

Scottish Society of Architect Artists
1987 - 2012 Silver Anniversary



e-newsletter

february 2012



A most uplifting 'uplift'.....

The first exhibition of the SSAA 25th Anniversary Year 2012 drew to a jolly and enjoyable close on Friday January 27th with an Italian lunch in La Piazza on Shandwick Place, Edinburgh. The Winter Exhibition attracted more than 65 exhibits and occupied the Joyce B Deans Room at HQ of The Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland during the Festive Season from November until the end of January.

SSAA publication for 25th Anniversary



A new book has been published featuring more than 60 full colour pages of works by SSAA members. While it does not claim to be comprehensive this volume aims to record a flavour of the artistic energy of architect artists within Scotland over the last quarter of a century.

RECOMMENDED PRICE: £10.00 each

SSAA Members price £8.00

*AGM to be held in Glasgow - diary dates**

The 25th Annual General Meeting of the SSAA will be held at Holmes Miller Partnership, 89 Minerva Street, Glasgow G3 8LE on **Saturday 24th March** at 11.00am

Submission of work for Spring Exhibition

DUNDAS STREET GALLERY, EDINBURGH 2-7 APRIL 2012

Members wishing to submit work to the Spring Exhibition 2012 should ensure the pre-submission form is returned with cheque, (+ pre-publicity JPG) to:
the SSAA Secretary by 16th March.

RECEIVING DAY 1st APRIL, 11.00am - 1.30pm



a truly UPLIFTING LUNCH.....

by Ian Stuart Campbell HonFRIAS

Friday 27th January was the SSAA's first 'Uplift Lunch' of this 25th Anniversary year. There are always mixed feelings when collecting works that did not sell in an exhibition. The idea of having an uplifting event to celebrate the wrapping up of the show was an attractive enough proposition to attract almost 30 members and guests to attend the 'uplift' lunch.

The venue, La Piazza on Shandwick Place, Edinburgh, provided an authentic Italian atmosphere which stimulated lively conversation and for most seemed genuinely uplifting.

SSAA founding member [no.1] Hamish Haswell Smith, attended and produced a number of early archive catalogues which intrigued more recent members. Other SSAA founding fathers in attendance included member No.4: Prof. Andrew Merrylees RSA; and member no 7: Sir H Anthony Wheeler PPRSA, PPRIAS.

SSAA Secretary, Bob Anderson, warmly welcomed the gathering and reminded all of the forthcoming exhibitions in The Dundas St Gallery in April, and The House for an Art Lover, in Glasgow in July and August. A busy year indeed.

A new SSAA Book, entitled "The First Twenty Five Years" was informally launched and quickly achieved its first 20 sales. This publication featuring more than 60 pages of colour illustrations was circulated before lunch. The text lists past presidents, and guest artists, and outlines the background to the formation of the SSAA in 1987.

A flavour of the variety and quality of art works done by architect artists in Scotland over the last quarter of a century is presented in full colour. A random mixture of older and recent works include: gouache, oils, acrylic, pen, pencil, screenprint, watercolour, and sculpture in applewood, and letter carving in slate.

Likewise a wide choice of subject matter presents:- Life and Still Life drawings; landscapes; townscapes; seascapes; sculpture; portraits; as well as experimental art. The book gives an overall impression of a vigorous range of works generally presented with panache.

The Winter Exhibition was extended this year to commence at the end of November. Deep snow in December in the last few years had fatally disrupted openings and Previews of the SSAA Winter Exhibition.

In the event no snow arrived in Edinburgh this year and the consensus view appears to be that November is a bit early for the full Christmas spirit. A review will be held before finalising the next Winter show.

Following the uplift meal the entire group reverted to the nearby RIAS HQ for coffee, chats and the formal dismantling of the Winter Exhibition. The removal of the large banner from outside the listed building simultaneously relieved planners and signalled the end of this show and the beginning of the rest of the SSAA anniversary year. A friendly and convivial atmosphere made the retrieval of works a thoroughly uplifting uplift.



SSAA Secretary Bob Anderson, addressing the north wing of the architect artist gathering.

Preview copies of the new SSAA blockbuster - "The First Twenty Five Years : 1987 - 2012"





SSAA Members and guests gathering in La Piazza, to enjoy good company and an Italian atmosphere.



An opportunity to review archive catalogues and the new SSAA publication "The First Twenty Five Years"



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Back cover and Front cover of the new SSAA publication.

special 25th anniversary publication.....

special anniversary publication

....available now!

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SCOTTISH CHARITY NUMBER SC013097

RIAS Prospect Magazine, May 1988.

"The architect as artist is part of a long established tradition first made manifest by Leonardo and Brunelleschi which continues through the centuries with Charles Rennie Mackintosh as probably the most widely known exponent of both arts in recent times.

The newly formed Scottish Society of Architect Artists held its inaugural exhibition in the MacLellan Galleries in Glasgow to coincide with the RIAS / RIBA Convention and was of a standard that augurs well for the future."

Avril Jaques, reported on the first exhibition of SSAA members work.



Angus MacDonald, Venice Globe



Patricia Cain, Little Ruin



John Coleman, Charrios



Andrew McKean, Wirklee Crescent

the first twenty five years

SCOTTISH SOCIETY OF ARCHITECT ARTISTS
ligne et couleur

1987 - 2012



"The First Twenty Five Years"

To order your copy, please forward payment to:
I S Campbell, 19 Trinity Grove, Edinburgh EH5 3HB

SSAA member price: £8.00
plus post & packing: £1.00