



"The search for truth, beauty and goodness is a game of chess we play with ourselves."
Miles to Go Before I Sleep
Camille Ormston

SANE Creative Awards Scheme

Art and the mind's eye

The SANE Creative Awards Scheme was launched in May 2019.

This built on the success of the charity's previous Art Award scheme launched in 1994, which helped many painters, photographers and craftspeople, some of whom embarked on successful careers as a result.

The new scheme aims to improve the quality of life for people with mental health problems, their families and carers. It awards grants to individuals to buy materials, enrol on courses, hold exhibitions and develop creative potential.

Applicants are judged on their artistic merit, clarity of aim and financial need. Awards range from £75 to £300.

Applications are assessed by a panel, which includes members of SANE and experienced art professionals who offer feedback, guidance

and advice. The awards are given for proposals in visual art; for the purposes of the scheme this includes all forms of painting, drawing, printmaking, photography, mixed media and digital art.

There has been an overwhelming response with applicants submitting work of outstanding quality.

A grant from the Scheme can enable those who may not otherwise be able to afford materials, courses or other costs, to help fulfil creative potential.

In two rounds to date, 126 awards have been made for a variety of art forms. In July 2021 a third round was launched.

SANE is working in partnership with the Open College of the Arts, the distance learning arm of the University for the Creative Arts.



"We hope this scheme will encourage people to translate their experience of mental illness into creative expression. We have been incredibly moved by both the talent and stories people have shared, and the way in which our contribution can revive a person's self-esteem and artistic ambition."

Marjorie Wallace CBE, SANE Founder and Chief Executive

"SANE's Creative Award Scheme has inspired and motivated many artists – with debilitating and serious mental health conditions – to take part and reach out with their creative abilities and share their deepest nature."

"The high standard of submissions and the overall potential of the artists who took part sheds light on the human motive to search, explore and discover inner resources."

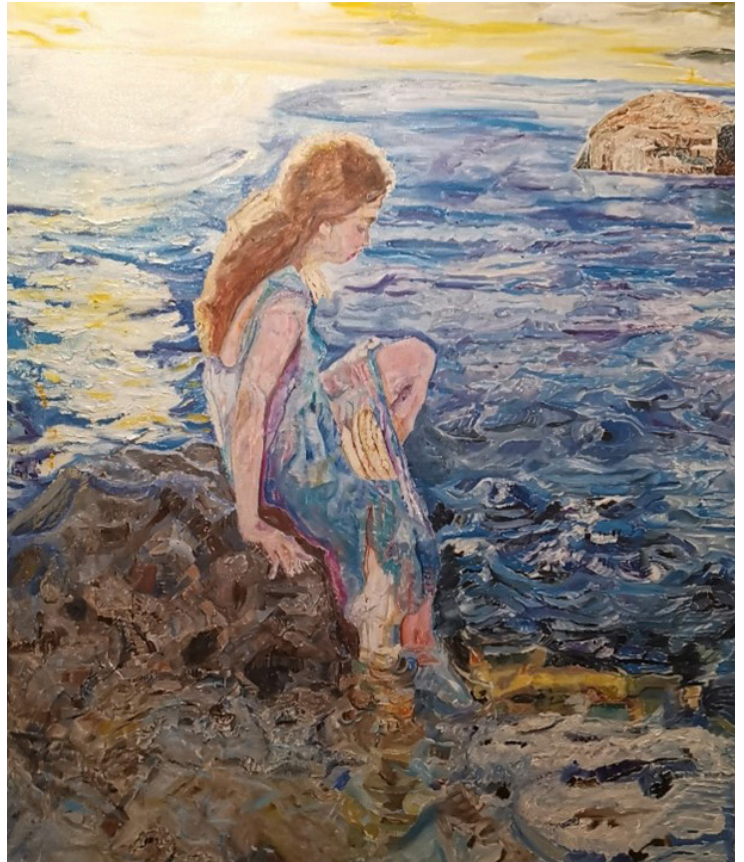
Robert Enoch, Assessor, Open College of the Arts

John Archibald

John has schizophrenia and social anxiety. He began painting in 2003.

