

Speech by Mayor Logan K Howlett, JP

Show Off 16 Take Two Business Sundowner

Hamilton Hill Memorial Hall

Friday, 26 March 2021

Kaya Wonju

Good evening ladies and gentlemen and welcome to Show Off Take Two.

Bunuru or Autumn certainly has given us a variety of weather this year. Represented by the colour orange it is the hottest time of the year although today has been very pleasant.

I am delighted to be here with my wife Patricia and

- Cr Kevin Allen and Mrs Allen;
- Cr Chontelle Stone;
- Cr Phoebe Corke;
- City of Cockburn staff:
 - Mr Tony Brun, CEO
 - Mr Daniel Arndt, Director Planning & Development
 - Mr Anton Lees, A/Director Engineering & Works
 - Ms Sam Seymour-Eyles, Manager Corporate Communications
- Cr Lisa Thornton, City of Stirling;
- Business Owners & Managers from across the City;
- One & All

I acknowledge the Whadjup people of the Nyungar nation the traditional custodians of the land on which we have gathered and I pay my respects to their Elders past, present and emerging and extend that respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with us tonight.

Ms Cassandra Cooper, the City's Art & Culture Coordinator together with Miles Carpenter, a local artist have jointly curated tonight's exhibition;

Show Off first began in 2003 and for the first three Show Offs they occurred every second year.

It soon became apparent that with the exhibitions popularity an annual event was necessary.

The premise of Show Off has always been to Show Off the amazing talent of the artists who have chosen to live within the City of Cockburn.

Of course 2020 threw us a curve ball in COVID 19 and we had to cancel four days out from the opening.

Since then we have been living in a world of insecurity around events, never knowing if and when.

The fact that we are all here celebrating Show Off 16 (take Two) shows how far we have come in the last twelve months both in Cockburn, the broader Western Australia community and Australia that we can have an event such as this exhibition.

We have made some tweaks to how we conduct tonight's event to give us more room and we encourage people to social distance as they enjoy Show Off – take two.

COVID 19 has meant we have had to rethink so much of what and how we do things so we are taking advantage of opportunities not considered previously such as taking Show Off 16 to a broader audience via the web.

From our early small beginnings where we had 19 artists participating we have grown to include 68 local artists in the 2021 Show Off 16 take two exhibition.

This show would not be possible without the support of the artists and curators Cassandra & Miles who have the job of sorting all the works into a visual treat.

This year a special thanks goes to the communications team at the City who have worked very hard on Show Off – take two from the amazing invitations to all the collateral, advertising and catalogues etc but they have also put in many hours developing an online presence for Show off 16 take two that went live on Monday 22 March.

The online exhibition imagery is the work of Paul McGovern who has put in a lot of time photographing the exhibition as it was being received prior to the opening night event.

Artzplace a local arts group will be looking after the exhibition during the week and we thank them for their assistance as well.

For those viewing the exhibition I hope you enjoy getting to know the work created by these incredibly talented artists we have living within the City of Cockburn as much as I have.

The works exhibited in Show Off Take two are always as varied as the artists who have created them.

We have works on paper, canvas, board, glass, stone, yarn, ceramics, traditional, contemporary and everything in between.

Thank you to all the artists who are participating whether for the first time or who have been here for many or all of the Show Offs.

We value your talent and your choice in choosing Cockburn as your home.

I now have great pleasure in inviting you to spend time viewing the Exhibition and hopefully purchase an artwork for your Office or home.

Just before I close off there is a competition to win an artwork.

Each guest was given a numbered yellow dot with their name tag.

Please place a yellow dot on your favourite work of the night (only one dot per painting please!)

One lucky business will win a piece of art to display at their business.

Thank you.