

Artist's Profile - Sandra Temple AFC

Artists for Conservation Foundation

Although in recent times mankind has become more interested in the conservation of wildlife and its habitat, in many countries there is still only "paper protection". In many cases the population of a species has dropped so low in the wild that its extinction is inevitable without the aid of breeding colonies set up all over the world at some of the better zoos.

The wildlife which shares our world is more important to save than any Rembrandt or Picasso - while it may be argued that their works are irreplaceable this rules out the inevitable birth of another such artistic talent. Once a species is exterminated though, there is no more. The wildlife artist should showcase the lives of these creatures both great and small, encouraging and teaching the young, re-educating the old. The protection process is slow at best, we need to hope that our paintings are not the only way future generations get to recognise the diverse species we share the planet with.

Sandra has been a professional artist, illustrator and author for more than 25 years. She has traveled extensively with her art, gaining insights into her special interest, the world's endangered species, although she paints all subjects in all mediums.

The winner of many prestigious awards both in Australia and overseas, including Wildscape magazine Runner-up Wildlife Artist of the Year 2008 (professional), a gold medal at the Wildlife Art Society UK exhibition in Bristol and People's Choice Awards in 2006, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2002, 2000; Sandra has paintings in private, corporate and government collections nationally and internationally. She holds classes in all mediums teaching adults and children, is a product demonstrator for Faber-Castell and greatly in demand as a workshop tutor.

Sandra is an exhibiting member of the Queensland Wildlife Artists Society Inc, the Wildlife Art Society of Australasia Inc (Melbourne), the Nature in the Raw artists group, Wildlife and Botanical Artists Society (Camberra), Artists for Conservation Foundation (USA), The Marwell International Wildlife Art Society (UK) and the Pastel Society of Australia. She is also an active member and fundraiser for many environmental and conservation groups.

In 2008 Sandra was accepted to exhibit in the biggest wildlife gallery in the world, the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden (New York). One of her paintings will be touring USA for a year starting early in 2009, with the Art of Conservation exhibition, a great achievement as only 5 Australians had work accepted.

In 2000 two of the 58 paintings selected by Faber-Castell to hang in the famous Nuremberg castle in Germany, for an exhibition of Australian Wildlife paintings and sculptures, were Sandra's pen and inks. Sandra is now a Queensland product demonstrator for the Faber-Castell fine art products.

Sandra specializes in detailed studies of native animals in their natural habitats. Her particular preference is for Australia's unique flora and fauna and many of her works are aimed at promoting awareness of endangered species. Her works are hung in private, government and corporate collections around the world and she has been commissioned by many conservation and scientific groups to assist fundraising efforts. Sandra is greatly in demand to teach art workshops to adults and children in all mediums, and in all subjects.