"The feeling of pushing my potential with my art and that I am developing a complex experience is exciting, and reason enough to see beyond my mental illness and the ordinary problems and challenges of life.

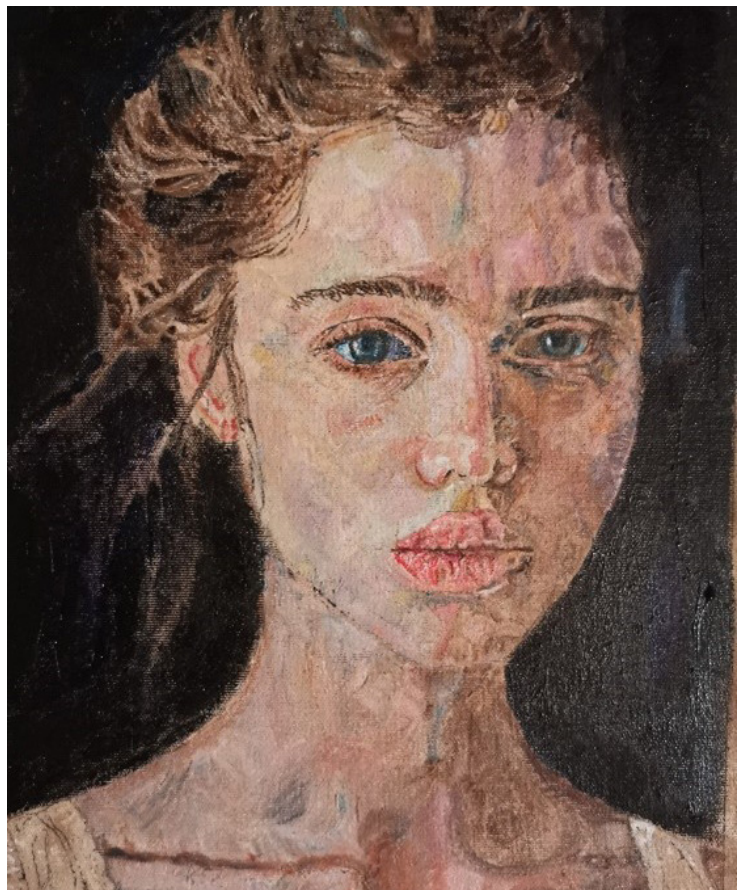
"I am very grateful and feel much more positive my artwork will be painted on the best linen – to show the best of my many dedicated hours of painting. Thank you very much."



"We loved John's portraits and reading how his creative practice has lent a sense of pride, sanctuary and transcendence.

"We hope the funds will enable John's practice to progress to the next level and increase his audience further."

SCAS panel



Amanda Wells

Amanda, who has personality disorders and PTSD, is using her award to create work reflecting her experience of self-harm.

"Self-harm has been part of my identity for over 50 years and I feel that in not self-harming I have lost a part of myself and am not speaking a truth that needs to be spoken."



Out Here The Good Girls Die

acrylic on canvas

"We're impressed by the frank expression in Amanda's work and in her application."

"The works seem to explore and express the impulse to self-harm, rather than self-harm as such, so it seems that art in this case is an important and cathartic acknowledgment of that impulse."

SCAS Panel



Miles of Clouded Hell

acrylic on canvas

Ann-Valancha Brown

Ann-Valancha cares full-time for her daughter who has autism and learning disabilities.

She finds caring, combined with her own diagnosis of post-traumatic stress disorder, hard to deal with at times.

"Art has been a lifeline in my personal journey to recovery, as I am able to explore my challenges or experiences through my art practice – my themes are forever changing, as I am always learning new techniques from different artists."



