



SL

Lifestyle

a sunshine
state of mind

Free exhibition
Sat 3 Mar - Sun 21 Oct

SLQ Gallery, State Library of Queensland
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Showcasing a range of State Library of Queensland's rare and restricted collection items, *Lifestyle* explores how Queenslanders live and play in the sunshine state. Participatory and thought-provoking, it investigates the myriad of ideas and identities that are quintessentially Queensland.

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EXPRESSION: Half Dozen Group

Creativity can flourish in a collective, giving members the opportunity to share ideas and inspiration, foster artistic development and provide a platform for exposure. In the mid-twentieth century, Queensland's Half Dozen Group began its long history of doing just that, shaping the careers of some of Queensland's most famous contemporary artists in the process.

The Half Dozen Group of Artists was founded by six breakaway members of the Royal Queensland Art Society in 1941: painter, bookbinder and hand-weaver Lillian Pedersen; painter Mung Elliott and Frank Sherrin; needleworker Rosalie Wilson; sculptor Leonard Shillam; and muralist Ann Ross. Lillian Pedersen was the driving force behind the group, and acted as its honorary secretary for 31 years.

The group's purpose was to encourage and support professional artists and hold annual exhibitions of their work—the Queensland Art Gallery hosted the first Half Dozen Group show. Throughout the 1940s, 50s and 60s, the group welcomed an impressive roll call of emerging and established Queensland practitioners, including Margaret Olley, Kenneth McQueen, Vida Lahey, Daphne Mayo, William Robinson and Melville Hayson. It also offered scholarships to young artists, giving them invaluable professional development opportunities at a time when there was little official support for the arts.

The Half Dozen Group continues to this day—although it retains the same name, membership numbers sit at over 100. Over its 77-year history, the group has demonstrated the importance of the collective to harnessing creative expression and enabling artists to learn from one another and share their skills and knowledge.

This is the main display that features The Half Dozen Group of Artists.

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Portrait of Lilian Pedersen (1898-1983) painted in 1974 by Mavis Eileen Vernon (1916-2008)

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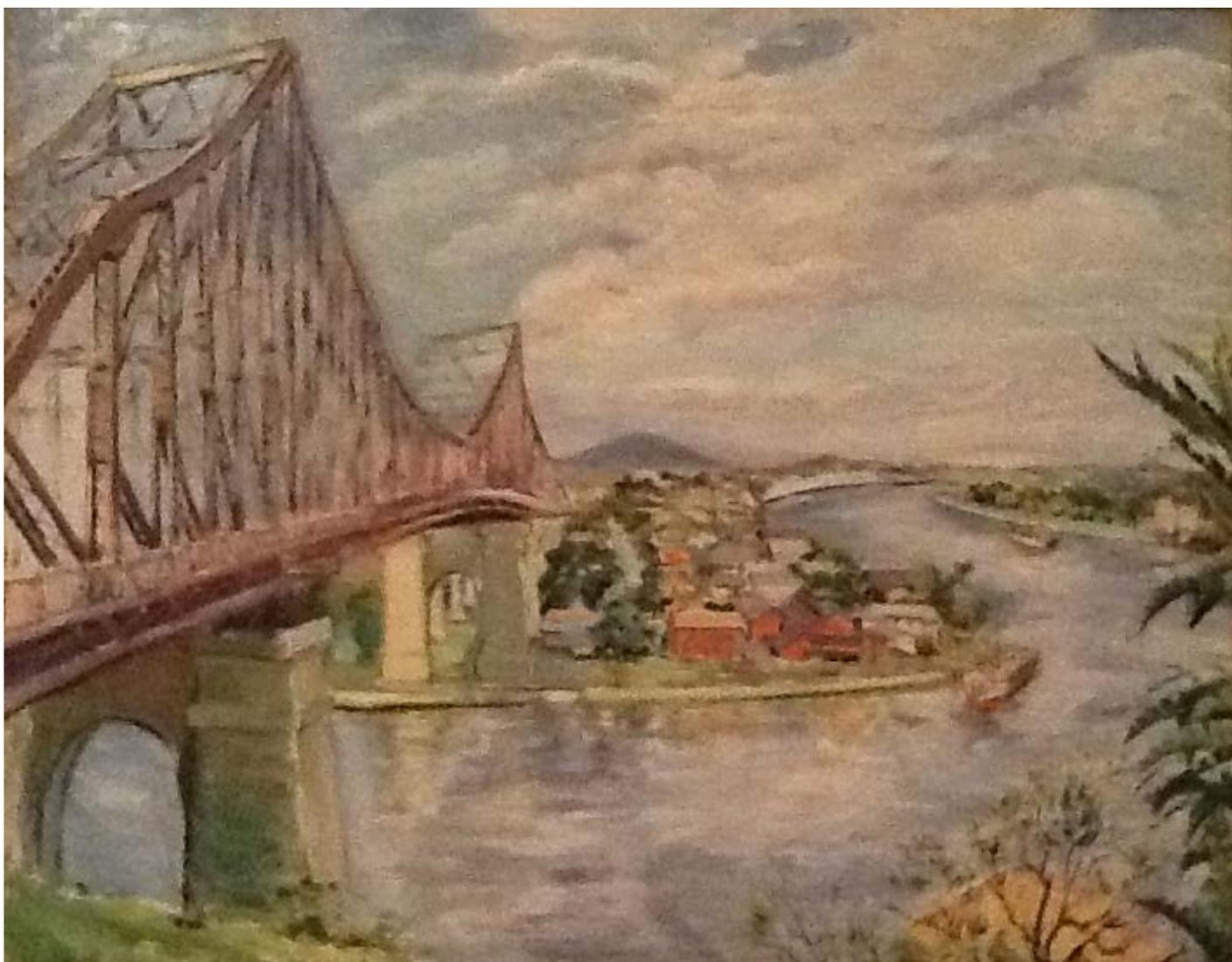
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The Picnic, Cleveland, ca. 1945. Lillian Pedersen. (1898-1983).



