

1st September 2010

Prime Miniatures at Arts Centre

Art in Miniature is the focus of one of the latest exhibitions to be launched at the Shoalhaven City Arts Centre. The exhibition was official opened to the public on Saturday 28 August by John Hatton.

This fine collection of watercolours, oils, gold leaf, mixed media and collage are the painstaking creations of Canberra based group AIM (Art in Miniature). Works vary in size from 12cm through to the smallest works being 2 by 5cm. These artists share the love of painting miniatures and hope to encourage more Shoalhaven artists to take up the challenge.

Exhibitors include Nell Anderson, Jean Apthorpe, Margaret Bice, Lyn Cottingham, Magaret Carr, Jocelyne Godber, Eva Henry, Janet Hicks, Sandra House, Val Johnson, Michaela Laurie, Stuart Marshall, Isla Patterson, Joan Richards, Camelia Smith, Jan Vincent and Arlene Williams.

Miniature painting goes back to the 12th Century where squeals from the forests of Europe did not come from lovers but squirrels – with the tail hair the preferred paint applicator. In the 15th Century it was believed that illustrations would aid the understanding of the written word, as a result Bibles were one of the earliest illustrations of miniature paintings. Each page had a border composed of flowers, fruit, animals and human figures. The first letter of each paragraph was embellished and decorated with gold leaf.

The miniatures are on display until 22nd of September and well worth a visit. The Shoalhaven Arts Centre is open Tuesday to Friday from 10am- 4pm and Saturdays from 11-3pm.

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