art collective gears up for unique collaboration to celebrate their links with Alfred Munnings



A Norfolk art collective is set to take part in unique collaboration with The Munnings Art Museum.

Norfolk and Norwich Art Circle was established in 1885 following Crome & Cotman's famous Norwich Society of Artists and boasts Sir Alfred Munnings as one of its founding members.

Now, the group is teaming up with the museum dedicated to Munnings and his work to mark their strong links with the artist.

The group, which boasts more than 200 professional and amateur members, will display a range of artworks in various mediums - including painting, 3D and sculpture – and on various subjects.

Jenny Hand, director of The Munnings Art Museum, said: “The museum is delighted to be hosting this exhibition by the Norfolk and Norwich Art Circle.

“Sir Alfred Munnings first exhibited his paintings with this society in 1897 with a view to getting himself noticed and launching his career.

“This current collaboration not only celebrates the artists of today but has a resonance through time which is uniquely special for all involved.”

Hazel Pidsley, Chairman of Norfolk and Norwich Art Circle said: “I am so pleased that we are able to stage this exhibition, despite the difficulties everyone is experiencing this year.

“I am grateful to Jenny Hand for her enthusiasm and support for this collaboration and to establish a very important link with one of our founding members.

“Sir Alfred Munnings continues to be a hugely influential artist and it will be an honour to stage our exhibition at the home that he loved so much.”

The exhibition will take place between Wednesday 9th and Sunday 13th September 2020 at The Munnings Art Museum, Castle Hill, Dedham, Colchester, CO7 6AZ.

Open 10am – 5pm each day, all the work exhibited has been selected by an expert panel in order to maintain the highest standards of work.

The exhibition will be staged in a marquee in the grounds of the museum and will be complemented by a live demonstration on Sunday 13th September by artists Sue Williams and John Shave in the garden.

Members will also be painting during the duration of the exhibition allowing visitors to see the artists working on site.

People attending can be assured that the strictest safety guidelines are followed, and at busy times it may be that entry to the exhibition is restricted to maintain safe distancing for visitors.

Entrance to the exhibition is free.

The museum, which ordinarily offers changing displays from its significant collection of life's works by Sir Alfred Munnings, is temporarily closed due to the coronavirus pandemic

Norfolk and Norwich Art Circle welcome new members who are artists or interested in art. For more information please contact Hazel Pidsley via hazelpidsley@hotmail.com or visit www.nnartcircle.com

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Notes for Editors

About Norfolk and Norwich Art Circle

In 2020 Norfolk and Norwich Art Circle celebrates 135 years as an organisation.

The Circle began as the Norwich Art Circle in 1885, following Crome & Cotman's famous Norwich Society of Artists.

It acquired its full title about forty years later when it merged with the Woodpeckers Art Club, presided over by Nugent Monck. After this, its members increased dramatically. The NNAC has included in its membership artists of national and international acclaim such as Arnesby Brown, Alfred Munnings, Jeffery Camp, Michael Andrews, Bernard Meadows, Edward Seago, Bernard Reynolds and Ian Houston.

The Circle is open to anyone over the age of 17, who is interested in the practice or appreciation of the visual arts and who has connections with East Anglia. Many members have had formal art training, others pursue drawing, painting, printmaking, or sculpture as a pastime. Others simply enjoy learning more about the subject they have always loved. This wide intake leads to a lively exchange of ideas and techniques, providing influences of mutual benefit.

The Circle is run by a Council democratically elected at its Annual General Meeting. The Council organises the yearly programme, and selects the work for the members' exhibitions. Each year, one third of the Council retires, and a new Chairman is elected. In this way, every member helps to steer the future of the group.

The NNAC is proud of its achievements and its democratic system which has served it well for over one hundred years.

Images included



Dancing Pears by Andrea Sinclair



Sitting this one out by Terry Richardson



Cromer by David Talks

Press enquiries

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