

**Denise Smith ~ Artist
Wrendale Art Studio
Healesville**

Denise's inspiration is nature and wildlife - with favourite subjects being birds, animals, exotic species and indigenous species of Australia.

Denise describes herself as a realist painter, mainly using the mediums of pastel, watercolour and acrylic, but lately experimenting with inks, and mixed media with great success! Using mixed media has become a favourite activity for Denise's backgrounds and then placing a realist subject into the mix!

Denise strives for individualism and capturing each animal or bird's quirky personality!

Additions to the list of original artworks are small Pen and Watercolour iconic scenes of the Yarra Valley, Pet Studies and other commissions are welcomed by Denise.

Plein Air painting in the Yarra Valley is a great past time for Denise as is the Sketching Tours she takes to the Healesville Sanctuary, they have become a most enjoyable activity for visitors and artists alike!

On arrival in Healesville twenty odd years ago, Denise joined the volunteers as a Guide at Healesville Sanctuary enjoying almost ten years as a Volunteer. A most rewarding time interacting with the public while taking them on tours of the Sanctuary, and learning more about the birds she now paints with passion.

Awards:

2006 - Mt. Evelyn & Yarra Valley Arts Society -

Best Oil/Acrylic - Eastern Grey Kangaroo (Oil)

Highly Commended - Green & Gold Bell Frog (Oil)

2010 - Mt. Evelyn & Yarra Valley Arts Society

Best in Show - Can't Get A Word In - Pastel

2014 - Inaugural Art Show "Off The Wall" - Warburton

Best in Show - "Who Me?" - Tawny Frogmouths (Pastel)

2015 - Yarra Hills College - Mooroolbark

Traditional Art Award - "Manuka Alpine Dingo" (Pastel)

2016 - Off the Wall -- First Prize - Happy Not Yappy - Acrylic

2017 - Mt. Evelyn & Yarra Valley Arts Society

People's Choice Prize - Pastel; Tassie Devil

For the last five years in succession Denise had Healesville Rotary Club purchase her artwork for their annual Business Prize.

In 2009 Denise had her works and a demonstration piece published in the magazine titled "Artist's Palette" which is published internationally. Denise's artwork was featured on the cover of this magazine.

Exhibitions:

2002 - 1st Solo Exhibition at Country Looks Gallery, Healesville

2003 - 2nd Solo Exhibition at RACV Country Club, Healesville

2007 - Combined Exhibition (Valley Painters) at Brumfield at the Oaks Winery, Yering

2008 - 2019 Combined Exhibition with participants of Yarra Valley Open Studios,

2012 - Combined Exhibition (Valley Painters), at Brumfield Winery, Seville

2013 - Group Exhibition of Yarra Valley Artists at Art at Linden Gate, Yarra Glen,

2014 - Solo Exhibition at Ray Oliver Gallery, Mont De Lancey, Wandin,

2014 - Group Exhibition at Art at Linden Gate

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Exhibitions Contd.

2016 –Group Exhibition at Wyreena Gallery, Croydon

2019 - Nature Unframed – Malka Studio, Healesville

2019 - Group Exhibition – Wyreena

Participates in Group Exhibitions annually with Mt. Evelyn & Yarra Valley Arts Society Inc.

Denise participated in the Food and Wine Festival with 12 local Artists painting a wine barrel each with the Yarra Valley Theme. These barrels continue to be placed at a variety of wineries to be enjoyed by the public.

Having been affected by the Black Saturday bushfires in February 2009, Denise took part in a special group exhibition at Three Stories Gallery, Healesville.

Associations/ Memberships:

Yarra Valley Arts

Mt. Evelyn & Yarra Valley Arts Society Inc. (held Voluntary Secretary's position/ four years)

Zoos Victoria

Denise's working studio, Wrendale Art Studio is opened to the general public at anytime by appointment, where her artworks can be viewed and are for sale.

Contacts

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