



## Regular Events

### SPORT & FITNESS

- ❖ **Finchley & Hornsey Ramblers Group** Call Vivien 8883 8190
- ❖ **Glebelands Indoor Bowls Club**, Summers Lane N12. New and experienced bowlers welcome.
- ❖ **Keep fit for the Retired** Wednesdays Christ Church N12. Ring Bridie 8883 5269
- ❖ **Muswell Hill Bowling Club**, Kings Ave, N10. New & experienced bowlers welcome. Tel: 8883 1178.
- ❖ **Pilates** in East Finchley, qualified teacher. Contact Dee on 8883 7029
- ❖ **Pilates class** Wednesdays, 2.15-3.15pm at Youth Theatre, N2. Ring Penny Hill 8444 2882.
- ❖ **Tae Kwon Do** at The Green Man Thursdays 7-9pm 07949 612 706
- ❖ **Tennis club** with four clay courts off Southern Road. Call 8440 6953.
- ❖ **Wood Walk**, meet 10am at Cherry Tree Wood cafe on 1st & 2nd Mon of month for 1 hr walk, Call 8883 8750.
- ❖ **Yoga, breathing & relaxation**. Weekly drop-in classes - N2, N6, N10. Phone Judy on 8444 7783.

### DANCE, DRAMA, ART & MUSIC

- ❖ **Art Classes**. For info call Henry on 020 8888 5133.
- ❖ **Ballroom Dance Classes**, Wednesdays. Beginners 7.30pm, Improvers 8.30pm. St Mary's Church Hall, Finchley. 020 8444 0280.
- ❖ **Club Dramatika** drama club for kids. Call 8883 7110.
- ❖ **Finchley Jazz Club** - 14 & 28 May at 8pm, Wilf Slack Cricket Pavilion, East End Rd, N3.
- ❖ **Line dancing** Tuesdays from 8.30pm at The Constitutional Club. Call Maureen 8440 8530.
- ❖ **Memory Lane Singing Club** - a communal singing club. Call Idit Gold 8458 4508.
- ❖ **Over 50s Tea Dance** at Christ Church, North Finchley. Every Weds, 1pm. 020 8444 0280.
- ❖ **Over 60s come dancing** at Ann Owens Centre 8346 8736
- ❖ **Pottery Class** at The Green Man, Call Celia Holmes 8349 9315
- ❖ **Learn to sing** at Finchley Methodist Church. Call 8883 4070 for info.
- ❖ **Street Dance** every Tuesday at Old Barn for children of various ages Contact Lorna 07976 203669.
- ❖ **Symphonic Wind Orchestra** Contact Caroline Egan 8340 2706
- ❖ **Tap Dance** for children beginning at Old Barn every Monday, Contact Sharon 8349 4613

### CLUBS & SOCIAL

- ❖ **Bingo Club**, Mondays 7-9 pm, Green Man Community Centre, Contact: Jan 8815 5459
- ❖ **Contact Lunch Club** Tuesdays at the Green Man. Call 8444 1162 to book.
- ❖ **East Finchley National Childbirth Trust** contact Phoebe on 8349 0388.
- ❖ **East Finchley Writing Workshops**. poetry writing monthly on Saturdays. Contact Dennis Evans 8346 9528.
- ❖ **East Finchley Writers Group** Creative writing 6.30pm every Weds at the Old White Lion. Contact Carola 8883 5808 or Lillian 8444 1793.
- ❖ **Finchley & District Philatelic Society**, Contact Brian 8444 3251
- ❖ **Friendly Rubber Bridge** at The Old Barn. Contact 8349 4613
- ❖ **Friends of Cherry Tree Wood**. Visit info@cherrytreewood.co.uk or call 020 8883 7544.
- ❖ **Haringey Recorded Music Society** informal meetings locally. Call David Mouldon on 8361 1696.
- ❖ **Highgate Film Society**, contact Admin Office 8340 3343 or email: admin@hlsi.net .
- ❖ **North London Bridge Club**, Muswell Hill. Contact 8348 3495
- ❖ **Muswell Hill and Highgate Pensioners' Action Group** Call Bob Cottingham on 8444 7635.
- ❖ **Muswell Hill Tetherdown Bridge**, contact 8883 4390
- ❖ **Old Barn pre-school club**, contact 8349 4613/1961
- ❖ **Parent & Toddler Group**, Green Man Centre, Julia 8444 2276
- ❖ **Probus Lunch Club** for retired professionals. Call John 8883 8114.
- ❖ **Stepping Stones**, interactive play session for under 3's. Karen 07957 278860.

