

Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time.
Thomas Merton



I know everyone is feeling Christmas rushing towards them but don't fret...after that comes the great quiet time when you can just laze away those summer days (well some of us can!).

There are some great art workshops on offer over January so if you have some need of inspiration and camaraderie - join in! If you have always wanted to try your hand with some watercolour, acrylic or oil painting and are an absolute beginner then some of the Summer Workshops are for you. Alternatively if you simply want some inspiration for your art, then perhaps you can try a new medium such as glass or sculpture to move you to another level.

Be sure to visit blueBanksia's [Events Calendar](#) for details of workshops for **Baldessin Studio 4 Day Summer Workshops** in Saint Andrews, Victoria; **Mitchell School of Arts – Summer School**, Bathurst NSW; **Summer Art Experience – Artists Society of Canberra**, ACT and **USQ McGregor Summer School**, Toowoomba, QLD.

Teresa

Holiday Sketching in South India



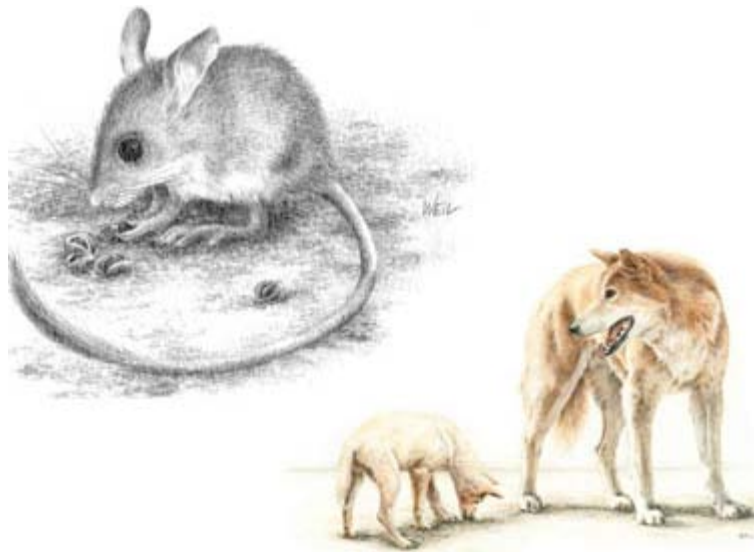
14-22 April 2012 with Leonie Norton

Travel lightly with a sketchbook, watercolour travelling palette, black pen and a pencil. Holiday sketching combines a unique and enjoyable holiday with learning the art of pen and watercolour to record your visual memories.

Leonie Norton is a prominent botanical artist and highly experienced international tutor who has been taking overseas tours for many years. This is a wonderful way to travel, whether as a single or with a non participating partner, who will be well looked after as the group sketches.

[Read more of this article >](#)

An Artistic Tradition - USQ McGregor



Over the past four decades, the **University of Southern Queensland's McGregor Summer School** has become somewhat of an institution for arts practitioners and enthusiasts alike.

From humble beginnings back in January 1969 with three painting classes and 43 students, the Summer School has steadily grown in size and popularity.

Today, the annual School offers up to fifty classes and attracts over 500 students from across the nation and overseas to Toowoomba for the ten-day arts retreat.

[Read more of this article >](#)

The CONTEXTART Forum - TAFTA

How does a 'Textile' organisation get involved in a multi-arts event – and why in the Blue Mountains?

And where did a name like 'CONTEXTART FORUM' come from?...

...Suddenly this new event appeared, looking like a fait accompli. And that makes sense when you consider it's being launched by an organisation with vast experience in running 'Textile Forums' – workshop based events that 'TAFTA' has coordinated for over 20 years now, around Australia. TAFTA being The Australian Forum for Textile Arts, Ltd.



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blueBanksia Poll

We are always looking for ways to provide our visitors with the information and inspiration they want. In order to do this we need a bit of information about who you are. A reminder to take part in a simple online survey on blueBanksia's [home page](#) to tell us who you are.

Many thanks
Teresa and Stephanie

Events Summary 15 November, 2011 to 31 January 2012

Be sure to visit the [Events Calendar](#) and browse through what's on offer.

[Events Calendar](#)

Find visual art events:
Art workshops and courses
Art exhibitions and competitions
Art festivals, fairs or conferences
Art tours

If you are short of time and just can't get to any events don't forget to visit blueBanksia's Shop and look for inspiration from our Art DVD films of internationally renowned artists. [Browse here](#) >

Check out these fabulous new Art DVD releases. NEW and in stock now!

- [Rural France in Watercolour](#) - Joseph Zbukvic
- [Creating Light in Oil](#) - Richard Pikesley

- [The Passionate Painter in Paris](#) - Alvaro Castagnet
- [Five Steps to Watercolour](#) - Amanda Hyatt

[Gift certificates are also available](#) for Christmas ART DVD gifts.

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