

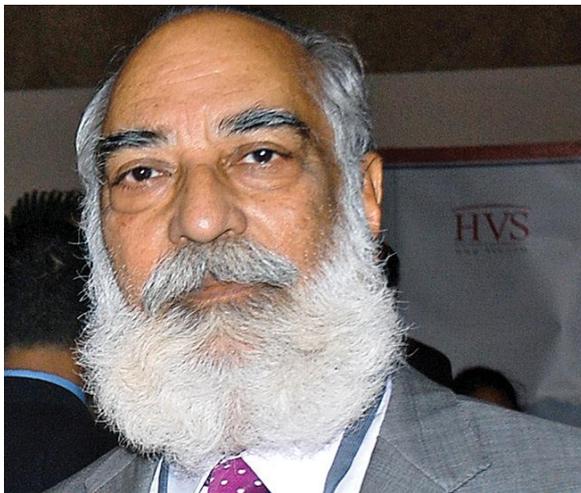


The Royal Society of British Artists

## NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2012

### A new Patron for the Royal Society of British Artists

It is some years since the Royal Patron of the RBA died and the society has been without a royal patron for some time. Through the Indian connections of our President we now have a new patron – **Arvind Singh Mewar of Udaipur**. Shriji Arvind Singh Mewar of Udaipur is the 76th Custodian of the House of Mewar, a multifaceted personality, he has been preserving a vibrant cultural heritage enshrined in The City Palace Complex, Udaipur in Rajasthan. Also a businessman deeply interested in culture and the visual arts with offices in India and London, he will bring a wealth of experience and contacts to the RBA. James Horton will write in more detail about him in the next Newsletter.



## MEMBERS NEWS

**Jill and Martin Leman** have had a busy autumn. In September Martin exhibited paintings in St Ives at The New Craftsman. This was a special exhibition to celebrate their 50 years in business. Jill exhibited work with the ACEO Gallery at Brighton Art Fair

In October Jill and Martin participated in the Shooting Star CHASE Contemporary Art Exhibition at the Royal College of Art. They also had paintings in the RWS Autumn Exhibition at the Bankside Gallery

In November Jill & Martin will have work at The Gallery ,Alan Baxter & Associates,75 Cowcross Street, London EC1M 6EL

They will also be showing work in the Mini Picture Show at the Bankside Gallery 22 November - 23 January 2013

**David Sawyer** is having a one-man exhibition of oil paintings of Oxford and Cambridge Colleges at Panter and Hall, 27 Bury Street, St James's London SW1Y 6AL. The exhibition is entitled 'Inspired by Spires' and runs from 5<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> December

Our congratulations to **Cheryl Culver** on being elected President of the Pastel Society. Cheryl is exhibiting at both the Hampstead Affordable Art Fair and the Battersea Affordable Art fair. Over the summer she exhibited at the Russell gallery's Summer Exhibition and had three paintings in the St Aulaye pastel exhibition in the Perigord, France

**Jeremy Galton** writes : I had a successful one-man show at Catto Below ( the downstairs part of the Catto Gallery in Hampstead) in July. In the November issue of Artists & Illustrators mag I have an article on how I do my "dotty" paintings. It's out now.

**Steven Outram** is taking part in two exhibitions this autumn. The first is 'A Pageant of Paintings in Oil at the Llewellyn Alexander Gallery ,124 -126 The Cut, Waterloo, London SE1 8LN UK (Opposite the Old Vic Theatre) from 1 December 2012 to 8 January 2013. He is also showing at the Winter Exhibition of the Red Rag Gallery, 5-7 Church Street, Stow-on-the-Wold, Gloucestershire, GL54 1BB beginning on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2012.

### **The Sunday Times Watercolour Competition**

Congratulations to **Chris Myers** on receiving the Smith & Williamson Cityscape Prize for his entry in the Sunday Times Watercolour Competition 2012. The work called "Fragile" depicts the London 2012 Olympics site in Stratford as it neared completion. The exhibition ran at the Mall Galleries from the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup>. **Bridget Moore** also had her work accepted and hung at the exhibition.

**Jon Pryke** has held a large one-man show in Cologne at the Kunstlerhaus Alte Lederfabrik. An on-going project, "SEEING EUROPE - Landscapes in pastel" featured 59 works, completed over the last 10 years. Sponsored by the British Council, the exhibition was opened by the Mayor of Cologne on September 22 and continued until November 4th.



At the Opening - Jon with the Mayor of Cologne, Frau Elfi Scho-Antwerpes



'Clear water with pine shadow'  
Pastel. 72x65cms.

**Miranda Halsby** had a print accepted for the annual print exhibition 'Bite' at the Mall Galleries. She is having a Christmas exhibition and sale of prints at the Newland Gallery in Sherborne. **Julian** exhibited at the Yvonne Arnaud Gallery at Guildford over the summer and is taking part in the exhibition of paintings of Woodcote Park,

the spectacular club and golf course owned by the RAC near Epsom, being organised by the Mall Galleries early next year.

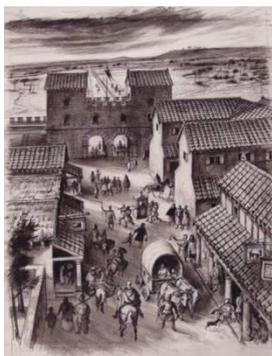
**Richard Sorrell** is exhibiting at the NEAC annual exhibition at the Mall Galleries. He tells me that he has been putting quite a lot of thought and work into his newly designed website, which will be coming on line shortly. It is designed to be an exhibitions site for his pictures, which will try to imitate as nearly as he can the experience of visiting an art gallery. He will show about 30 pictures in the first exhibition, and plan to have 6 shows a year.