## Art students do their own thing

By Daphne Chamberlain

**Does learning orthodox techniques stifle creativity? Personally, I don't think so. Strolling round last month's art exhibition at The Institute, which featured work from the Prefoundation and Portfolio Art Course, I was struck by the different ways each student had depicted the same image or interpreted the same theme.**

Some displays looked challenging, some sophisticated, others cosier, while some refused to be typecast. (What was that gunman doing among the elves and teddybears?) Full marks to the exhibition organisers, who had arranged each student's work in individual alcoves, with accompanying notes and sketches. Tucked into one corner was a computer, where you could look up portfolios online.

The exhibition was in the new purpose-built Arts Centre in Beaumont Close, off The Bishops Avenue and overlooking the Causeway entrance

to East Finchley station. The Institute, which offers national qualifications through the NOCN (National Open College Network), accepts both school-leavers and mature students.

The teaching emphasis is on small groups, tutorial support, and the importance of learning core skills. Reflecting their coursework, the exhibition showed ceramics, drawing and life drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, conceptual studies and digital art. New printmaking courses are starting too.

For more information, contact 020 8829 4141/4137 or arts.centre@hgsi.ac.uk.

## May at the Phoenix

By Phoenix Cinema manager Paul Homer

**May opens with a strong, brave film about ageing. *Away From Her*, by Sarah Polley and starring Julie Christie, which looks at how a couple who have been together for 50 years cope with the onset of the wife's dementia. What could have been a cloying, sentimental film manages carefully to walk a line and remains an intelligent and moving piece of work.**

The new film by Patrice Leconte, *My Best Friend*, is at the Phoenix from Friday 11 May. Daniel Auteuil plays a dislikeable businessman who is challenged to produce his best friend when nobody believes that he has one. It's a wonderful comedy, which shows just how much we need friends.

Our final main feature in May is the sizzling *Jindabyne*. Ray Lawrence's follow-up to *Lantana*, it tells the story of a group of men who go fishing, find a body in the water and decide to keep on fishing. The consequences of this decision are artfully explored through each character as we learn about their history as well as their future. With lead performances by Gabriel Byrne and Laura

Linney, this is a tremendous character-led thriller.

Also in May we have the next season in our film class in collaboration with Hampstead Garden Suburb Institute. The theme for this season is sound on film, explored through films such as Almodovar's *The Flower of My Secret*, Woody Allen's *Manhattan* and Marcel Camus' *Black Orpheus*.

Each film is followed by an in-depth session exploring the themes at the Institute building opposite the Phoenix. Places for the course can be booked through the Institute on 020 8829 4141 or you can buy tickets for each film on the day of performance. Our box office can be reached on 020 8444 6789 or visit www.phoenixcinema.co.uk.

## The Imaginary Invalid

Review by Betti Blatman

**Incognito Theatre's Barnet Arts Festival entry was just what the doctor ordered: a hilarious production of *The Imaginary Invalid* by Molière, adapted by Miles Malleon, superbly directed by Sonja Taylor and performed by an excellent cast.**

This satirical comedy of manners lampoons the French bourgeoisie and the medical profession. Monsieur Argan, the imaginary invalid, is obsessed with being ill and has agreed to a marriage between his elder daughter and his doctor's nephew, believing that this will give him unlimited access to remedies for his ailments. His brilliant characterisation by Brian Davies was extremely entertaining and greatly appreciated by the audience.

However, his daughter (Tede-cia Wint) is in love with a chivalrous and handsome young man. Argan's second wife (Alison Wade, whose coquettish char-

acter was perfectly performed) is in cahoots with an unscrupulous lawyer to rob Argan of all his money.

At the same time, the doctor is trying to make as much money as he can from his patient's imaginary illnesses. Mingled in all this madness, Argan's nurse and maid (Megan McClimont) endeavours to control the mayhem and ensure that true love wins the day.

