

# RAMA

## PAF AGM 2022

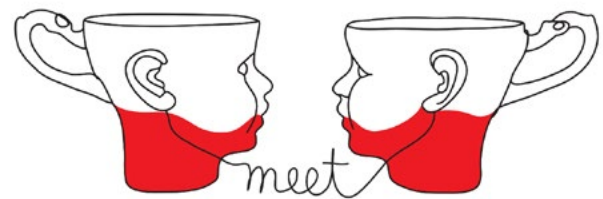
The Polish Art Foundation held its Annual General Meeting on 2 December 2022 in the Oakleigh Chambers located in the City of Monash.

The meeting gave us an opportunity to formally present the achievements of our small volunteer organisation to members attending on the evening. Noting that the previous AGM was only held in April as a result of a COVID delay, our reporting timeframe was unusually short.

After a short presentation and a few discussion points, we celebrated with a drink and food for those who attended.

The AGM was also a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge our Board members who contribute of their time throughout the year and without whom PAF would not exist as an organisation. They are Grazynka Kubic, Mirek Kosteckki, Gosia Kurban, Irenka Glac, Jurek Glac, Anna Friedhuber, Rysiek Friedhuber, Janek Kurzak, Basia Steinberg and Anna Maciejewska. We also acknowledged the significant contribution made by Violetta Misiorek and Agata Mayes who assisted the Board as members of the PAF Working Group, whose fresh perspective and ideas are always a very welcome addition to our team.

## PAF Art Meet 2022



The PAF Art Meet initiative has well and truly flourished in 2022, with visits to Heide, ACMI, Monssalvat and most recently Gasworks Arts Park. We are planning to continue these get togethers in 2023, with the next event planned for February 2023. Look out for more announcements on PAF social media.

In the meanwhile, a big thank you to Violetta Misiorek for coordinating us all and making sure we keep learning more about our arts landscape in Melbourne.



## Borders, PAF's 2022 Feature Exhibition

This year we decided to take a leap of faith and held our exhibition for two weeks duration, allowing us to test attendance numbers over this extended period of time. We hosted our event at the historic Victorian Artist Society Gallery once again. We also introduced another fresh idea by hosting two openings, one, traditional grand opening with invited VIP guests, artists and members of the public on October 29, and a week later, a more focused event enabling anyone interested to meet a number of our select exhibiting artists.

Preparations for this new project had started well in advance to accommodate consultations with artists, and to give everyone time to think about this quite broad, and demanding theme "Borders". We did not restrict our participants to any specific technique, to the contrary we encouraged artists to express their ideas, in the broadest sense of the word.

The results were impressive. We received works ranging from traditional paintings through drawings, sculpture, jewellery and digital art. Both our events were very well attended, we sold six artworks, and received many comments, positive feedback, both verbal, and through electronic communications, from artists and participants alike.

We now look forward to our next year's event.



## Meet the Artists – A Unique Event in 2022



PAF's second event was held on a Friday evening on November 4 and was an opportunity to meet and chat to some of our artists in an informal conversational setting.

Our talented panel included Roman Liebach, Agata Mayes, Jessica O'Keefe and Gabriela Rovski.

After a warm welcome and introductions, our PAF President, Anna Maciejewska-Kaszubska, opened with a series of questions in relation to our guests' artistic activity, their choice of technique to engage and communicate as part of the exhibition as well as what dictated their choice of medium and form particularly.

Because the concept of 'Borders' is broad and, and we were seeking to deliver a thematic exhibition, Anna asked what process they undertook to approach a theme in general.

She also asked our artists about the challenges associated with realising their artistic vision as solo artists, and what motivates them to keep going to create, given the complexities this can entail. Our event participants also had the opportunity to ask questions of each other about inspiration, research and personal connection to the topic of 'Borders'.

Our audience too had a chance to ask questions, creating a wonderful opportunity for more personal contact with art and its creators.

Our second opening was a great opportunity to re-imagine the exhibition, but above all to get to know the artists as individuals and not just as authors besides a catalogue listing.

The Polish Art Foundation would like to thank all participants, artists and all art lovers for their support of this event.