**Austin Cole** is showing at the '16@Morley Original Prints' exhibition at the Morley Gallery, 61 Westminster Bridge Road, London from the 29th of November to the 13th of December. (Mondays 12.30-6pm Tuesdays & Fridays 11-6pm Wednesdays & Thursdays 11-7pm Saturdays & Sunday 2 Dec 12-4pm)

Our sympathies to **Cinzia Bonada** who has had to put down her paint brushes for a while, after falling whilst running on an uneven pavement near Richmond Bridge and fracturing her patella and femur. She hopes soon to be able to abandon her crutches and concentrate on the forthcoming RBA exhibition.

**Christopher Hall, Judith Gardner, Cheryl Culver and Barbara Richardson** will be exhibiting at the Russell Gallery from 21<sup>st</sup> March to 6<sup>th</sup> April 2013

**Julia Sorrell** has had an article about her father Alan Sorrell published in the November/December issue of 'British Archaeology'. Alan Sorrell was a well known painter, illustrator and teacher, and in fact one of Alfred Daniels' tutors. The six page article is entitled '**The Man who created Roman Britain**' and has contributions from two leading archaeologists who are involved in a research project on the Alan Sorrell Archive. He was first and foremost a Neo-romantic artist who by chance became involved in the archaeological world. Julia has been asked to write a number of articles and give a series of lectures about her father's work. There is a fascinating website where you can read more about his work: [www.alansorrell.ukartists.com](http://www.alansorrell.ukartists.com) and there will be an exhibition of his work at the Sir John Soane Museum in 2013-14



Roman Britain – an illustration by Alan Sorrell

Julia is also taking part in a Three Man Exhibition at the Wykeham Gallery, Stockbridge starting 20 October 2012, which runs for three weeks. **John Martin** is also taking part in this exhibition. John has created his own website where his work can be seen: <http://www.johndmartin.co.uk/>

**Future RBA Exhibitions.** Nick Verrall and Bridget Moore have been working hard to arrange exhibitions of the RBA at commercial galleries in addition to our annual exhibition at the FBA. There will be two RBA exhibitions in the autumn of 2013. These will be at the Russell Gallery in Putney and with many thanks to Andy Wood we shall be having a show at the Rye Art Gallery, Rye, East Sussex. Details of entry dates for these two group shows will be sent to members in due course.

### **RBA Christmas Lunch**

The RBA Christmas Lunch will take place at the Mall Galleries on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December

### **RBA Exhibition 2013 Dates**

Exhibition dates are as follows:

HANDING IN                      Friday 25 and Saturday 26 January, 10am – 5pm

SELECTION                      Monday 28 & Tuesday 29 January (10am start)

HANG                              Sunday 3 & Monday 4 March

PRIVATE VIEW                Tuesday 5 March, 2pm - 8pm

CANDLELIT SUPPER        Saturday 16 March, 7pm

CLOSE EXHIBITION        Sunday 17 March, 1pm (please note)

Annual General Meeting    Sunday 17 March, from 2pm

Collection of Unsold Work   Thursday 21 March, 10am-5pm

### **Friends of the RBA**

The RBA Council has decided to re-establish the Friends in order to promote the work and exhibitions of the RBA. It will be an internet based organisation and Friends will receive the RBA Newsletter and invitations to exhibitions by email rather than by post. Members will be asked to help build the mailing list.

## EXHIBITIONS

The major exhibition in London this autumn is The Pre-Raphaelite exhibition at Tate Britain – **Pre-Raphaelites: Victorian Avant-Garde** (until January 13<sup>th</sup> 2013). This is the first major Pre-Raphaelite exhibition for some 30 years and it is a very comprehensive survey with all the major works brought together including Holman Hunt's 'The Lady of Shalott' from the Wadsworth Atheneum in Connecticut, not seen in Britain since the 1950's. The purpose of the exhibition is to show how truly revolutionary the Pre-Raphaelites were, something we tend to forget. They were the first artists to paint on the spot, pre-dating the Impressionists by at least 15 years, and they also made use of the bright new chemical colours which were becoming available in the 1850's thereby throwing off the academic tradition of painting landscape in toned-down colours. Their personal lives were also 'avant garde' in that they flew against Victorian convention living quite Bohemian lives. Their women 'The Stunners' – Jane Morris, Fanny Cornforth, Alexa Wilding, Lizzie Siddal, Annie Miller and Marie Zambaco – set new fashions for unconventional clothes and long flowing hair. So both in their art and way of life, the Pre-Raphaelites were truly avant-garde.



Holman Hunt : The Lady of Shalott

I greatly enjoyed the exhibition of **Sir George Clausen** at the Fine Art Society in Bond Street (until November 8<sup>th</sup>). Clausen was a square brush painter who captured the passing of the rural traditions which still existed in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century but which were rapidly changing. His paintings of field workers, potato harvesters, gleaners and casual labourers were greatly influenced by Bastien –Lepage, but Clausen's

work is more vigorous and colourful. The exhibition is accompanied by a new book by Professor Kenneth McConkey entitled 'George Clausen and the Picture of English Rural Life' published by Atelier Books at £45. Clausen was an honorary member of the RBA.



George Clausen : The Return from the Fields 1882

'**Bronze**' at the Royal Academy (until 9<sup>th</sup> December) is a real blockbuster with bronze statues ranging from several thousand years BC to the present day and covering all continents. It is a superb show in every respect although the sheer scale of it is maybe a bit daunting. I am also looking forward to the Royal Academy's next big exhibition: **Edouard Manet : Portraying Life** (26<sup>th</sup> January to 14<sup>th</sup> April 2013)