**Ncas Trustees’ report for the financial year ended 31st May 2022**

Norfolk Contemporary Art Society is a charitable trust registered with the Charity Commissioners (no. 262730). For official purposes its address is c/o Frances Martin, 184 Drayton Road, Norwich NR3 2EA

Its website is www.n-cas.org.uk. Its rules are governed by its revised constitution dated 8th July 2007 and 24th July 2016.

**Trustees**

Paid up members can nominate and second the names of prospective trustees each year at the AGM, which for 2021 was held in the gardens of Hempnall House, courtesy of Kate and Colin O’Grady.

A maximum of 16 Trustees are each elected for 3 years. Trustees and officers of the Society for the year 1st June 2021 to 31st May 2022 were:

*Officers:*

Chris Mardell, *Chair*

Cate Allwood, *Treasurer*

Vacant, *Hon. Sec.*

*Member Trustees:*

Selwyn Taylor, *Deputy Chair*

Janey Bevington

Caroline Fisher

Diana Heuvel

Derek Morris

Robert Short

Rose Davies

Danuta Wurm

Nell Croose-Myhill ( resigned 13 August 2021 )

Claudia Milburn

Helen Eisler

Carl Rowe

Dr Rosy Gray served as the representative for Norwich Castle Museum and Art Gallery. Frances Martin served as the representative for the Norwich Twenty Group. Frances Martin also serves as NCAS Administrator, for which she receives a fee of £2,400 p.a.

**The Society**

The object of the Society is “to advance the education of the public in the appreciation of the arts and in particular the creative art of the present day in all its branches.”

Under its rules the Society is invested with the following powers:

a) To purchase works of art for presentation or loan to public museums, art galleries or other organisations where such works of art will be on view to the public;

b) To raise funds and invite and receive contributions from any person or persons whatsoever by way of subscription, donation and otherwise: in exercising this power, the Trustees must not undertake any substantial permanent trading activity and must comply with any relevant statutory regulations;

c) To buy, take on lease or in exchange, hire or otherwise acquire, property and to maintain and equip it for use;

d) To stage exhibitions, lectures, trips and events to further the object.

The day-to-day business of the Society is run by its two committees – *Events* (chaired by Janey Bevington and Selwyn Taylor) and *Exhibitions* (chaired by Chris Mardell and Selwyn Taylor).

**Events**

The 2021-2022 programme of events was partly curtailed by the coronavirus pandemic restrictions, and trustees meetings early in the year continued on Zoom. However, trustees were delighted to recommence events with curator Sarah Lowndes talk at the new Yare Gallery in Great Yarmouth, followed by visits to the studio of Bob Catchpole and a talk of his sculpture; visits to the Old Schoolhouse Gallery, Wighton for a talk and exhibition of the work of Alfred Cohen; a visit to the Corn Hall Gallery, Diss for an exhibition and talk of the work of Victor Passmore; a Conversation with Ann Christopher RA, sculptor and painter; Professor Giuliana Borea talking of the indigenous contemporary art of Peru; a curator talk at Firstsite Colchester of the Benton End Group exhibition; a talk of collecting 20th and 21st century art by Lara Wardle, Director Curator of the Jerwood Foundation and James Rawlin, former Head of Modern and Contemporary Art at Sothebys; the Art of the Intangible - a talk of digital art by Peter Higgins and Lol Sargent and finally a conversation with John Carter RA. We tried new venues for our events, enjoying the facilities at NUA lecture theatres, Norwich School lecture theatre and the Forum.

**Exhibitions**

Our long-planned Norfolk Contemporary Art Society member's exhibition NCA2018, was postponed, until 2021. NCA21 ran from 8 November – 5 December 2021, exhibited in the Cathedral Hostry and the quality of the work and exhibition considered by many to be of a very high standard. An award of £500 was made to Marie Pavledis for the most outstanding work and the Adnams prize for the most accomplished work was awarded to Geoffrey Lefever.

We sponsored the Geoffrey Lefever Exhibition at the Crypt Gallery, the Norwich School, from 21 – 29 March 2022, a space ideally suited to his work.

We have had preliminary discussions with the Norwich Cathedral regarding the future exhibition of contemporary art in and around the Cathedral.

# Artworks Collection

# In 1985 the society adopted a policy of purchasing art works by artists working in the region. The pieces were bought with the intention of exhibiting them in the region and in places where the public has access but outside the normal confines of galleries. No progress has been made this year in placing our works and we will review our strategy for the collection in the forthcoming year. Diana Heuvel, is responsible for the collection.

**Additional notes**

• We reached agreement for a new website, designed by Mark Fuller of GrafikMarka, and this has now gone live. We continue to update the website.

• The society also has a social media presence on Facebook, Instagram and Secret Norwich, established for us and maintained by Rachel Allen from Mandell’s Gallery.

• We continue to participate in *Art in Norwich*, the digest of all visual art activity in the City and also send out 3 editions a year of both our programmes and our newsletters.

• We again awarded an NCAS prize of £500 for the outstanding work in the Norwich University of the Arts Degree Show, albeit that viewing and selection was online. Tara Mayo won the ncas award with Rebecca Foster-Clarke and Ellen Sibley highly commended. We were pleased to share the presentation of the ncas awards to the students in person with the new NUA Vice-Chancellor Simon Ofield-Kerr in the brand-new NUA Duke Street Riverside building.

• We plan to continue with Norwich Twenty Group to arrange transcribing a selection of the late Mike Toll's VHS cassettes onto DVDs. A selection have previously been shown to NCAS members.

We contributed £360 towards the purchase of a piece by Ian Giles by the Castle Museum. We contributed £560 towards the exhibition by Laura Wilson by the Castle Museum.

• The society continues to serve in a co-opted capacity on the Norwich Area Museums Committee, represented by Janey Bevington and Danuta Wurm.

• Subscription rates are £20 single, £30 couples and £10 student. Students at both Norwich University of the Arts and Norwich City College can now attend all NCAS talks for free and can register to receive all NCAS programmes, newsletters and alerts by email

• A working balance of funds is held in Barclays Bank current accounts (one general account, and one account for dedicated funds). Remaining funds are invested in a COIF Charity Investment Fund.

**Trustees and their responsibilities**

The trustees are each year required to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the surplus for the year then ended. In preparing financial statements, the trustees are required to select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.

The trustees are responsible for ensuring proper accounting records are kept which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and follow the guidance for accounting for smaller charities issued by the Charities Commission. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the Committee

Chris Mardell – Chair

June 2022