

BARN OWL (Issue 3 August–September 2020)

Welcome to our bumper Summer edition! Barn Owl has searched out some of the events that can be visited or accessed online over the next couple of months, together with Art Café's new programme. Barn Owl is packed with news from the Barn, exhibitions, events and activities far and wide. We wish you a safe, peaceful and creative Summer.

Art Café: A place to meet up on Wednesday mornings.

You're warmly invited to join us at our virtual Art Café to explore a different work of art, and talk about life, spirituality and all that intrigues and inspires us.

The Café takes place on Zoom, starting at 10.30am for an hour.

August 3rd Three linocuts by Sybil Andrews (1898–1992)

August 12th *Sunlight in a Cafeteria* by Edward Hopper (1882–1967)

August 19th *Don Manuel Osorio Manrique de Zuniga* by Francisco Goya (1746–1828)

[Café closed for Summer refurbishment August 20th–September 15th]

September 16th The man who put the sun in the sky: Claude Gellée (c.1604–1682)

September 23rd *The Parakeet and the Mermaid* by Henri Matisse (1869–1954)

September 30th *Adoration of the Magi* by Peter Paul Rubens (1577–1640)

Please phone 01508 538014 or e-mail NickGarr39@aol.com for more information and the Zoom link.

Barn Activities

Deep Talk Introductory Session

Deep Talk is 'a new, fresh, and happy method for developing communities. It is a soul gymnastics trampoline for the community: it helps to empower you and helps you grow. It helps you find lost muscles, the real parts of your soul, with which everyone can be a whole person just as they are.' (Revd Jeremy Clines).

Nick and Helen are offering an introductory evening with the opportunity to participate in a Deep Talk 'story' on September 28th, 7.30pm via Zoom. Please contact us for an invitation or more information. There will be a small fee to support the Barn's work.

Need Creative/Reflective Space?

In the Autumn, the Barn at Rockland Rectory will be made available at various times for individuals or households who would like to spend some time during the day there for art, meditation and refreshment. Please contact Nick Garrard for further details.

Message from Revd Helen Garrard:

Lock down has been a very challenging time for us all. Isolation and separation from people and activities we normally enjoy have flattened our landscape. Many have experienced anxiety for their own well-being, concern or even grief for loved ones. This has been felt across society, particularly by those who have struggled with health or well-being, and especially those in hospital.

Previously, patients would have been supported by visits from family and friends. These have become either impossible or highly restricted, resulting in facing illness alone, as families become isolated from loved ones in hospital. This has made a huge impact on my work as chaplain. Not only have patients become isolated, but my volunteer team has stopped physically coming into hospitals. In some ways, the NHS has put most of its energies into saving and maintaining physical health over emotional, pastoral and spiritual health.

This situation is not going to change quickly. We face months, if not years of restrictions. My challenge is to meet increasing needs which patients, families and staff experience, seeking comfort and hope beyond their isolation and exhaustion. I believe that the interaction between art, spirituality and meditation has a huge gift to offer at this time. I'm not sure what this work will look like in practice, but I sense the need. Initial thoughts include working on art which could be used as a vehicle for conversation/ exploration at the bedside; helping patients and staff to locate themselves and feel a greater sense of connection.

Several people have indicated their willingness to join me in this journey and I hope we will start meeting in September, initially via Zoom, but moving into the Barn as soon as we are able.

I wish you a beauty-filled summer and look forward to hearing from you if you'd like to find out more,

Helen broadsidecurate@aol.com

Other events and activities

Praying with Art

Fr Geoff Wheaton SJ has put together a monthly reflection based on a painting in the hope of enabling deeper engagement with a particular passage of scripture. The

idea is that you can return to the painting and scripture and discover more depth throughout the month.

<https://www.pathwaystogod.org/resources/praying-art>

Creative News from HeartEdge

Based at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, HeartEdge draws together imaginative approaches to the building up of God's kingdom.

Manchester based PassionArt built links and partnerships with churches and cultural agency to encourage creativity integrating faith and creative practice in community. Here's a video discussion of how it has worked in reality:

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=227221211755120>

Morgan Cooper's video *Portrait of a Black Man* (2020) offers a moving personal response to racial injustice.

<https://vimeo.com/channels/staffpicks/439737384>

Sunday 9 August, 2pm. *'Inspired to Follow: Art and the Bible Story'*: Via Zoom. Revd Jonathan Evens explores Luke 23:26-38 in the light of a painting in the National Gallery - 'Christ carrying the Cross', Italian, Venetian, about. 1500. Please contact Nick Garrard for the e-mail address to obtain a Zoom code.

Music Video

We Americans (2019) is a soul-searching song by the Avett Brothers, set to an art-based video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0MKm9TB9b6s>

Exhibitions

Creativity amid Covid

Church Times article focussing on works and reflection by some of the artists responding creatively to the current crisis in the *Impact* Exhibition organised by Chaiya Art Awards:

<https://www.churchtimes.co.uk/articles/2020/31-july/features/features/creativity-amid-covid>

The whole exhibition can be viewed here

<https://chaiyaartawards.co.uk/impact>

Heaven & Earth

Local artist Tracey Ross's exhibition of North Norfolk coastal landscapes at St. Nicholas's Church, Salthouse from August 14th -28th. Tracey's art seeks to reflect the beauty of creation through semi-abstract canvasses, reflecting her faith and revealing 'a deeper mystery.'

https://www.networknorwich.co.uk/Articles/583819/Network_Norwich_and_Norfolk/Regional_News/North_Norfolk/Faith_and_art_expressed_at_Salthouse_Church.aspx

Art at St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich

A newly dedicated art space within the civic church of St. Peter Mancroft is hosting two exhibitions, *Lock Down: Norfolk's lockdown experience in words and pictures* (August 1st -15th) and *A Norfolk Summer* (August 15th – September 12th). For more details please visit

<https://www.stpetermancroft.org.uk/blog/60834/new-art-exhibiton-space>

Spirit & Endeavour

The re-opened Salisbury Cathedral is holding a contemporary art event 'Spirit and Endeavour' as part of its 800th Anniversary celebrations, including works by Antony Gormley, Shirazeh Houshiary, Henry Moore, Grayson Perry, and Mark Wallinger. If Salisbury feels a bit far to travel, you can enjoy a virtual tour (and child-friendly version) here:

<https://www.salisburycathedral.org.uk/spirit-endeavour-interactive-virtual-art-tour>

Barn Owl is always looking out for art and spirituality resources to share. Please e-mail Nick Garrard at this address if there's anything you'd like to suggest. Many thanks!

Nick Garrard

Bishop's Officer for Christian Spirituality through the Creative Arts (Norwich)