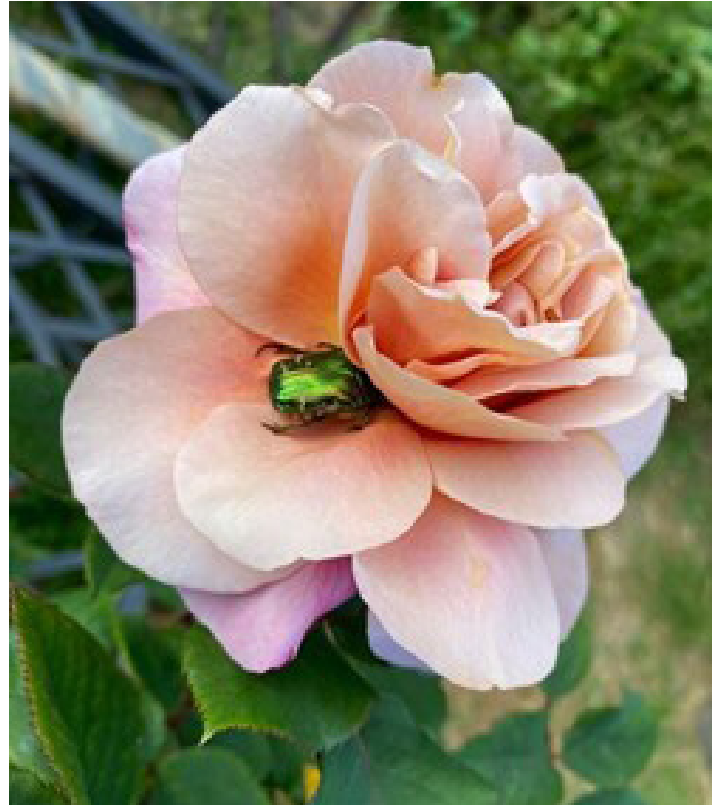
Pamela

Patricia has found it increasingly hard to manage the day-to-day challenges of life for several years.

She has a number of conditions and following her bankruptcy lived in single rooms and near destitution.

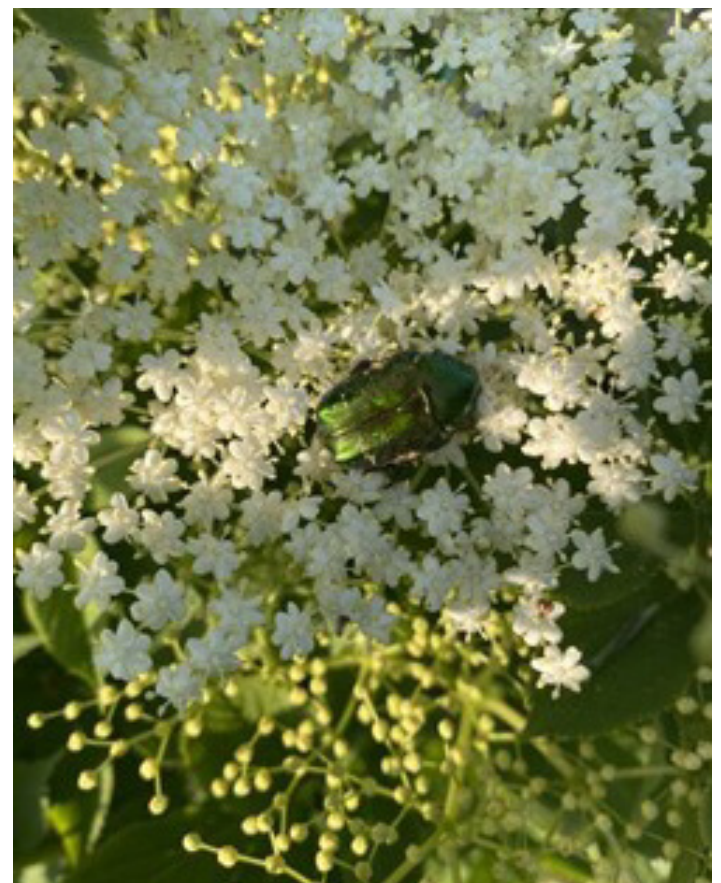
But she rediscovered her love of horticulture which she combines with a passion for photography in an online blog.

To date she has been only able to use her phone to take these startling images. Her award means she can now buy a camera.



"The shock of my bankruptcy, repossession, homelessness and dependency on welfare is still raw.

"My family are amazed that I have been able to produce and maintain my blog under these circumstances, particularly given my mental health challenges."