## Save the Date for our Fundraising Night 2023

Our original fundraising event planned for November 2022 has been rescheduled to April 2023.

Our next evening of socialising, dancing and fundraising, is planned for Saturday 1 April at Truffles, at 7pm, so please hold the date in your calendars.

Tickets will be available from March and we will be promoting the event via our emails and social media. We will be fundraising for our new revised biennale event, and specifically for the competition prizes.

We look forward to hosting you and joining you in what promises to be a great night.

## PAF on Instagram

As many of you will note, PAF has had an active presence on Instagram, largely due to the efforts of our colleague Agata Mayes. We have had lots of positive feedback from artists and organisations, and would love to have more of you, our PAF artists on this site.

If you would like to be formally included on our PAF page, do not hesitate, email the [polishartfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:polishartfoundation@gmail.com) and express your interest formally, and we will touch base to make sure your work is displayed. Make sure you also subscribe to our Facebook page.

## PAF Membership

### Help Support the Polish Art Foundation - revised membership rates 2023

The Polish Art Foundation delivers a significant service to our emerging artists and to our general community. We organise, promote and host exhibitions, and arts social events with the help of a dedicated group of volunteers. Your membership support demonstrates you value the effort and work that goes into making things happen in our community. We encourage everyone who can to become our annual paying members.

Our new revised single membership fee of \$35.00 per year enables our artists to:

- be listed on our general mailing list for all PAF events including our RAMA newsletter
- enables artist participation in all PAF exhibitions, (at a rate of \$20 per artwork as exhibition entrance fee)
- receipt of a free copy of an exhibition catalogue when an artist is featured
- profile on PAF Instagram
- profile on PAF website with an individual artist profile, and social media link (coming as site becomes reviewed)
- artist profile featured in RAMA editions
- Voting rights at the PAF AGM for current members

Our new flat rate for our general supporters of also \$35.00 per year, will help raise important funds for our not-for-profit organisation. This membership fee will ensure our generous supporters receive all communications and have full voting rights at the PAF AGM as current members.

Finally, please note, any non-member artists will be charged a new rate of \$35.00 per artwork exhibition entrance fee, commencing in 2023.

To become a PAF member, or renew your membership today please visit our website, fill in our form and make direct payment to our BSB account.

Link: [www.polishartfoundation.org.au/become-a-member](http://www.polishartfoundation.org.au/become-a-member)

## We need your help with our PAF website

The Polish Art Foundation is seeking dedicated volunteers to help us manage the content of our website and social media. We anticipate this would be a commitment of 3-5 hours per month.

To learn more please email [polishartfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:polishartfoundation@gmail.com) or call Ania directly on 0427 710 418.

Every little bit counts and anyone who is interested, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

We would also like to thank Agata Furman for her support in reviewing our website content.

## Artist Profile- Janine Good



Corten Steel Panels, Cannibal Creek Reserve, Creative Recovery Project Meeting Place 2022, Artist Janine Good  
Photo by Rob Carew

### Where has your interest in the arts sprung from?

It's been a mystery to me as to where my interest in art has sprung from, I didn't come from an artistic family, all I know is that I had an obsession with drawing early on. I can remember winning 1st Prize in a competition at my little brother's kindergarten when I was 8 years old. The prize was 50c for a drawing of an old gum tree in a paddock behind our house that I drew by sitting on our chook shed roof to see over the fence!

I remember my Lyndale Primary School Principal calling me into her office to tell me how impressed she was with my drawing skills and from then on, I was called on to illustrate our school newsletter.

I remember staring endlessly at an Albert Namatjira print that my grandmother had hanging over her mantelpiece, fascinated by the colours and trying to memorise them.

I can also remember making a conscious decision that I would become an artist one day even though I had never even seen an original piece of art, only reproductions!

### What is your favourite medium?

I like using different mediums - from charcoal and pastel to painting with oils and acrylics. I don't think I have a favourite, it depends what kind of effect I am trying to achieve. Different subject matter calls for different mediums.

I feel that drawing is the best way of recording observations and once you've drawn something

you begin to understand it. Sometimes I draw a new subject to become familiar with it before painting but sometimes I prefer starting straight into painting for a more spontaneous result.

