



A. Herald  
1990 October  
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Lady Scott, wife of the Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire, Sir James Scott, opened the Alton Art Society's annual exhibition at Alton Assembly Rooms on Monday. Lady Scott, who is president of the society, received a bouquet from Ruth Jones. At the opening were (from left) Nora Coggins, vice-president, Lady Scott, Ruth Jones, Pam Jones, chairman, and vice-president Dorothy Deub. The exhibition is reviewed in the Leisure section and continues until tomorrow (Saturday).

Alton Herald 11 May '90

THE Alton Art Society spring exhibition is on show at the Allen Gallery, Church Street, Alton until June 2nd, Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. admission free.

The exhibition is an irrepressible affirmation of painting as a communicator of discovery. Towards the end of his life, Picasso said: "Painting remains to be invented," and here we can see how these artists have made their unique contribution and found their way of conveying the beauty they find in the world.

The show, which opens with a superb self portrait by Georgina Bangay, is ablaze with colour and it is a joy to immerse oneself in the sunfilled landscapes, recalling unhurried walks on lengthening summer days.

There are many local scenes as well as those from abroad; I thought that Dorothy Othen's "Poppy", looking across a hedgerow with barbed wire to a cottage, and Hugh Wilson's "Grainard Bay - Ross-shire", were well observed.

I enjoyed looking beyond trees to the fields below in Joan Taylor's

"Harvest in Burgundy" and I could spend hours admiring Christine Radford's sensitive study of rocks in "St. Govans Chapel".

Anthea How creates tremendous depth in "Wier water from Robber's Bridge, Exmoor" and below this I liked her detailed interior, "The Drawing Room".

There are fine studies of the figure in George Carter's "Boules at Entrecasteaux, Provence", as he captures the game in the late afternoon. Gina Aronsberg's dappled "Painting Day", an immediate study of an artist at work, reminded me of Renoir.

Gloria Boyd's, "A Tranquil Glade", offers welcome shade away from the fierce sunlight, "Autumn Walk" by Judy Lee appears at first to be an entirely abstract composition; closer inspection reveals an intense interpretation of trees and foliage.

Raymond Bennett's monochrome, "Casino 1944", comes as a shock; it is a grim reminder of the destruction and misery caused by warfare.

Elizabeth Lloyd's "Flower Fantasy" is just that a marvellous explosion of shape and colour. There are many excellent flower studies which reach a crescendo with Pru Tappley's "Spring Bouquet".

Peter Prescott's landscape under a heavy sky is a wonderfully harmonious composition and Pam D'Arcy's sweeping seascape, "Stormy Weather", and the "Waterlilies" by Kathleen Page, are well described.

The high standard continues with the sculpture; of these Len Wildings "Ballet Dancer" and Pamela E. Pell's "Jack's Boot" caught my eye. Arthur Wren's "Abstract I" is a powerful piece; here the inner form is revealed as the outer shell disintegrates.

With over 150 works on view, visitors will need plenty of time and may I also recommend a sojourn in the gallery's beautiful gardens.

The Alton Art Society have been in existence for over 60 years. Their president, Lady Anne Scott, has just taken office as the third distinguished holder; her predecessors being Lord Baden Powell and the recently lamented Lady Bonham Carter.

Nineteen-ninety will be a memorable year for the society. Following the display at the Allen Gallery, there will be exhibitions at Oakhanger and Selborne as well as the usual show at the Assembly Rooms, Alton, in October.

David Walker

art at the allen

spring  
exhibition

at the  
Allen Gallery

28 April to 2 June

TUESDAYS-SATURDAYS 10-5

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