

The Gallery Issue #1



ARTSIG

May 2025



Here's what has happened in the last year and what's to come!

Welcome to ARTSIG newsletter! We are thrilled to share with you the highlights of 2024 and the plans for this year.

Firstly, we would like to express our gratitude to all our members for their continued support.

As a team our main objectives are to promote the arts in Psychiatric training, treatment and within the public. Interpreting artworks helps us to understand ourselves and our patients, providing insight and emotion that can expand and change our views and actions.

We promote treatment of mental disorders using the arts, including the formal arts therapies - art, music, dance/movement and drama therapies. In addition, we hope to work with organisations to combat stigma and discrimination through supporting authentic portrayal of mental health experiences in the arts.

In terms of our recent activities, we successfully organised a conference in 2024 on 'Arts Therapies and Psychiatry – joining up the dots'.

In addition, we have introduced the brand new bi-annual ArtSIG newsletter: The Gallery inviting creative work including visual media, articles, think-pieces, creative writing and reviews. Welcome to this Gallery issue #1.

Finally, we want to remind our readers about the Annual in-person conference 'Creative Communities' on the 18th July 2025 considering the intersection of the arts and mental health.

Enjoy this issue of the newsletter!

Artsig team x

In this newsletter you can expect:

ARTSIG Updates

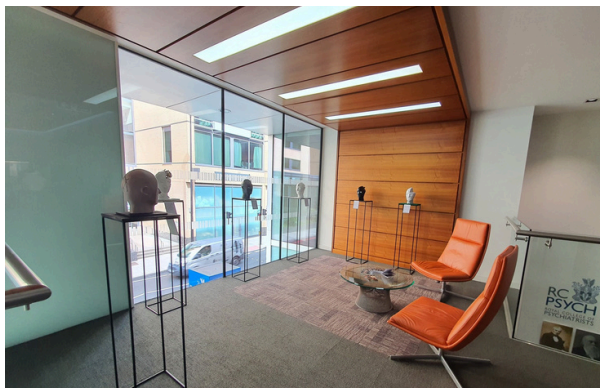
Arts Therapies and Psychiatry Conference

ArtSIG Community

The Gallery

Upcoming projects & events

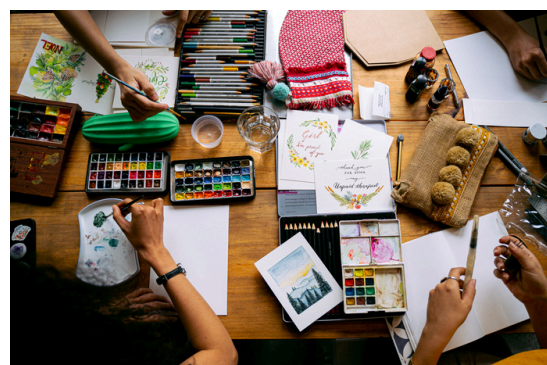
Editors



ArtSIG Updates

Welcome to our newsletter! We are thrilled to share with you the updates from last year.

In July, we organised our annual ArtSIG Conference : Art Therapies and Psychiatry - Joining up the dots. We collaborated with Music, and Art therapists, along with Academics to run a fantastic day including various workshops as part of our annual conference.



ArtSIG Community

ArtSIG has grown as a community by around 1000 members in last year, and we currently have 4400 in total.

In future we are hoping to collaborate with other SIG's as well, to widen our community.

Contact: sigs@rcpsych.ac.uk



**-DR DISHA PANDURANGI
ESSENCE OF STILLNESS**

The Gallery #1

Upon watching "His Girl Friday" and being filled with grand aspirations(/delusions) of becoming an old-timey newspaper man(/Cary Grant), I have declared myself Editor-in-Chief of The Gallery

The publication is to be a celebration of all things creative, and an exploration of the relationship between the arts and psychiatry.

We have a wonderful selection of submissions from a variety of college members to exhibit in this issue, so without further adieu I invite you to enter, peruse, and perhaps consider submitting your own work for display in forthcoming issues.

- Dr Eamonn Kinally

In this issue of the Gallery:

1. An essay from Dr. Glenn Roberts on the work of one of his patients, Ron Hendriques. Ron was the archetypal 'outsider artist', his work has appeared twice in the BJPsych (psychiatry in pictures) and on the cover of the Rehab textbook 'Enabling Recovery' his work is now a permanent part of the Wellcome Trust Collection.