### Did you pursue formal art studies?

Out of secondary school I completed one year of a Diploma in Graphic Arts at RMIT but discontinued because it conflicted with my passion for Fine Arts. While in my mid 20s I attended classes with an artist named Merv Moriarty at his Healesville studio where he would instruct drawing in the morning then painting in the afternoon from a Life Model. Around this time, I also took classes at Box Hill TAFE College to learn about Ceramics, Printmaking and Sculpture.

It wasn't until later as a mature-aged student when my children were young, that I gained formal qualifications of a Bachelor of Visual Arts at Monash University, Gippsland Campus starting in 1996, completing in 2002.

More recently I completed a Foundations of Art Therapy ACA Accredited Certificate Course because I am interested in how art practice can be beneficial to human well-being.



Janine Good 'Ripe For Picking', Charcoal on grey Ingres Paper  
80x57cm



Janine Good 'Seeking Nectar' Triptych, Oil on canvas 120x180cm



Janine Good 'Studio Model' 1987, Oil on canvas 60x475cm

## What inspires you?

I find this a tricky question because so much inspires me! I often feel my art has been too diverse and this has been disadvantageous. I guess the answer is that I am inspired by life.

My abstract work is inspired by nature and I find the colour of landscape inspiring as it constantly changes with the light. But I also like the challenge of portraiture and figure studies. I recently was awarded 1st Prize in the Emerald Art Society's John Dudley Portrait Prize with my portrait of Professor Damien Kingsbury.

In 2010-12 I painted a series of paintings called 'Check 1...2' about my son and his garage thrash band because I wanted to explore motion and spotlight effects. I was awarded the Latrobe Regional Gallery local artist award in 2012 for this series.

Other themes have been the Racetrack, and the Beach, but these themes have been inspired by people and their rituals in ordinary life. I was recently an Artist Facilitator for Bushfire Recovery in my local area that involved wildlife themed designs for Corten Steel panels in a public bushland setting at Cannibal Creek Reserve in Garfield North.



Janine Good 'Shinin Thru' 2019 Acrylic and Oil on linen  
122x122cm



Janine Good 'A Day in the Life of Damien' 2019 Oil on canvas  
102x102cm

## How has your association with the Polish Art Foundation allowed you to showcase your work?

My first experience of the Polish Art Foundation was being part of the 2020 annual exhibition 'Klimaty' or 'Vibes' at the Victorian Artists Society. I was pleased to find the exhibition was of a high standard, professionally presented and very inclusive, friendly and the response to my submitted abstract work was refreshingly positive. This encouraged me to submit work in 2021, again with abstract work.

