

Still life captured at awards

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Tags coffs harbour regional art gallery, eutick memorial still life award

AUSTRALIA'S most important prize for still life will be awarded at Coffs Harbour Regional Art Gallery this week.

The 2011 Eutick Memorial Still Life Award exhibition opens at 6pm tomorrow, featuring both works of art and a boutique music festival.

This year's EMSLA paintings range from the purely abstract through to hyper realism.

"All the works reveal extraordinary levels of skill and the entire exhibition is overall of a very high calibre," said the gallery's director, Dr Leigh Summers.

Now in its fifth year, the award will be judged by a panel of four.

The judges are Sydney Morning Herald art critic John McDonald; the CEO of Museums and Galleries NSW Michael Rolfe; the director of the Glass House Gallery in Port Macquarie Sharni Lloyd, and the Director of Manning Regional Gallery in Taree Susan Mitchell.

Members of the public are invited to attend any or all of the free and priced events which kick off with the opening night tomorrow at the gallery.

"Opening night is definitely the most glamorous and entertaining event in the gallery calendar. We encourage guests to dress to impress for this exciting event," Dr Summers said.

The EMSLA winner will be announced at this event and special guests include the judges, artists, and gallery benefactor Dr Mal Eutick.

Also on the entertainment list is a magnificent aria which is a gift to Dr Eutick.

This year controversial critic Mr McDonald will edify, entertain and possibly outrage at 10.30am on Saturday. This event costs \$5 and includes morning tea using the gallery's mad woman's tea set.

His lecture will be followed at 12.30pm with an appearance by Deb Mostert, a Queensland artist, who will paint in the gallery. The EMSLA finalist has won many awards. This event is free.

The gala opening of EMSLA costs \$10 a ticket and dress is cocktail hour.

Book early with the gallery on 66484863 as tickets are limited.

The art gallery is located at the corner of Duke and Coffs Sts.



'The teacup fairy' by James Guppy. An entry to the last year's Eutick Memorial Still Life Awards.

Leigh Jensen