



NEWSLETTER

From the President's Desk

Hello to you all,

Our exhibitions have been very successful throughout 2025, including our seventh SMART Exhibition and several new members holding their first solo and partnered exhibitions.

The second Monash Affordable Art Exhibition and our fourth Festive Gifts Exhibition are coming up soon.

Our SMART Exhibition was the best we have ever held. There were over 100 people at the Opening, which was amazing—just like the artwork on display.

Well done to everyone involved!

During the past month, we received the news that our Committee Member Julie Slade has tendered her resignation from the Committee due to personal reasons.

I would like to sincerely thank Julie for her time on the Committee. She has been a valuable member, and she will be missed. We hope that Julie may reconsider her position in the future.

Our AGM is coming up, so if you think you can participate, please speak to any committee member about nominating.

That's all for now.

Felicity Smith OAM JP
President, MONCAS Inc.

Editor's note : Please send your newsletter contributions to reachmoncas@gmail.com
Pratibha Madan
Vice-President, MONCAS Inc.

Acknowledgment of Country

MONCAS acknowledges the Traditional Owners of this land, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong People, and recognises their continuing connection to the land and waterways. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging and extend this to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.

DIARY DATES WITH MONCAS

2 - 12 October 2025

'Disposition' - Debut Solo Photographic Exhibition by Stephanie Withers

4 October 2025

Art Connect Workshop : Still Life Watercolour workshop with Ramnath Iyer

4 October 2025

Artist Practice Circle : Still Life with Ramanpreet Kaur

17 - 26 Oct 2025

'MAAE 2025' - 2nd Annual Monash Affordable Art Exhibition by MONCAS

27 Nov - 6 Dec 2025

'Festive Gifts 2025' - 4th Annual Maker's & Crafter's Exhibition by MONCAS

6 December 2025

Artist Practice Circle : Still Life with Ramanpreet Kaur

6 December 2025

Art Connect Workshop : Mixed media workshop with Laila Tabassum

OUR LINKS:

www.moncas.org.au

www.facebook.com/thetrackgallery

www.instagram.com/moncas_thetrackgallery

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MONCAS Auspice Upcoming Exhibitions

'MONCAS is proud to present **'Disposition,'** the debut solo photographic exhibition by **Stephanie Withers.**

This contemplative collection explores the profound connection between the external world and our inner selves. Through a series of landscape photographs, Withers investigates how our surroundings influence what we think, feel, and ultimately become.

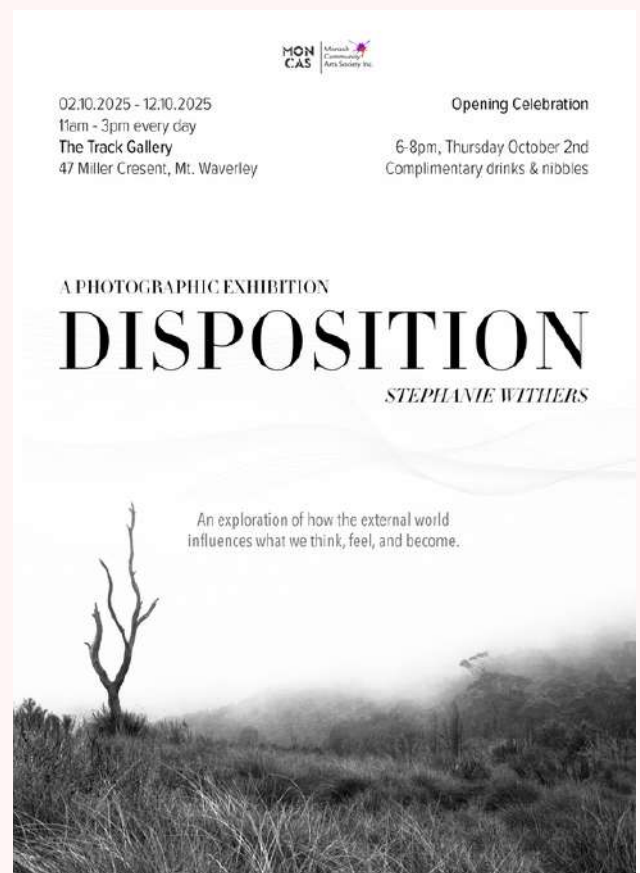
About the Artist:

Stephanie Withers is a Melbourne-based photographic artist with over 20 years of experience. Specializing in landscape, nature, and wildlife photography, her work captures a spectrum of moments—from everyday scenes to breathtaking vistas—infused with joy, serenity, and thoughtful reflection.

Exhibition open:

2 -12 October 2025 (11am - 3pm Daily)

Opening celebrations: Friday, 2 October, 6 - 8 PM



Upcoming MONCAS Exhibitions

'The MONCAS committee is gearing up for **MAAE 2025 - Monash Affordable Art Exhibition, running from 17 - 26 October 2025.**

Following last year's successful debut, we can't wait to see this year's vibrant selection of original artworks on the gallery walls. The exhibition showcases art at accessible price points, making it easy for everyone to enjoy and collect.