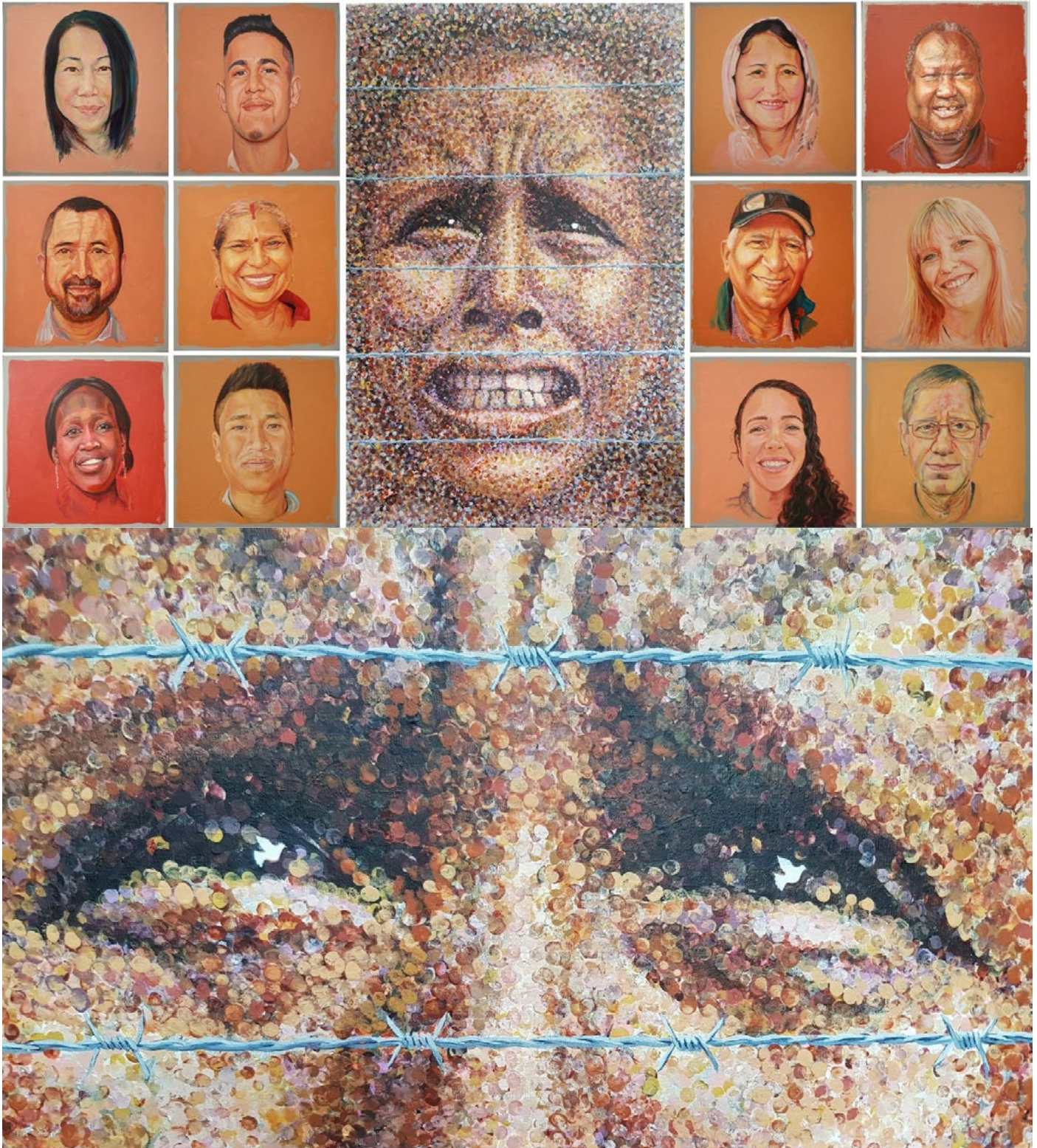
The work I submitted this year with the theme of 'Borders' allowed me to showcase an installation of portrait works about refugees and seeking asylum. The 12 smaller portraits presented in the installation were selected from a project of 20 portraits I had previously painted for a Cardinia Shire project in 2017 about the 'rich tapestry of multiculturalism' called the Changing Face of Cardinia and I completed a new work for the PAF exhibition. These 20 smaller portraits have still never been exhibited in the Cardinia Shire's Gallery, something that has been disappointing.

I was thrilled and flattered that the PAF curator Grazyna Kubic gave my portraits a prominent position in

this year's Borders exhibition. It is a topic I had gained an awareness of while painting the portraits in 2017 and wanted to express more about it. It saddens me that humans are selective with their adverse treatment of some ethnic groups.

Australia has many migrants forced to flee their home country.

My idea was that the face of the tortured refugee was constructed of dots like grains of sand, each grain made of various skin colours to show that people anywhere of any culture can be persecuted in their own country. Then they are forgotten at the borders, or in detention, left to blow away like sand, yet the eyes still have hope for peace, the light taking the shape of a tiny white dove.



Janine Good 'The Lottery of Life' 2017-2022 Acrylic on 13 canvases 138x276cm

Artworks by Janine Good can be viewed on her website [www.janinegood.com.au](http://www.janinegood.com.au) or Instagram [janine\\_good6510](https://www.instagram.com/janine_good6510)

*Dear Artists and Friends of PAF.*

*Wishing you all a very joyful celebration  
of Christmas and a truly inspirational and  
rewarding New Year 2023.*

*Warm Regards*

*Team PAF*

WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO USE THIS  
OPPORTUNITY TO THANK ALL OF OUR  
FINANCIAL SUPPORTERS THROUGHOUT  
2022.



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND  
IN SYDNEY

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