SPECIAL NEWS

Virginia Kaiser. Sturt would like to acknowledge the passing of artist Virginia Kaiser on 10 June 2012.

Virginia’s funeral was held in Broken Hill attended by artists and friends and a small collection of baby kangaroo joeys wrapped in pouches with eyes peering. A great love of Virginia’s was to be able to help orphaned joeys until they could be returned to the wild. Dale Dryen and Slavica Zivkovic travelled to Broken Hill to represent Sturt at Virginia’s funeral and to say farewell to a much loved artist and dear friend.

Virginia’s strong association with Sturt began in 2000 when she started teaching at Summer and Winter Schools and numerous other short courses at Sturt. In 2003 and 2005 Virginia participated in the artist in residence program and curated the exhibition Old traditions, new ways II in 2005, promoting contemporary basket making. For over 30 years Virginia contributed significantly to contemporary basket making in Australia. Her great love for this medium as a maker, educator and contributor to conferences and symposiums all started with a life-altering chance meeting with the late American weaver Douglas Fuchs in the 1980s. Influenced by this first meeting, Virginia went on to undertake further study and embark upon her own path of creative response to the environment around her. Virginia never ceased to imagine the endless possibilities that the environment showed her and she never stopped sharing her knowledge. Through her teaching, writing, exhibitions and dedication to her craft, Virginia Kaiser has been an important contributor to Australian craft.

~ Slavica Zivkovic ~

New arrivals. We welcome our new artist in residence Stefan Jakob from Switzerland who will be with us working in the pottery for the next 3 months. Welcome back to master woodworker Leon Sadubin who will be teaching Term 3 in the Wood School and welcome also to Brisbane-based furniture maker Roy Schack, joining us in August to teach a special 4-week cabinet making course.

Sturt now endorsed by NSW Institute of Teachers. Sturt has been recently endorsed by the NSW Institute of Teachers as a provider of professional development. The scope of our endorsement covers elements 6 and standard 7.2.4 of the professional teaching standards for creative arts related professional development. The endorsement covers Sturt’s courses and workshop programs for a period of five years.

Winter School a great success. Our winter school held during the holidays from 2-6 July was a great success. We had a 10% increase in enrolments overall with a large number of students taking accommodation and meals options with us. The weather was cold and bright but this did not deter wonderful outcomes from all classes and very well attended talks and events.

JUST ONE PLACE LEFT - This is your last chance to enrol in Cabinet Making with Roy Schack. This special 4 week course with Brisbane based designer-maker Roy Schack offers an exceptional opportunity to design and make your own cabinet on a stand with one of Australia’s best known contemporary furniture makers. This course is for intermediate and advanced students. The course runs full time from 20 August to 14 September – $2750 plus materials.
STURT GALLERY
Reclamation
Fine Furniture by Darren Oates
Continues to 19 August

Darren Oates is a big believer in making better use of the timber that comes from trees felled by our progress – making way for housing estates, industrial areas, roads or railways. 95% of the furniture in this new exhibition is made from this timber to underline the importance of using resources fully and properly.

Spotted Gum, Iron Bark, Swamp Oak, Red Cedar and Silky Oak are just some of the reclaimed timbers used by Darren to become fine furniture that will endure for many decades to come.

STURT SCHOOL FOR WOOD
Enrolments now open for 1-year Wood School in 2013. We are now inviting applications to enrol in the Sturt Wood School’s 1-year accredited fine furniture making course for 2013. A full prospectus can be found on the Sturt website and this describes the application and enrolment procedures. Students who are accepted for enrolment in this course may be eligible for a range of government assistance programs to help support them while they undertake full-time study including Austudy, Youth Allowance and Fares Allowance.

SHORT COURSES
Our next weekend of short courses for 2012 is scheduled for 18 & 19 August.

Courses include Ceramics – surface design with Stefan Jakob, Jewellery – metal textile techniques with Nicola Bannerman and Woodwork – Shaker style boxes with Phoebe Everill.

FROM STURT WINTER SCHOOL 2-6 JULY

Darren Oates (centre) with Tony Gleeson (left) and Mark Viner (right) at the opening of Darren’s exhibition – Sunday 8 July
This Bygone Age
Basketry by Meri Peach
26 August to 7 October

“This exhibition reflects my imagining of our plastic centred society as a ship of fools, heading for certain wreckage. The pieces resemble artifacts or remains that might be found on such a shipwreck, or new life forms that might have evolved to colonise it.”

An exhibition of artworks made from plastic and other reclaimed synthetic materials. A former marine biologist, Meri Peach’s basketry references natural structures, the impact of humans on the natural world and human relationships with the natural environment.

Exhibition opening Sunday 26 August at 11am. To be opened by special guest Professor David Booth, Marine Ecologist. This is a free event with refreshments served and all welcome.
Supporting the Artist-in-Residence Program

**Events**

**Slidenight at Sturt** The next Slidenight at Sturt will be held on Thursday 6 September 5.30pm for a 6pm start and will include presentations by two very special artists working at Sturt in 2012. **Roy Schack** graduated from the Sturt School for Wood in 1994 and is returning in 2012 to teach a special 4-week cabinet-making course. Roy has created his own purpose-built studio 25 km northwest of Brisbane’s CBD. Roy established The Brisbane School of Fine Woodwork where he combines teaching with designing and making for commission as well as for exhibition. Roy works almost exclusively in solid timber and utilises a combination of traditional and modern joinery techniques. **Stefan Jakob** is a potter, kiln builder and teacher from Switzerland undertaking a 3-month professional residency at Sturt. Over the last 15 years Stefan has built around 2000 raku rubbish bin kilns in Europe and produces his own highly distinctive raku fired work.

Slidenights include drinks, nibbles and good company. $5 for Friends of Sturt/$10 for everyone else. Slidenights are supported by Friends of Sturt and all funds raised go to support the Sturt Artist in Residence program. For bookings call Sturt Gallery on 4860 2083 or email shop@sturt.nsw.edu.au

**Friends of Sturt Meetings**

All Friends of Sturt are invited to join our committee meetings in 2012, contribute to discussion and enjoy a glass of wine and a sneak preview of the new exhibition. All meetings begin at 5.30pm and are held in Sturt Cottage. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 22 August.

**Friends of Sturt** is a voluntary based organisation, which supports Sturt in a variety of ways. These include assisting with exhibition openings, mailouts, as well as organising a series of fundraising events.

Funds raised by Friends of Sturt directly supports the Artist-in-Residence program.

Members of Friends of Sturt are united by the love of fine craft and art, and a desire to support Sturt.

To become a member or to renew your membership, please visit or contact Sturt Gallery on 02 4860 2083.

Membership fees are $30 for a single, $35 for a couple and $40 for a family.

Benefits include: invitation to all Sturt exhibitions, bimonthly newsletter, information about special excursions and events, 10% discount on all purchase over $20 and under $1000 at Sturt Shop and Gallery (only applicable for cash, cheque or eftpos payments).

Would you like to help us a bit more? If you have any spare time then we would love to hear from you. Many FOS members support Sturt by volunteering their time to assist us with exhibition openings (serving drinks, looking after our archive building), Mailouts (this is such an important job as we depend upon regular communication with our database) or helping with events (selling raffle tickets, serving food). Do let us know if you would like to get involved.

Contact the Friends of Sturt Secretary: fos@sturt.nsw.edu.au