With the generous support of our donors—Frames Now, Art Shed Online, and the Rotary Club of Oakleigh Clayton and Huntingdale—we are pleased to offer a \$1000 prize pool.

We invite the entire community to join us, vote for their favorite work, and help us decide the People's Choice Award.

Please save the dates!

Join us in celebrating our local artistic talent!

Opening Event: Friday, 17th October, 6 - 8 PM

Closing Event: Sunday, 26th October, 2 PM

MAAE 2025

Monash Affordable Art Exhibition

by

MONCAS Monash Community Arts Society Inc.

17 - 26 October 2025
(Mon-Fri: 1pm-7pm, Sat-Sun: 10am-4pm)

THE TRACK GALLERY
Mount Waverley VIC 3149

Opening Event : Friday, 17 Oct at 6PM
Meet the artists, vote for the People's Choice Award, and enjoy a creative evening with community spirit.

Closing Event : Sunday, 26 Oct at 2PM
Award Presentation - Highly Commended Awards & People's Choice Award

Our Sponsors: **Art shed** **FRAMES NOW** **Rotary** Oakleigh Clayton Huntingdale

Enquiries: reachmoncas@gmail.com | www.moncas.org.au

Upcoming MONCAS Exhibitions

MONCAS is thrilled to present '**Festive Gifts 2025**', our fourth annual Exhibition and Sale from **27th Nov to 6th Dec** at The Track Gallery! This 10-day event will be a dynamic display of the extraordinary talents of our makers, crafters, and artists, offering a wide variety of beautifully handmade gifts.

This is more than a sale—it's a tribute to creativity, community, and seasonal spirit! While we share holiday joy, it's also a chance to build connections, support each other, and share the wonder of handmade items with the community. Whether you wish to sell your unique pieces or just soak up the festive mood, this event promises something special for all. We encourage every MONCAS member to take part and help make Festive Gifts 2025 unforgettable!

Opening Celebrations: Thursday, 27th Nov at 6PM

MON
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Monash
Community
Arts Society Inc.

Festive Gifts 2025

**10-DAY HANDMADE BAZAAR BY
LOCAL MAKERS, CRAFTERS & ARTISTS**

27 NOV - 6 DEC 2025

At

THE TRACK GALLERY

47 MILLER CRES, Mt WAVERLEY

CALLING ALL MAKERS, CRAFTERS & ARTISTS!

Enquiries :

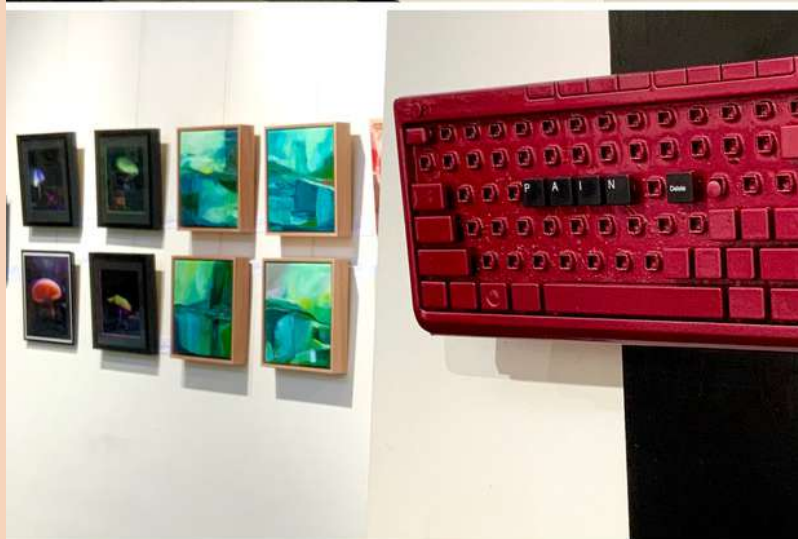
reachmoncas@gmail.com

www.moncas.org.au

Highlights from our recent Exhibitions

MONCAS was proud to support the **7th annual 'smART 2025 - Small Works Art Exhibition'**, curated by **Pratibha Madan** for another successful year! The opening night was officiated by Dr. Carina Garland, Federal Member for Chisholm, who honored us with her attendance. The event drew a crowd of over 125 guests, uniting local community members, artists, and art lovers.

Featuring 125+ works by 45 talented artists, the exhibition was a wonderful celebration of our local creativity. A special thank you to all the contributing artists, both new and returning. Together, we are strengthening community bonds through the power of art.



ern Suicide Prevention
Gallery in September.

MONCAS supported the South Eastern Suicide Prevention annual exhibition, held at The Track Gallery in September.

