



SOGETSU IKEBANA QUEENSLAND INC.

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Director's Message-May 2021

Chris Wyer

From the time of our AGM in March life for our executive team and members of the committee has been hectic. This year our AGM was held at the Queensland Art Gallery auditorium - a generous space for social distancing and yet personal. We thank the Gallery for allowing us to use this space. As you will see from your membership list there have been several changes to the committee. I welcome new faces to the various positions on our committee and I look forward to the discussions that new ideas will bring. Peter Biddulph (ceramic artist) was our guest speaker. I urge you to go to our web site www.ikebanabrisbane.org.au under the tab of *News* to read his thought provoking information.

As Director, my first task this year has been for Sogetsu Ikebana to have a presence at the Home of the Arts, Gold Coast (HOTA). I have already sent you information on our start with HOTA. It was lovely to receive a reply email from one of our Gold Coast members who was excited at the re-established connections, as it brought back fond memories for her of the association Sogetsu had with the Gold Coast Art Gallery.

For those who attended the Renka workshop, wasn't it a liberating experience - firstly working independently and then collaboratively? A test for our creative thoughts and communicative skills! Playing with ikebana materials is an essential part of creating.

Forthcoming workshop: 4th, 5th June with a change of venue this year being to the Kenmore Uniting Church, 982 Moggill Road, Kenmore.

Make sure these dates are marked in your diary. I encourage you to attend one or more sessions, to take away new learnings and to enjoy the experience of working with others. Seiseki Umemura (Yosh) has been invited to lead this workshop. He is well-known to most Sogetsu members. It is like welcoming back a good friend.

This year we are fortunate that our annual Exhibition in August is planned to be held at the Mt Coot-tha Botanical Gardens with the theme *My Art of Sogetsu*. Our Exhibition Chairperson, Vernisher has planning well underway.

Let's continue to do what we do best: *a creative approach towards Sogetsu Ikebana while working together.*

Warm Regards
Chris

The HOTA Display

Steve Mackie

Arising out of our long connection with the installation of ikebana in the Queensland Art Gallery, Sogetsu Brisbane was honoured to be requested by HOTA (Home of the Arts) to provide an installation for the opening of that major new art gallery in Bundall, Gold Coast.

The new gallery is a striking building, with an apparently multi-faceted exterior each facet coloured in a different bright colour.



Deciding on a concept of a large bamboo arrangement to suit the scale of the space in the new gallery, Sensei Pat Mackie undertook to lead the charge, and over a few days her students Gillian Jones, Nicole Dorner-Scales, Sue Poole, Eri Pitt and Julie Lumsdale, split, bent and painted bamboo.



The concept was to create an open celebration of bamboo, and to reference the colours of the HOTA exterior.

On Friday 7th of May, the team travelled to HOTA and began assembling the installation on a stage in the main entrance hall, where everyone entering the gallery has to pass.

The arrangement was supported by three pyramidal structures of green bamboo formed in triangles which formed a stable base for the wilder frothy and painted stems.



Support structure



The completed arrangement was complimented with strelitzias, again reflecting the bright HOTA colours.



The completed arrangement

Workshop with Yoshiro

Seiseki Umemura

Mr. Yoshiro Umemura received the highest rank of Riji diploma in March 1995 from Mr. Hiroshi Teshigahara, the late Headmaster of the Sogetsu School of Ikebana in Tokyo, Japan. He conducts Ikebana classes and demonstrations in Sydney and other Sogetsu Branches in Australia and New Zealand. He is also a qualified master of Japanese Tea Ceremony and is accomplished in the art of Chinese brush painting.

Kenmore Uniting Church, 982 Moggill Road, Kenmore

Friday 4 June

10am-12.30pm 1. Composition using leaves only in a Nageire container (4-2)

12.30-1.30pm BYO Lunch

1.30-4pm 2. Tsubo vases - using fresh material (5-10)

Saturday 5 June

10am-12.30pm 3. Arrangement incorporating unconventional material (4-11)

12.30-1.30pm BYO Lunch

1.30-4pm 4. My Art of Sogetsu - theme of 2021 Exhibition in August

Cost: \$25 per workshop or \$90 for all four

Registration Forms have been emailed to members as well as at the end of this newsletter.

Treasurer's Report

Wendy Hoskin

We have currently collected \$1870 from the kind donation of containers from Judith's family. There are some outstanding payments for containers still due. Please transfer amounts owing to the above account including your name and the container number you purchased. I will also be emailing a couple of people who have paid but I'm not sure what was purchased. One member has paid \$125 but I'm not sure who, or what the payment is for.

Thank you to all who use bank transfers. It is a good way of ensuring accountability.

Renka Workshop

Photos by Ikuko Okada





Love of ikebana plus hard work = achievement


Congratulations to Pat's student, Sallyanne Scott, on receiving her Teacher's Certificate Level Four

Congratulations also to Vernisher's student Chiu Lan Teh who received her 4th certificate in March. She has now moved to Tasmania.



Remember: Annual Exhibition: 21st and 22nd August

Time to dust off and inspect your plinth.

If it needs repainting, this is the colour you require! 

Thanks again for your contributions. See many of you at the workshop.

Wendy Hoskin
Editor