The Charles Bracken Award

SANE launched The Charles Bracken Award in memory of Charles Bracken MBE, who died on January 27, 2020.

Charles was a founding Director and recent Chairman who gave 35 years of his life in supporting the charity and pioneering its development.

He was a never-failing source of strength, and we owe a great debt to a truly good and remarkable man.

The award, which runs alongside the SANE Creative Awards Scheme, will be made annually in recognition of exceptional talent in communicating the



relationship between creative achievement and mental illness.

The winner, shortlisted from the award scheme applicants and selected by SANE representatives, professional artists from the Open College of the Arts and Charles' wife, Madeline Bracken, will receive £1000 (runner-up £400) which can be used towards the cost, for example, of materials, enrolment on courses and exhibitions.

We hope that by raising a sum of £15,000 a year we will be able to administer and sustain this award for the next decade.

"Without Charles' life-affirming presence and encouragement, SANE would not have come into existence, let alone flourished for the last three decades."

Marjorie Wallace CBE, SANE Founder and Chief Executive

"I would like to thank everyone for the outstanding artwork submitted for the award."

"Art is clearly so important in supporting feelings and messages about mental health and it was a privilege to be able to see all the entries."

"Charles would have been deeply

moved and thankful that art provides so many benefits to mental health."

"In judging the artistic works for Charles' award I have considered three main criteria: the artists' skill and technique, the messages that they are depicting in their work and the genre."

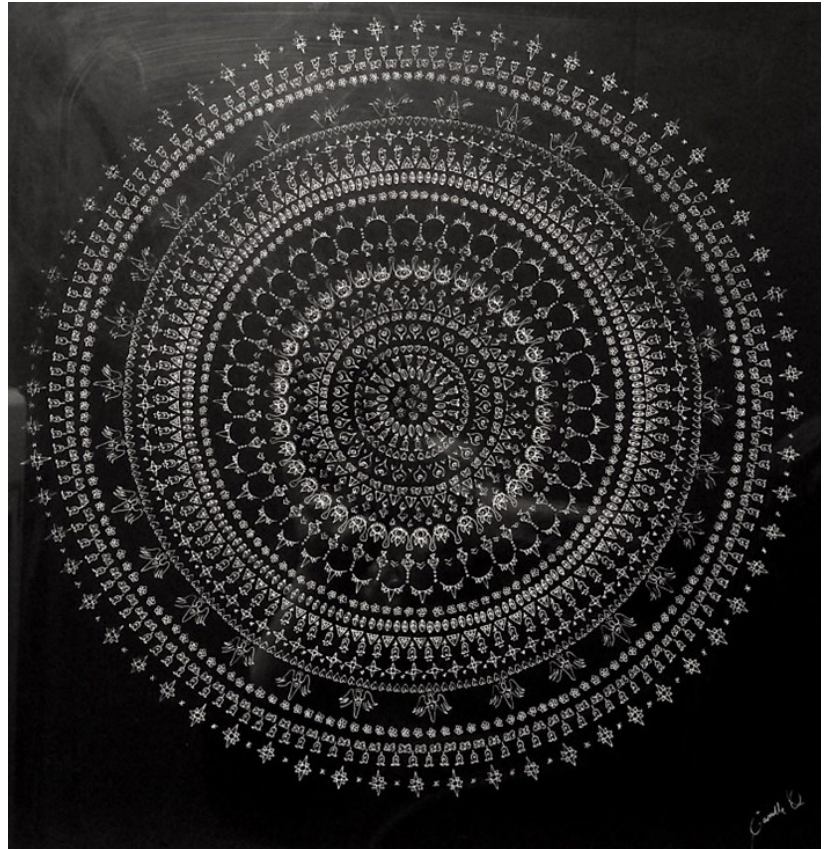
Madeline Bracken

Winner: Camille Ormston

Camille shifts between painting, drawing, sculpture, photography and poetry. She has schizophrenia and the award means she can mount her first exhibition.

Creating art helped her to manage the uncertainty and isolation of lockdown.

"I explore the human condition – the unconscious and conscious mental states – nature and life's journey."