'Spotlighting Bullying – Seeds of change' 2025

Reflecting on the success of two previous exhibitions, SESPN once again aligned the theme of bullying with art, resulting in an extraordinary display of community- led art and engagement from community, schools, and the broader art community. The art portrayed a unique story of resilience, hope, change and strength.

The Spotlighting Bullying exhibition aligns with the networks core values. Along with our partner the Rotary Club of Oakleigh Clayton Huntingdale, we remain committed to raising awareness and fostering hope in a future free from suicide.

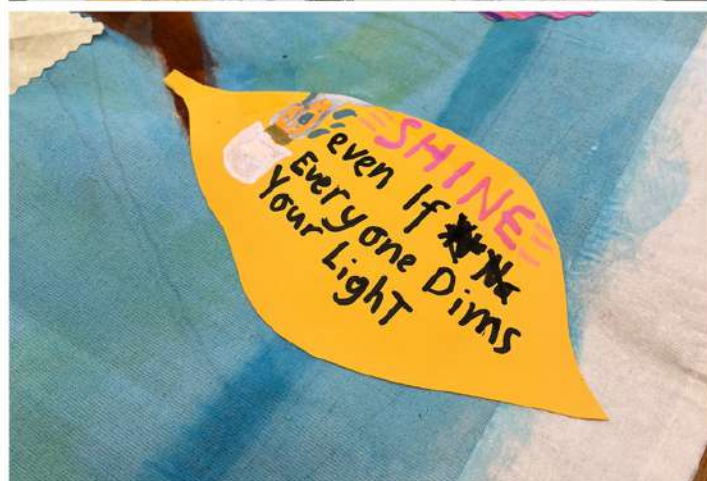
Our sincere appreciation to Pratibha Madan for her outstanding curatorial expertise and unwavering professionalism, both of which were pivotal in the successful presentation of our third exhibition, featuring works by students and community members, along with an interactive artwork, Seeds of Change: Art for a Kinder World - a collective "Tree of Hope".

We also extend our gratitude to the MONCAS for their continued support, together with surrounding Art Groups who contributed significantly to the exhibition's success, including the opening night where we welcomed 108 attendees, and nearly 400 visitors throughout the ten-day event.

Planning for our 2026 Spotlighting Bullying art exhibition around World Suicide Prevention Day, in September, is underway. Thank you!

Malcolm, Jackie & Vivienne

Coordinators, South Eastern Suicide Prevention Network Art Exhibition



ART CONNECT MONTHLY SESSIONS

The Art Connect project, supported by the City of Monash, offers a variety of engaging art sessions and workshops open to the public. These sessions are held on the **first Saturday of each month from 1:30 - 3 PM** in the Craft Room at the Mount Waverley Community Centre.

The **August Art Connect** Monthly Workshop featured a truly captivating session on '**Bead Jewellery Making**', expertly guided by our multi-talented member artist, **Jayashree Iyer**. The studio was abuzz with focused energy as an enthusiastic group of participants learned to master various tools and techniques to create their own elegant pairs of bead earrings. The entire session was meticulously planned and executed by Jayashree, ensuring a seamless and inspiring experience for all. The joy in the room was palpable as participants proudly flaunted their handcrafted treasures, a testament to their newfound skills.



The **September Art Connect** workshop was a vibrant success! Led by our talented member artist, **Rahila Zeeshan**, the session focused on '**Sketch and Collage**.' Designed especially for beginners, it provided a wonderfully immersive and insightful experience. Participants enthusiastically explored fundamental collage assembly, various mark-making techniques, and the process of composing their own still-life floral artwork. The interactive format ensured everyone left feeling inspired and equipped with new creative skills.



'Artist Practice Circle'

Our new Artist Practice Circle is an artist-led initiative exclusively for members. We meet monthly in the Craft Room on the **first Saturday of each month from 12:30-1:30 PM**, just before the regular workshop, to foster connection, collaboration, and artistic skill development. Our first session began in August. For the next few months, members will hone their still life drawing skills under the able guidance of our member artist, **Ramanpreet Kaur**.



Other Exhibition at The Track Gallery.

'Through The Lens'

An exhibition of photographs by members of the Waverley Camera Club

29 October - 9 November 2025, Open Daily 10am - 3pm

Opening Event: Thursday, 30 October, 6-8 pm

Call for Expressions of Interest

The MONCAS Committee is seeking expressions of interest from member artists for the following opportunities:

- **Exhibitions at The Track Gallery** – Showcase your work through a solo or small group exhibition under the auspices of MONCAS. One two-week exhibition slot is currently available from 31 March to 13 April 2026. For further details and the booking form, please contact us at reachmoncas@gmail.com
- **Art Connect Monthly Sessions** – Facilitate a beginner-level, 1.5-hour art or craft workshop to be held between Jan - June 2026. Please email your proposal—including your workshop idea and topic –to reachmoncas@gmail.com

We look forward to your ideas and contributions!

OUR LINKS:

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