



POLISH ART FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

Edition March 2024

PAF AGM 2024

The Polish Art Foundation held its Annual General Meeting in the Oakleigh Hall on 1 March 2024.

Key achievements tabled included:

- PAF held a Special Meeting on 17 March 2023 to update the PAF Constitution. The revised document is now available on the PAF website, under the section entitled JOIN.
- We have simplified our membership payments! We now have one annual subscription fee for all. An artist membership fee of \$35.00 per year and a general PAF supporter fee of \$35.00 per year, all payments can now be made online on our website, all details are found in the JOIN section.
- PAF undertook a rebuild of its website in 2023. The new site allows electronic payment including credit card payment by artists as part of exhibitions, and membership renewals.
- We held a PAF Fundraising Party event in May 2023 at Truffles Café with the aim of raising money towards our Drawing Competition Artist Prize (\$5,000) for the Biennale competition.
- The 2023 highlight was of course the revised and renamed Contemporary Drawing Biennale held at a new exhibition space No Vacancy Gallery, in October 2023. The exhibition catalogue is found on the PAF website www.polishartfoundation.org.au
- The PAF Art Meet initiative continued in 2023, galleries and exhibitions visited included: the Convent in Abbotsford, an expedition to Ian's Potter Gallery, attendance at an artist talk by Agata Mayes and Margarita Krivitsky in November at the Yarra Sculpture Gallery, and a visit to Jarek Wojcik' studio earlier in the year in June 2023.
- PAF produced its usual newsletter RAMA in April, August and December 2023.
- We maintained a presence on social media and spoke to radio SBS.
- PAF applied for funding and successfully received grants from the Victorian Government and Department of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland.
- We contributed a chapter on PAF's history to the Chronicle of Polish Organisations

All of this and more was made possible due to the dedication of our Team of volunteers who give up their time and talents for the benefit of our community.

To view the current PAF board membership visit our website polishartfoundation.org.au

PAF – its future is in your hands.



Dear Friends,

As we all know our community is ageing, our generations are changing guard. The Polish Art Foundation will turn 50 in 2027, but will it be here to celebrate this milestone?

As we continue to rely on the same group of people to give up their time to serve their creative community, **we ask that you consider how you could support the foundation?**

We currently need a graphic designer to help out with our digital invitations, posters, and our exhibition catalogue. We are also actively seeking to recruit 3-4 new members to join our board or our working group.

We cannot do it without your help. And yes, in answer to your question, we are all volunteers, some of us are retired, others work full-time.

For more information call Ania (PAF leader) on 0427 710 418 or email us on polishartfoundation@gmail.com

The 2024 thematic exhibition

“Freedom is the power or right to act, speak, or think as one wants”.

This topic allows artists to have the freedom of choice to use any medium and way of expression in shape, colour and form.

PAF invites artists to create without being controlled or limited in encapsulating a message, encourage a dialogue or provoke reactions.

The absence of necessity, coercion, or constraint in choice should provide a wide range of entries.

Participation in the exhibition is open to all artists.

Any artwork created, regardless of the media used by the artist, can be presented at the exhibition.

Works can be presented either as a final form of artistic expression, or come as a study, visual notes /outline or any other form of interim artistic concept that could still be subject to changes at later stages of its elaboration.

Exhibition Dates: 9-16 October 2024

Venue: Victorian Artists Society Gallery, Melbourne

Note: All submission dates and Conditions of Entry will be circulated shortly



PAF fact

The Polish Art Foundation was officially launched in 1977.

In the course of the last 30 years up to 30 volunteers have participated as active volunteers either as board members or supporting members realising the goals of the foundation.

PAF Art Meet coming up...

We are happy to report that we continue to meet as a small group, and are planning a special studio visit to Gosia Wlodarczak, a Polish/Australian, Melbourne based cross disciplinary artist. For those of you who know Gosia's innovative work, this will be a real treat. For those who are not familiar, a journey of discovery.

We are hoping to host this visit in May and will be posting closer to the date.

Stay tuned on our social media platforms for more details about upcoming events.

PAF Membership –it matters!

We have simplified our membership and **have one annual subscription fee for all.**

- Our artist membership fee of \$35.00 per year enables individuals to fully participate in all of our exhibitions and increase their profile on our newly developed website.
- Our general PAF supporters fee of \$35.00 per year allows our art lovers to support their creative community.
- Note, artists who are not PAF members and wish to participate in our events pay higher administrative fees.

All further information is found at polishartfoundation.org.au/become-a-member
Thank you for your support of our organisation.



Dear Artists and Friends of the Foundation

Wishing you all a Joyful Easter celebration

Wesołych Świąt, Smacznego Jajka, Mokrego Dyngusa

Warm regards

Team at the Polish Art Foundation

For more information on the Polish Art Foundation visit our website polishartfoundation.org.au