

## Awards a highlight of Camberwell Art Show

Works from some of Australia's finest artists will be vying for more than \$35,000 in prizemoney at the prestigious 2017 Camberwell Art Show Awards, with the Best in Show award itself valued at \$20,000.

The Selected Entry is a highlight of the annual Camberwell Art Show held from July 7-16 at Melbourne's Swinburne University Advanced Technologies Centre in Burwood Road, Hawthorn.

Each year more than 2000 paintings are received in the art show awards from artists throughout Australia and it is not just the generous prizemoney they strive for as the awards are among the nation's most prestigious.



*2016 Camberwell Art Show Best in Show winner Lyn Sutton with Judge Ken Wachs and the winning painting, 'Perfume Bottles'.*

Gold sponsor for the 52<sup>nd</sup> Camberwell Art Show is Parke Lawyers, one of Melbourne's leading law firms. Parke Lawyers Managing Director Jim Parke says the importance of the awards cannot be underestimated. "They sit just behind the Archibald Prize in regards to prestige for many artists."

The Acquisitive Awards include Best in Show with a \$20,000 prize, Best Traditional Work valued less than \$3,500 with a \$4,000 prize and Best Non-traditional Work valued less than \$3500 with a \$4000 prize.

Non-acquisitive Awards: Best Traditional Work valued less than \$1500 with a \$1,000 prize; Best Non-traditional Work valued less than \$1,500 with a \$1,000 prize; Best Oil/Acrylic Work valued less than \$1,500 with a \$1,000 prize; and Best Work on Paper valued less than \$1,500 with a \$1,000 prize. There are also three judges' special prizes each carrying \$1,000 prizemoney.

The traditional genre includes tonal or realist works with no abstraction while the works on paper genre includes watercolour, pastel, ink, scratchboard and drawing.

A decision by the art show committee last year to encourage more artists painting in a contemporary manner to enter the exhibition resulted in the introduction of a non-traditional award.

This resulted in an increase in contemporary art entries and earned a very positive response from the viewing public. This trend is certain to continue in 2017.

A selection panel comprising art experts, considers all entries and chooses paintings considered to be of a suitable standard for display and judging. In recent years there have been between 1,300 and 1,500 entries selected to hang in the show, all of which are eligible for the Best in Show award.



Each of the three judges will also select a particular favourite for their \$1,000 special prize and distribute gold stars to the paintings they consider good value artworks.

There is also a Viewer's Choice award in which members of the public can vote for their preferred painting with the opportunity to win a substantial prize for giving their feedback to the artists.

Camberwell Art Show is the major event of Camberwell Rotary Club. In recent years, there have been 7,000 visitors annually to the show.

Jim Parke says, "The show's history is testimony to the quality and selection of art works as well as its constant evolution to reflect changing trends. It is pleasing to see so many exhibiting artists have gone on to receive national and world acclaim.

Camberwell Art Show committee member Brenda Innes says, "The Camberwell Art Show is a centrepiece of art and culture not only for Melbourne but for all Australians, showcasing the depth of our artistic talent."

Other major art show sponsors are Bendigo Community Bank, Bayford Motors Group, Art Wines, Deans Art and Boroondara Arts Centre.

More information about the Camberwell Art Show is available at <http://camberwellrotaryartshow.org.au/>

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