Variety is the spice of life for Camberwell Art Show

The 52\textsuperscript{nd} annual Camberwell Art Show will celebrate the work of artists from across Australia, with the more than 1,300 artworks to be displayed representing all painting genres – from impressionism, traditional, contemporary, photorealism and all styles in between.

The selection panel has completed the mammoth task of selecting the artworks from the more than 2300 submitted for the 2017 competition. The displayed works will represent a wide variety of techniques, prices, subjects, mediums and genres, and all are competing for the $20,000 first prize.
The three judges – Chief Judge Colin Johnson, Helen Grant and Dr Michael Mark - are now mulling over the finalists’ works to decide winners in the acquisitive and non-acquisitive award categories.

Leading Melbourne law firm, Parke Lawyers, is gold sponsor for the show and Managing Director Jim Parke says with such a strong response from artists, show visitors are guaranteed of viewing many quality paintings.

“Such is the variety of art on display that there will be works for all visitors to admire and perhaps purchase.”

The 52nd Camberwell Art Show will be staged at Swinburne University’s Advanced Technology Building on Burwood Rd in Hawthorn. It begins with a gala opening evening on Friday, July 7 and will be open to the public from Saturday, 8 July to Sunday, 16 July.

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 $3,500 with a $4,000 prize.

Non-acquisitive Awards include Best Traditional Work valued less than $1,500 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.

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.

Art Show committee member Warwick Heil said last year’s winner Lyn Sutton had again entered, as had other previous winners, including David Taylor, Joseph Zbukvic, David Chen, Amanda Hyatt, Tom O’Callaghan, Grace Paleg and Greg Allen.

“The previous winners along with hundreds of other artists around Australia have done their best to try to please the judges and the result will be a tremendous show for all visitors.”

Last year, the show attracted more than 7,000 visitors and $100,000 was raised for community projects. Warwick Heil says this year’s show is again expected to exceed expectations.

Together with Parke Lawyers, other major sponsors are the Herald Sun, Bendigo Bank, Bayford Motors Group, Deans Art and Boroondara Arts Centre. Also supporting the show are Melbourne Smile Centre, Premier HiFi, Studio Craft, Without Pier Gallery, Le Pine Funerals, Duncan Thompson Extensions, Toscano’s and Surrey Travel.

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

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