



Oriel Gallery Arts Club Newsletter

June 2008

Dear Member,

We are so looking forward to the exhibition of Gabrielle Turnbull's, "Silk Velvet", which opens on the Wednesday the 4th of June and continues until the 28th June, thereafter she will be joined by four other artists, Barry Kidd, Julie Wecker, Jamie Congdon and Cheryl Nugent for an exhibition called "Five of a Kind" until Saturday the 26th of July. You may remember that Gabrielle exhibited with us at Oriel Gallery about eighteen months ago with two other lovely artists, Jacinta Howard and Julie Vine.

"Silk Velvet" is a new departure for Gabrielle from her last works and our now much more involved with movement of the human body.



"Embrace"

Richard Lancaster has been an enormous help with Gabrielle's exhibition, not to mention others as well. He even managed to persuade me to talk on his radio programme 99.7FM ! between 12pm and 2pm every Friday. Well, as you all know I am not good at public speaking – I tend to leave that to the experts – let alone talk on air! It was rather nerve racking, particularly as I was also talking partly about the Fussell's exhibition, who at the time of airing were sitting in our sitting room listening to the radio! I would like to take this opportunity to thank Richard for his endless support of Oriel Gallery.

We were overwhelmed with not only the success of the Fussell Exhibition but also the interest taken by so many new visitors to the gallery. With the now fashionable minimalist interiors of so many homes it is exciting to find that at last white on white is certainly not the look one wants to live with in winter!!! So it comes with a breath of fresh air that people are finding it difficult to live without colour. Our paintings can lift you from clinical gloom to the highest of spirits.

I spoke to Darling Norman the other day and as usual he is holding court, and is very happy in his new home, and is charming, not only the staff but all his fellow residents as well, and I am pleased to report he is still enjoying the crinkle cut carrots which he still believes have been hand sculpted especially for him! He is threatening to come for another visit but expects me to learn the art of crinkling carrots before his arrival!!

Our darling friends the Nye's are adding yet again more colour to their lovely home with one of Frances Fussell's beautiful abstracts and keep bothering us to have it before the end of the exhibition. Unfortunately I have been having the same problem with Jeremy as normal, wishing to hang Chris Fussell's landscape in our bedroom.. There is always room for one more painting or sculpture – just keep your tape measure handy!

Sadly we have lost Hannah to all her studies at University, she was such a wonderful asset to the gallery, but too many commitments mean that she has not got the time anymore, so now I am trying to keep in control of my third child, (Jeremy and Oliver Twist being the first two) the third being Duncan Wise, who as you all know is incredibly knowledgeable about most things in life and quite likes to pontificate from the green wing chair by the front door at the gallery. If he doesn't have the answer to your question, well, it's probably not worth answering!! He can sew, and can fix almost anything and is the king of polishing furniture, a font of information and apart from that is always willing to have a good yarn!!! He's never short of a story or two – most of them a little on the wicked side!! He keeps us all amused and we, and all, our artists and visitors share very giggly and happy times with him.

Now, I know that I keep reminding you all about our library of art books, which are all housed in the "Norman Searant Reading Room". I don't think that any of you have taken advantage of what we are offering you. I will tell you again that you are very welcome to take books home, or read them here (you'll have to compete for the wing armchair with Duncan – although we do have others). Let's just all share the inspiration you get from looking at Matisse, Bonnard, Lucien Freud, or whoever it may be. Please use our library – it has been set up for your enjoyment.

Well, what else can I say, but to thank you all for your support, and for your friendship, through "sick and sin – thick and thin".

We always love to see you all and hear all your news.

Best wishes



A handwritten signature in black ink, enclosed in a thin black rectangular border. The signature is cursive and appears to read 'Vanessa Fiddler'.