

## **Review from Art Therapists Newsbriefing**

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In marked contrast to the dark November evening outside the Smith Art Gallery in Stirling on Friday 25th November last year, the interior space was crowded, warm, bright and buzzing with interest as colleagues and friends viewed the works of two local Art Therapists, Pauline McGee and Prentice Smy.

The images and ceramics on display were decorative and colourful yet deeply personal, and appropriately, made a strong backdrop to the human scenario of the private view.

However, it was on returning to the Gallery at a quieter time that it was possible to appreciate more fully the spiritual quality of the work, the richness of colour and texture of Pauline's collages, the strength and vividness of Prentice's Ceramic bird pots and the beauty of the language which inspired it all. To rush through this exhibition would have been to miss out on a myriad of detail.

As a Therapist I was impressed with the beauty and richness which had been created out of anger, pain and rejection and by the sombre stoicism and steadfastness of those faces in relationships.

This was the most intriguing exhibition I have seen by Art Therapists and I hope it may inspire other pairs or groups to follow their lead in dispelling the myths and mystery which surround Art Therapy as they did with quotation, explanation and exciting art.

Perhaps we may hear more about similar ventures.

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Art Therapist