

During the course of any school year, much of what students are doing in the Art department goes unnoticed. Their work is private and takes time to complete, and we have to make do with tantalising glimpses of what they are up to. And then, when our exhibitions go up, there it all is for parents, friends and the whole school to appreciate.

This year's shows were no exception. The recipient of the Howard Smith Prize for Art, Oliver Kellett, had a strong exhibition of portraiture, along with some innovative photography; whilst our Lower Sixth prizewinner, Polly Williams, experimented with the medium of silkscreen printing. Also in Year 12, Jack Bullen's film and paintings pointed to great things to come next year, as did Georgie Rees' crisp black and white studies. Amongst the other Year 13 candidates, Bertie Whitfield's music-related pieces and Yuka Yoshida's sensitive life studies added breadth to the show. Meanwhile, the GCSE show in May showed off some promising talent in the shape of Lydia Holloway's graphic work, Katherine-Mary Sharp's sketchbooks, the ambitious group pieces of Isobelle de Podesta, and Isabella Singleton's textiles and landscape paintings.

This year will also be remembered for our excursion to Florence and Venice in February.



Flynn Warren provided a record of this with his strong photographic work on the Venice carnival, while Katie Blow and Amber Harrison will be able to look back on many visual reminders in their sketchbooks. Other trips for the Sixth Form this year included a series of lectures in the Victoria and Albert Museum and a visit to Greenwich and the National Gallery. Our senior photographers, meanwhile, attended

useful workshops at the National Portrait Gallery. Johanna Hain and Francesca Woolnough's enigmatic portraits from that day have since appeared in NPG publications.

We continue to benefit from our contacts with old friends. Masahiro Kanji returned in May to see the pupils still very much under his influence, producing Koi Carp kites to fly around the school. This Asian theme also owes something to a talk Chris Hall (1962-69) gave here on his collection of ancient Chinese textiles. We

hope there will be further opportunities for our pupils to meet OFs working in the Arts. There are plenty of you out there!

Of course, the students' considerable achievements would not be possible without the enthusiasm and hard work of Sarah Ratcliffe and Simon Jowitt. Simon now leaves us after four years in the College, to concentrate on his own painting. We would like to give him our sincere thanks for all his hard work, both in the Art Department and the History of Art department, and we wish him the very best of luck with his painting career.

Mrs Caroline Mallett, Head of Art

LEFT: SIMON JOWITT AND SARAH RADCLIFFE WITH COLLEGE STUDENTS IN FLORENCE.

ABOVE: SEBASTIAN DENBY.

1 YUKA YOSHIDA. **2** OLIVER KELLETT. **3** POLLY WILLIAMS. **4** MADDIE BRYANT. **5** ISABELLA SINGLETON. **6** LYDIA HOLLOWAY. **7** AND **8** OLIVER KELLETT. **9** KATHRYN MARY-SHARP. **10** JOSHUA O'CONNOR.