[An appreciation of the life and work of Ron.pdf](#)



-DR AMARENNA GUEVARA CELSI



-DR DR. GLENN ROBERTS



-DR DR. GLENN ROBERTS

2. A collaborative piece and accompanying reflections by Dr Ruvini Senasinghe:

[Dr RS.pdf](#)

3. "Nkonsonkonson; bound to freedom" an African symbol of unity from Ghana, and its bearing on mental health by Dr. Richard Dei-Asamoah

[NKONSONKONSON.pdf](#)



**-DR LUISELOTTE ZIACKOVA
BLINDED OEDIPUS**

WISDOM - Dr Cherrie Coghlan

Death came so gently to the rabbit hutch
laying old Sophie supine on the straw
so that the children never ever saw
her struggle or gasp within the clutch
of something stronger and so much
more fearsome than the jaw
of a fox or the relentless law
of Nature passing sentence such
as execution, for it was her time
to gracefully return to earth,
and mine to wonder at this fine,
considerate and worthy
end to a life that has like mine
seen grief and joy and birth.



4. A review of Joker, criticising the depiction of mental illness in the movie by Dr. Stephen Potts

[The depiction of mental illness in JOKER - Stephen Potts.pdf](#)

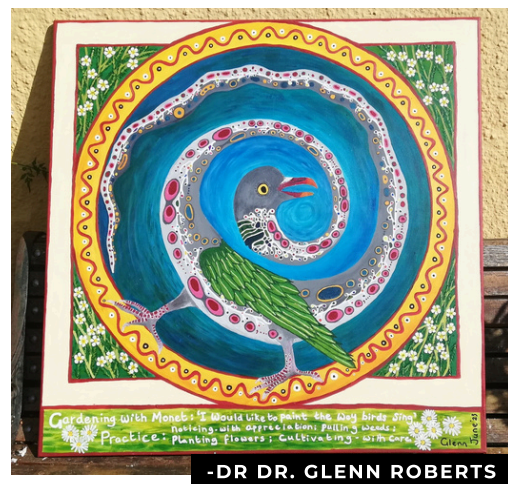
5. Dr. Jen, sharing their work with others to share in an exploration of the human condition through music videos.

A place on this earth: a song about grief

https://youtu.be/hkFJbfNjX-0?si=8_Fapz-ulhIkajcv

Infinite scars: on existentialism

<https://youtu.be/SqAtcjR8LE4?si=SrS5OcTqdRTIh5PM>



-DR DR. GLENN ROBERTS

6. Early Psychiatry, Physiognomy and Géricault's Portraits of Asylum Inmates by Janette Leaf.

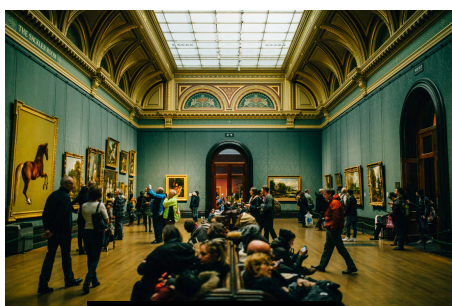
[Early Psychiatry, Physiognomy and Géricault's Portraits of Asylum Inmates.pdf](#)



-DR DR. GLENN ROBERTS



**-DR DR RUVINI SENASINGHE
CASTLE**



18 July 2025

Event News

Join us for our upcoming annual in-person conference 'Creative Communities'. The inspiration for this conference emerged from the recognition that numerous arts-based mental health initiatives operate in different areas of the UK. The goal of this conference is to raise awareness of a variety of these projects, foster meaningful discussion between professionals, and provide inspiration and guidance for others who may be inspired to organise similar projects. Here are the details:

- Date: 18th July 2025
- Time: 09:30 -16:45
- Location: Royal College of Psychiatrists, 21 Prescot Street, London E1 8BB.
- All are welcome
- Follow the link to book: [ArtSIG Conference | Creative Communities](#)

Psychiatrist's care for patients in 'CASTLE' PICU in colour " My Castle"

- Dr Ruvini Senasinghe

In the PICU's quiet, the paintbrush sings,
A psychiatrist guides as creativity springs.
Her patients, once wrapped in despair's tight embrace,
Find hope in the strokes they dare to trace.

A palette of feelings—both dark and light—
Emerges from depths they've hidden from sight.
The crimson of anger, the blue of despair,
Mingle with yellow, a joy rare and fair.

Together they craft not perfection, but truth,
Unveiling the scars of a stolen youth.
Each canvas a mirror, each line a thread,
To stitch the heart where it once had bled.

She kneels by their side, her voice soft and low,
Encouraging courage where fear used to grow.
"Art," she says, "is a language profound,
Where healing and hope can always be found."

And so in this room, where darkness had loomed,
A garden of colours has gently bloomed.
Through paint and compassion, they find release,
Piecing together their fractured peace.

In the PICU's walls, new stories are told,
Of healing in hues both tender and bold.
For the psychiatrist, it's more than her part—
It's the art of mending with love and with art.

Editors

Dr Divya Vikraman Chandrika and Dr Eamonn Kinally

Thank you for reading!