



Post Office Box 111
Beechworth Victoria 3747
W beechworthartscouncil.org.au
E beechworthartscouncil@gmail.com

President: Jamie Kronborg
0409 912 967
Vice President: Daren John Pope
0497 236 195

SPRING ARTS 2018

October 26 – November 25 / DRAFT program

October 26

Spring Arts 2018 opens

October 27

Open studios

Artists and crafters demonstrate their art practice in a series of open studios in Beechworth, Stanley, Three Mile and Wooragee.

'Leg art'

An Arts Council collaboration with **Robert O'Hara Burke Museum** to host the first of a series of guided walks exploring Indigo's art heritage and 'the great Victorians' – artists, scientists, explorers and administrators whose lives and careers intersected in Beechworth after gold's discovery:

Eugen (or Eugene) von Guérard 1812-1901 (Austria-Hungary)
art teacher, gold miner, landscape artist, lithographer, painter
– in Beechworth 1862 ~ 1866

Nicholas Chevalier 1828-1902 (Russia and Switzerland)
cartoonist, illustrator, painter, watercolourist
– in Beechworth 1855 ~ 1867

Georg von Neumayer 1826-1909 (Bavaria)
academic, gold miner, meteorologist, physicist
– in Beechworth 1862

Alfred William Howitt 1830-1908 (United Kingdom)
anthropologist, explorer, polymath, public servant, magistrate
– in Beechworth 1853 ~ 1874

Robert O'Hara Burke 1821-1861 (Ireland)
police officer, explorer
– in Beechworth 1855 ~ 1858

Ferdinand von Müller 1825-1896 (Mecklenburg-Schwerin, German Confederation)

botanist, explorer, surveyor, public servant

– influence in Beechworth ~ 1874 ~ 1875 ~

James Bray 1832-1891 (?)

photographer

– in Rutherglen 1866 and Beechworth 1870-1891

- connected with the Kelly gang and its circle

Hilda Rix (Nicholas) 1884-1961 (Australia)

painter

– in Beechworth 1884-1894

- connected with painters Frederick McCubbin, E. Phillips Fox, Arthur Streeton, Rupert Bunny, Henri Matisse, Grace Cossington Smith and other influential artists

November 2-3 (pre-Melbourne Cup Day weekend)

The Draughtsman's Contract

A collaboration with **Beechworth Film Society** to screen Peter Greenaway's classic 1982 British film about a young artist who in 1694 is commissioned by a gentlewoman to produce 12 landscape drawings of her estranged husband's Wiltshire estate.

'Set the scene'

An open community event in which anyone can work with pencil, paint, camera, smart phone or video to illustrate or interpret a story set in a Beechworth scene. It's inspired by the nineteenth century French tradition of *en plein air* – painting from life outdoors – by which artists sought to capture the spark and action of people working and living in the landscape. 'Set the scene' takes the form of lively art classes led by experienced painters who will spur thinking and help participants to realise actual or imagined stories of Beechworth life – from the past, present or in the future.

Some of the scenes we're looking to 'set' include:

- Sidney Nolan's depiction of outlawed bushranger Ned Kelly in *The trial* (1947)
- John Brack's *The bar* (1954), and
- James Bray's Beechworth photograph of Margaret Trim (c. 1891), a 'Great petitioner' who was one of almost 30,000 Victorian women who sought the right to vote 'on equal terms with men'.

Targeted aspects include Town Hall Gardens, Court House, Empire Hotel, Christ Church grounds on farmers' market day and Beechworth laneways.

'Leg art'

Repeat the guided walking tour exploring Indigo's art heritage and 'the great Victorians' (see October 27 entry *above*)

November 10-11

'elements of indigo'

A new, visual and upshot artwear project coinciding in 2018 with the 22nd **Beechworth Celtic Festival**. *'elements'* is devised to encourage artists to explore expressions of place and identity and create works which reveal 'elements of indigo' – the name of the shire in which we live in Victoria's North East.

As an artistic idea it's inspired by traditions of cultural 'badging', where particular forms and styles of clothing throughout history have evolved to identify a people's tribe, clan, community, place, culture and even country. In this project participating artists are particularly encouraged to tease apart the idea and tradition of *tartan* and re-work it to identify the communities of Indigo.

It has three components:

- visual art
- transformation as artwear interpreting the form of a kilt, and
- a related Indigo-wide school project called ***'Get yer kilt on!'***, co-ordinated by Beechworth Secondary College art co-ordinator Nina Machielse Hunt

The **Robert O'Hara Burke Museum** will stage from its collection a related exhibition of images depicting costume.

November 15-18

'Indigo landscape'

A curated exhibition of open-entry works exploring and interpreting 'Indigo landscape'.

Fresh bloom

A new take on the long-defunct Beechworth Horticultural Society's spring flower show (last held in the 1930s). This revived show will be open to entries from all and staged within the ***'Indigo landscape'*** exhibition.

A linked, complementary exhibition – with the working title of ***'Springstable'*** – will show interpretations by selected artists of elements of landscape using botanical materials. It will be staged in the 1870-built Beechworth police stables in the town's Police Paddocks.

- These events coincide with **Beechworth Vignerons' Association's Spring tasting** in neighbouring Beechworth Servicemen's Memorial Hall.

November 23

'La Primavera'

Four opera scholars will sing 'La Primavera' – a program of baroque arias – in a first for Beechworth Arts Council's month-long *Spring Arts*. This collaboration with Beechworth's Anglican Christ Church and Opera Scholars Australia features a 75-minute early evening performance in the 1859-built church. The program includes works by 18th century composers Händel, Vivaldi and Mozart.

Opera Scholars Australia participants perform annually in Beechworth 'Opera Week' in the lead-up to *Opera in the Alps*, and at the main performance late in January.

The OSA program provides unparalleled study, training and performance opportunities for young artists pursuing singing careers in Australia. It is based in Melbourne and offers up to 25 scholarships each year to classical singers aged between 18 and 24. Performance coaches include renowned Australian soprano Yvonne Kenny. Wangaratta's Touchstone Pianos is generously supporting 'La Primavera'.

November 24 (date to be confirmed)

'Art chat'

Spring Arts' signature art discussion this year examines the 19th century Romantic landscape tradition and its influence and interpretation in the North East into the 20th century.

Participants include:

- Beechworth doctoral student **Daren Pope**
 - Connection to Indigo – Beechworth Arts Council's vice president and Spring Arts convenor is exploring the influence and impact of the theory and practice of the Romantic landscape movement on folklore, mythology and regional arts practice in the North East;
- A leading gallery director
- A highly-regarded academic

Program-long events / opportunities

'Indigo view'

A self-drive tour of Indigo Shire's National Trust-classified landscapes, taking in:

- Black Springs Bakery southern landscape (view towards the Ovens Valley west of Beechworth)
- Lake Kerferd (east of Beechworth)
- Lake Zwarburg (west of Beechworth)
- Mount Pilot Range
- Myrtle Creek Valley (south of Stanley)
- Murrungee lookout (south of Beechworth)

Indigo Libraries

Prints by Beechworth printmaker Chris Dormer on Beechworth library's 'wall'.

'Out of the blue'

Works by painter Valerie Crosse in Beechworth's Anglican Christ Church.

'Vessel'

Works by a number of Indigo Hills' artists interpreting the word 'vessel'...*container, receptacle, barrel, ship*...in various Beechworth places.

Program information

Springs Arts co-ordinator Daren John Pope
E beechworthartscouncil@gmail.com / M 0497 236 195

or

President Jamie Kronborg
E jamiekronborg@me.com / M 0409 912 967
www.beechworthartscouncil.org.au