Mandala

"Miles To Go Before I Sleep is by Camille Ormston, an emerging artist who has chosen to paint the experience of isolation in sleep bubbles within the chessboard of life."

"Camille's work is strong and highly focused, and an exhibition will provide great motivation, as well as inspiring others."

Madeline Bracken and the SCAS Panel



Miles To Go Before I Sleep

Runner-up: Ashley Ferrari

Ashley has several mental health conditions and is using her awards to buy larger canvases and hire studio space.

"I use oils and like to explore using colour and light to create feelings of peace and serenity in the viewer. I paint with the aim of soothing the viewer and creating the feelings of peace and serenity that I so crave myself."

"SANE's grant will hopefully help me to develop my practice and continue to gain strength and work through difficult emotions and experiences."



The Forest Path

"The Forest Path is by Ashley Ferrari, a talented artist who has painted a scene displaying the light of hope in a forest of many shades of subdued colours."

"The themes of fantasy and escapism seem to reflect Ashley's feeling of confinement and we hope the funds will help towards finding more 'space', be that by way of bigger canvases or the use of a physical studio space."

Madeline Bracken and the SCAS Panel



Winter Moon

Shortlisted for Charles Bracken Award

Ruby Roberts

Ruby has been diagnosed with several mental health conditions and her award helped her to buy paints and equipment.

"Art is my passion and it helps calm the swirling vortex of chaos that are my mental illnesses."



Shortlisted for Charles Bracken Award

Christine Harder

Christine's award is helping her to meet the cost of a solo exhibition.

She has anxiety disorder and attends art workshops at the Copleston Centre in South London.

She cares for her mother, who has schizophrenia which has had profound consequences for Christine.



Dad and I

Ann Renfrew

Ann has depression and anxiety, and cares for her granddaughter. She finds the best way to connect with her is for the two of them to paint together.

Her award means she can buy new materials.

"I initially started to paint alongside my granddaughter ... creative activities were a way of connecting with my granddaughter when she came to live with me, I am now her main carer."



Paulo Oliveira

Paulo has schizophrenia and a complex mental health history.

He has been a patient at the West London Mental Health Trust for more than seven years.

Paulo has reconnected with art and created a series of complex drawings and surrealistic paintings.

He will use his award to buy drawing materials and camera equipment that he could not otherwise afford.



Ink on paper with gold leaf

George Harding

George specialises in portraiture, symbolic painting, street art murals and reliefs made from resin.

He lives with schizoaffective disorder and his award helped him with framing costs for an exhibition.

"My work reflects my own experience of mental illness but is also a universal condition. It is my pain put into a painting."



Dusk by the campfire

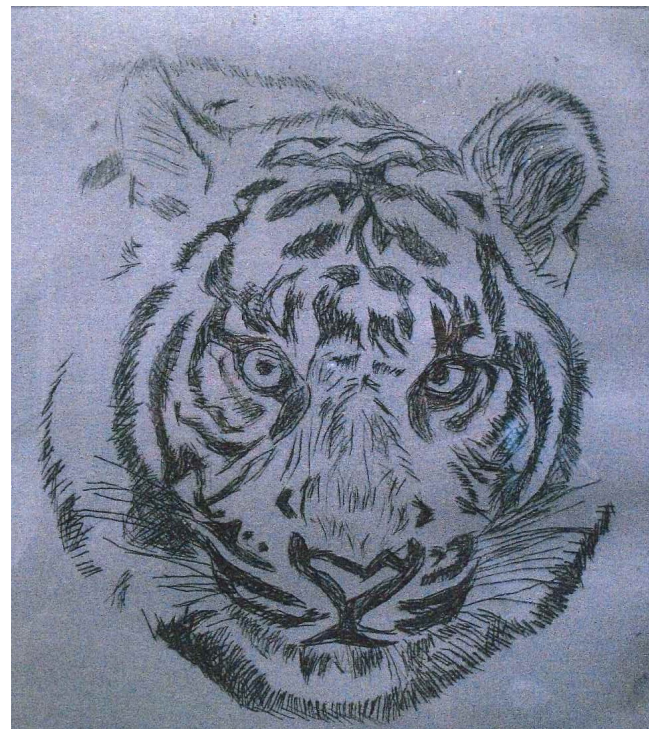
Terrence Leggatt

Terrence was an inpatient at Bethlem Royal Hospital. He is affected by severe personality disorders and used his award to buy materials to develop his printmaking skills.

