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JMGA WA Newsletter February 2015

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February News

Hi Everyone,

Happy New Year! I hope you've had a great holiday and are prepared for an exciting year ahead.

The next JMGA meeting is the AGM to be held on **Monday 23rd February at 7.30pm** in the Boardroom at the **Loftus Recreation Centre**, corner of Loftus Street and Vincent Street Leederville. We hope to see you there!

Please remember to submit your news to newsletter@jmgawa.com.au by the second Tuesday of the month. The next deadline will be **10 March**.

With best wishes,

Hannah Jago

Newsletter Co-ordinator

JMGA Conference 2015 - Registrations Now Open!

edgesbordersgaps is the 16th Biennial JMGA Conference which will be held in Sydney 10-12 July 2015.

You can register [here](#).

Now is also a good time to book your flights. [Virgin Australia](#) and [Jetstar Airways](#) have some reasonable deals.

Have you renewed your JMGA WA membership? If not, now is a great time to do so, as you'll miss out on receiving these amazing, read-

worthy newsletters. You also get to connect with many others through jewellery! Click [here](#) to fill in your membership form.

Exhibitions

In-Material 13 February - 22 March 2015 [Mundaring Arts Centre](#)

A number of JMGA members are involved in this exhibition. The 2015 display of fine craft responds to the recent Craft Sector Mapping Study conducted by the Chamber of Arts and Culture, providing an avenue for jewellers, metal-smiths, ceramicists, wood, leather, fibre and textile artists to engage with the public, provide dialogue, inspiration and education to celebrate a vibrant craft sector. With exceptional, internationally renowned craftspeople residing in the Shire of Mundaring, this exhibition promises to be a beautiful exploration of form, surface, materiality and design.

Treasures of the Jewish Ghetto of Venice On Now until 16 March 2015

A collection of bronze and silver objects from 1700-1900s. These treasures are currently on display at the Art Gallery of Western Australia and represent traditional Venetian Jewish silversmithing and bronze casting methods. Click [here](#) for more info.



Between the Sheets: Artists' Books Exhibition 9 March - 2 April 2015

Gallery East present artists' books from Australia, Europe, UK, Zimbabwe, USA and Asia.

Printmakers, photographers, wordsmiths, textile artists, painters, sculptors and digital artists employ both traditional and contemporary art practices to create personal and universal takes on this most fascinating of art forms.

Images: Kathy Aspinall, *Charlotte's Rose*.



L'esperienza di Milano

by Hannah Jago



Zero degree temperatures and a long flight did not deter my enthusiasm to participate in the *Artistar Jewels 2015* exhibition held in December, in Milan, Italy. JMGA members Dr Dorothy Erickson and Bethamy Linton also exhibited alongside emerging and professional jewellers from many nations. The decision to take part was financially and thoroughly investigated, as I checked the organisations' legitimacy. I decided that it would be a good opportunity to gain international exposure after being informed that 120 artist jewellers from around the world were selected. I felt apprehensive, yet excited, as it was a costly endeavour. However, it was an opportunity not to be missed! I also decided to personally visit the exhibition in Milan, having never previously travelled to Italy.

It wasn't an easy exercise to get the jewellery overseas, with conversations lost in translation from the Italian organisers, receiving misleading information from the courier company and having to pay Italian custom officers a hefty fee to allow the jewellery into the country, were all part of the European

experience.

The opening night was held on the 19th December. I had literally just arrived at Milan Central Train Station from Venice, before taking the Metro to Spazio Maimeri, where the exhibition was located. I finally found the building tucked away behind a plain hidden door from the pavement that opened onto a piazza, which lead to the art space packed full of people, mostly Italians. I introduced myself to the organisers, who after a squaffing a few red wines, became my new best friends. They were surprised to see an Australian, smiling and happy.

Having now seen the overseas exhibition, I feel that we, as a local group JMGA WA produce exhibitions of a very high standard with jewellery of excellent quality. We should certainly be proud of our achievements.

The *Artistar Jewels* exhibition contained a variety of works, some more conceptual, others from design companies, pieces made with AutoCAD technology along with handmade jewellery. In Italy, they call Contemporary Jewellery "Goldsmith Jewellery". Prizes were awarded to a small number of international artists on the night, for various categories.

Here in Australia, we tend to have displays that are clean and minimalistic, whereas in Milan, sections appeared quite busy. Works were displayed in white paper boxes attached to the wall, whilst wearable rings hung in clear baubles with silver mesh, for the Christmas Festive look. Some of the baubles were too high to see. Necklaces were displayed on crocheted placemats on the wall, which I felt detracted from the work. Other items were displayed under locked, perspex- covered packing crates which were painted white.

Overall, it was an interesting time in international relations, a wonderful excuse to go to Europe and a positive life experience from which I have gleaned and grown. For the next 12 months, my jewellery will be on display and for sale, online. A catalogue with all the participating international jewellers will hopefully arrive next month.

Sites of Interest

[Sidetrack Design](#)

Sidetrack Design was formed as a collective that encourages the sharing of technical knowledge, skills and critical direction to support members' artistic practice. We differ in our use of media and stylistic approaches, but we are connected through our love of making beautiful jewellery and art objects, our respect for quality design, and an innate desire to create within our chosen disciplines and design aesthetic.

[Ethical Jewellery](#)

If anyone's planning a trip to London, you may like to attend this seminar on the 7 March.

[The York Bazaar](#)

You can sell your handmade jewellery at The York Bazaar which will be held on 19 & 20 September 2015. Registrations are now open!

[Bangkok Gems & Jewelry Fair](#)

The fair will be held 24-28 February and 10-14 September 2015.

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