

Name: Anna Schofield

Venue: Il Vino

Contact Details: www.annafunkyart.com

Meet & Greet: Wednesday 10th April, 5.00pm – 7.00pm



Who are you and what do you do?

I am a self-taught artist, living in Hemel Hempstead, who uses a combination of techniques and multi-media including acrylic flow, decoupage, collage and gilding to express and reflect emotions and mood.

I am a keen recycler: taking care of our environment and leaving it in a fit state for generations to come is incredibly important to me. I tend to paint on wooden panels which are often off cuts destined to be thrown away.

In autumn 2018 I was honoured to win the Dacorum's individual Clean, Safe and Green Community Award in recognition of my work locally in recycling and reducing landfill.

How has your practice changed over time?

I began painting in December 2014 as a way of self-healing after a traumatic personal experience. I discovered that through painting I was able to explore and express some difficult emotions and gradually I felt stronger and realised I had begun my journey to recovery. I truly believe in the healing power of art and I have a real passion for sharing my work and encouraging others to use creativity as a way of exploring and processing their own emotions. I run a number of workshops locally incorporating mindfulness with art and creativity suitable for all ages and abilities.

I have always enjoyed being creative and my journey has taken me through a variety of mediums and techniques, including upcycling and painting furniture (which I still enjoy), decoupage, mixed media abstract paintings, resin work, acrylic pour, gilding and collage.

What themes do you pursue?

As an intuitive, experimental painter my thoughts and emotions are reflected in my paintings and collages, telling the story of my journey from a lost soul towards a whole and fulfilled being.

When I first began to paint my art was quite dark, but as I have healed my art has become lighter and reflects peace, joy and happiness. For me, being outside is therapeutic so you will see a lot of floral, landscape and nature themes in my work.

Name three artists who have influenced your work.

The biggest artistic influence on me has been my late Father. He was a professional photographer and worked as a scenic designer in local theatre. He used to let me go with him to paint theatre scenery when I was young and watching him create beautiful, huge scenes and bring them to life with creative lighting always amazed me!

I really love the work of Jackson Pollock and like him, I often paint on the floor using a mix of emulsion, gloss and acrylic allowing the paint to drip and move freely across the canvas.

When visiting the National Gallery I always head for the section where Monet's paintings are hung. They are so beautiful they take my breath away and I can just stand and become totally absorbed in them.

What couldn't you live without?

My three amazingly strong, resilient children (oh, and Posca Pens!)