"Etching/screenprinting sees my anger fade away. I feel at ease, relaxed and my mind wonders why I've not discovered this tranquillity before now."

"My five-year stay in a medium secure unit comes to an end and I'm heading back to prison."

"But now given funding I won't be like a cat or a tiger, smashing up cells or attacking staff, instead with your help and support, I hope to be a purrrfect prisoner."



Esther Maxwell-Orumbie

Esther has a number of physical and mental health conditions.

She has bought materials and cutting equipment with her award.

"I draw, do linocuts, textile art, make greeting cards, art prints and do other crafts."

"I was diagnosed with schizophrenia in 1995 and still managed to continue my art practice."



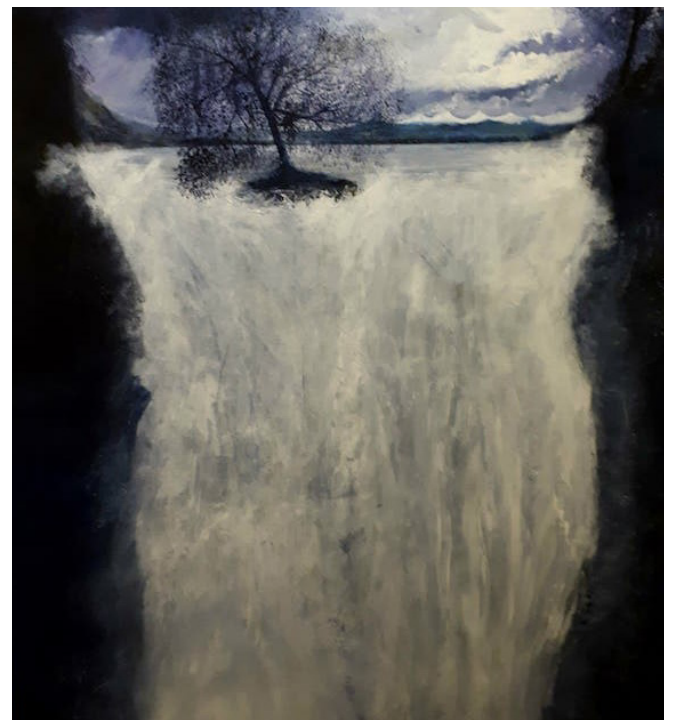
Ink on paper

Mark Noble

Following difficult experiences in early life, Mark, who suffers from depression, became an artist full-time.

He bought paints and canvas with his award and plans to set up workshops with people affected by similar conditions.

"My work is inspired by the natural world and by those artists who represent it through its wonder and grandeur and by allowing the mind to cross the barrier between the physical universe and the imaginary one."



Thunder Falls

acrylic on canvas

María

Maria is a carer for her daughter and suffers from anxiety and depression. Her award has enabled her to buy new paints and canvases.

"I've always worked in the NHS and later trained to be an art teacher, but my health issues stopped all of that and I found myself mostly housebound, unable to do very much at all.

"I'd love to buy new paints. My acrylics are not in a good state, most of them are almost dried up and I have no canvases either.

"I wasn't expecting that amount and it was a huge surprise!"



