

NATURE'S CONFIGURATIONS

Pam Adams and Velda Palazzi will be having an exhibition of watercolours under the title *Nature's Configurations* at the AGRA Galleries in Melbourne from September 28 until October 9, 2005.

Nature is their inspiration and they both look for the small gems, which are often overlooked in the larger view. They look for the patterns and colours and the challenge of finding a natural order in the seeming chaos of a tangle of tree branches, bushes or leaves on the forest floor.

They enjoy painting in the open air, studying the patterns formed by nature and finding interesting ways of interpreting them. Though their subject matter is similar you will find their interpretations are very different. Pam loves line and design and a close-up view, while Velda paints in a much looser style and enjoys configurations featuring many forms that involve natural elements.

Velda grew up in country New South Wales, which gave her a keen love of nature. She appreciates the delicacy, the intricacy, the patterns and subtleties that abound in natural forms. This interest in nature has always figured in her art and influenced her choice of subject enabling her to see an interesting picture in small or simple things which could often be overlooked. She has studied watercolour with Ken McDonald, Arthur Markham, Ron Russell Fletcher, and is currently studying with Ev Hales. She has a background in graphic design and horticulture and finds painting to be a source of great satisfaction and an essential part of her life.

Pam was born in England and has lived in several different countries overseas. She studied Japanese sumi-e painting in Tokyo with Shoko Ohta, a wonderfully sensitive *sensei* who always wore kimono. In Japan, Pam painted flowers and birds representing the four seasons mostly on large four-panelled screens, and she also learned traditional Japanese woodblock printing.

Then came a period of botanical watercolour with Terry Napier who taught her to see every tiny detail in a flower and Alan Rawady who showed her how to expand into a wider field of subjects. Ev Hales taught her to see the big shapes and to escape the studio for the wider world of plein air painting and the joy of being among flowers in their natural habitat.

Pam enjoys painting intimate views of nature, always looking for and trying to portray the essence of her subjects and finds each painting a stimulating journey in the world of nature.

This will be an exciting exhibition of two diverse painters' expressions of natural beauty.

Visit the website www.pamadamsart.com.

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