Incognito's next production from 13-19 May is *Death On The Ocean Wave*, a new comedy written and directed by Tony Bilbow and Mike Fentiman. For further information contact the box office on 020 8886 3274 or visit www.incognitotheatre.com.



Mari I'Anson with one of her Mexican scenes. Photo by Daphne Chamberlain

## East and West

By Daphne Chamberlain

**East Finchley Open artist Mari I'Anson has called her new exhibition at the artsdepot *East and West*. It could also be called "Mexico and the rest".**

After spending two months earlier this year in San Miguel de Allende, Ms I'Anson has produced six paintings in a different style from her other work on display. She has chosen some of her favourite oils, reflecting her travels in India, Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore and Canada. The first impression is the strength of colour: hard-edged in the Mexican ones, warm, rich and soft in the rest.

These "bring it all back", according to someone I spoke to who had visited there 20 years ago. Mari says the architectural lines and shadows form patterns, so that turning a painting upside down would

still produce a picture.

The exception is *Lady with crochet*, which shows Gauguin's influence. See if you can spot the beaver in *Beaver Dam, Canada*, and count how many birds you can find in *Bird Sanctuary, Singapore Zoo*. This one is truly a bird's eye view of the sanctuary, with the emphasis on the sheltering trees.

Ms I'Anson's work is on display in the artsdepot at North Finchley, near the staircase on the first floor foyer, until 2 June. For opening times, and to arrange sales, contact the box office on 020 8369 5954. She can be contacted on 020 8346 7011, or visit her website at www.mari-artist.co.uk.

## What's On...

E-mail your listings to: the-archer@lineone.net

### Sunday 13 May

**Music for a May Evening** at East Finchley Methodist Church, High Road, 8pm. Jane Rosenberg (mezzo soprano), Tim Gillott (baritone), John Dawswell (bass), Jean Middlemiss (piano) perform.

### Thursday 17 - Saturday 19 May

**The Guild Players** present *Tons Of Money* at Finchley Methodist Church Hall, Ballards Lane, N3 at 7.45pm. Tickets £7. Box Office 020 8346 6337. www.guildplayers.org.uk.

### Wednesday 23 May

**Muswell Hill and Fortis Green Association AGM**, 8pm at Muswell Hill Bowling Club, King's Avenue, N10. Followed by a presentation from Maison Blanc, the Muswell Hill patisserie. Refreshments provided.

### Thursday 31 May

**The Finchley Society** presents "*London Properties of the National Trust*", a talk by Mike Watts, 8pm, Avenue House, East End Road, N3. Everyone welcome. Entry for non-members £2.

### Until Sunday 3 June

**"Drawn from India"**: Pen and Ink Drawings by Ravi Shankar and M. Natesh", The Noble Sage Art Gallery, 2A Fortis Green, www.thenoblesage.com.

### Wednesday 6 June

**Haringey Recorded Music Society**, "*Great Cities*": a selection by Anthony Cutbush at 7.15pm For details of venue, call 020 8361 1696.

### Sunday 10 June

**Janacek's Children's Rhymes** at East Finchley Methodist Church, High Road, 8pm, performed by Catherine Morphet (clarinet), Bryan Fairfax (viola), Caroline Soresby (piano) and Christopher Leutchford (singer/actor).

### Until 9 September

**Hampstead Garden Suburb: 100 Years**, Church Farmhouse Museum, Greyhound Hill, NW4. Admission free. Contact 020 8359 3942 or see www.churchfarmhousemuseum.co.uk

### Coming up at artsdepot, North Finchley:

**Wednesday 9 May**, 8pm, *deGeneration*; **Sunday 13 May**, 7.45pm, *Chiligran Quartet*; **Wednesday 16 May**, 8pm, *Dances Then and Now*; **Thursday 17 May - Sat 19 May**, 8pm (Thurs 3pm), *Pete and Dud, Come Again*; **Friday 18 May**, 8pm, *An Evening with Heart 'n' Soul*; **Tuesday 22 May - Saturday 2 June**, 8pm (Sat 4pm), *The Trouble with Asian Men*; **Friday 25 May**, 8.30pm, *Barnet Folk Club Folk in the Foyer*; **Thursday 7 June - Saturday 9 June**, 7.30pm, *Mistaken... Annie Besant in India*.