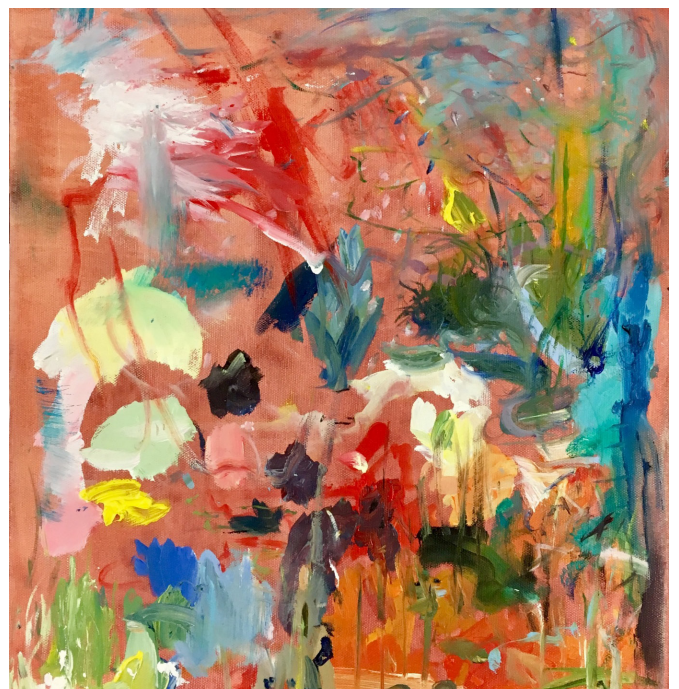
They knew where the witches were acrylic on canvas

Richard Foley

Richard, who suffers from bipolar affective disorder and borderline personality disorder, has a fine arts background.

His award helped him to develop his oil painting skills through purchasing materials and a course at City Lit adult education college in London.

"I love art making and I get inspired by everything that surrounds me, trees, people, buildings, sounds and colours."



Jennie Wishart

Jennie's mental health deteriorated in 2016 and she spent six weeks in hospital but art and keeping a journal were her lifelines. She suffers from clinical depression and anxiety.

"I was fighting a daily battle to find a point to life and made numerous attempts to end it. I was deemed a danger to myself and sectioned under the Mental Health Act – looking back it was the best thing that happened to me. My paintings have tended to be small because of money. I can't afford to paint them on larger canvases. My plan is to paint these images on a larger scale. Make a statement about how you feel when in the depths of mental health anguish."



Girl in the Window

Award-winners chosen for The Royal Academy Summer Exhibition 2021

Waheed Adeniran & Terence Wilde



Free Like a Bird Planet

Waheed Adeniran

Waheed has struggled with his mental health since the late 1980s. He uses art to help him manage his bipolar disorder. His award helped him to buy materials and equipment.



Return to Feral

Terence Wilde

Terence's award scheme grant helped him to develop a textile project during lockdown. He has been affected by PTSD for many years and creating art is integral to maintaining balance in his life.

How you can help - please tick

- £1,000** could provide SANE Creative Awards Scheme grants to 10 individuals towards materials, training courses or projects.
- Other amount £** to sustain and develop the SANE Creative Awards Scheme.
- I want to learn more about the SANE Creative Awards Scheme and how I can become involved.
- I am an artist and interested in becoming a SANE Creative Awards Scheme mentor.
- I would like to become an Champion for the SANE Creative Awards Scheme.

Your contact details

Name _____

Telephone no _____

Email address _____

Ways to donate - including the Charles Bracken Award

Donate online at www.sane.org.uk/how_you_can_help/donate. Alternatively, choose from one of the following options.

Cheque

Cheques made out to SANE, should be sent to: SANE, St Mark's Studios, 14 Chillingworth Road, London N7 8QJ.

Bank transfer

Please telephone us on 020 3805 1790 and we will provide you with our bank details and your unique supporter number, to help us identify your payment.

Credit/debit card

Telephone us with your card details and we will be able to take your payment over the phone.

SANE is a leading national mental health charity set up in 1986 by its Chief Executive, Marjorie Wallace CBE, following her pioneering articles, *The Forgotten Illness*, in The Times.

These exposed the way in which society neglected individuals and families affected by mental illness and the lack of information, treatments and strategies for prevention.

The charity – which is independent of government – aims to improve the quality of life of people affected by mental illness.

SANE aims to:

- raise awareness and understanding of all mental health conditions.
- fight to improve frontline mental health services for individuals and carers.
- provide support, information and guidance through its helpline, SANEline, Textcare and Online Forum.
- promote and host research into causes, treatments and therapies at the Prince of Wales International Centre for SANE Research in Oxford.



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