The Old Orchard, ca. 1952. Lillian Pedersen. (1898-1983).



Late afternoon, Maine Street, Kangaroo Point, ca. 1952. Mavis Eileen Vernon (1916-2008).



Campsite Interior, ca 1952. Lilian Pedersen.



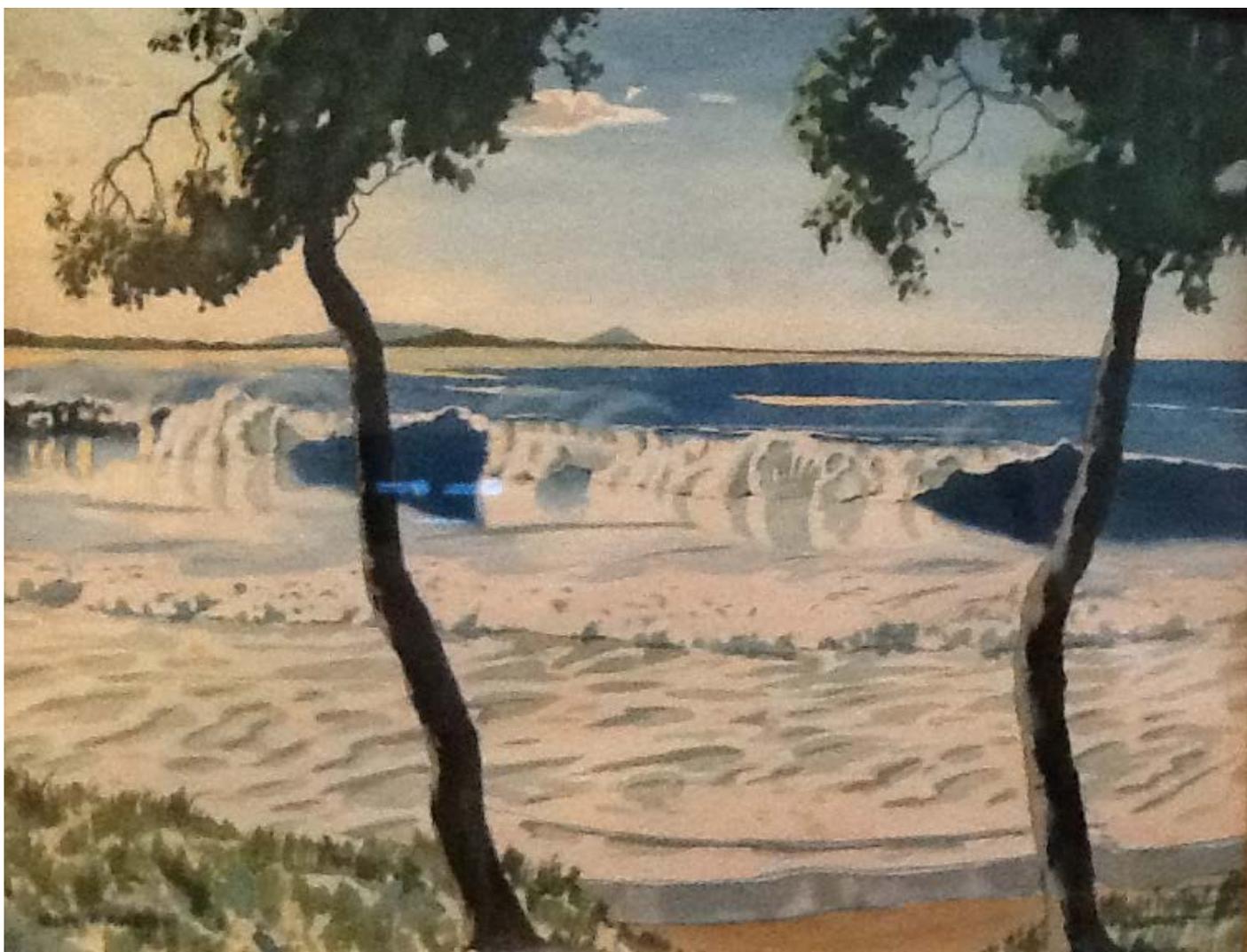
Lilian Pedersen, 1974, Norman Park.



Frank Sherrin (1893-1968). River End, Hawthorne, 1945.



Artists' Party, Melville & Yvonne Haysom's home. 1951. Lilian Pedersen, centre in white.



Kenneth Macquenn (1897-1960) Forty Mile Beach, date unknown.



Rubery Bennett (1893-1987). Plein air painting case. ca. 1920-1980. The painting box was specifically designed by the artist and featured slots in which he could fit up to 12 oil sketches back to back. This enabled him to carry them while they were still wet.



Archaic Horse, 1972. Leonard Shillam (1915-2005)



Threshold, 1966. Leonard Shillam (1915-2005)



Torso, 1937. Kathleen Shillam (1915-2005).



Marquette, 1960. Leonard Shillam.



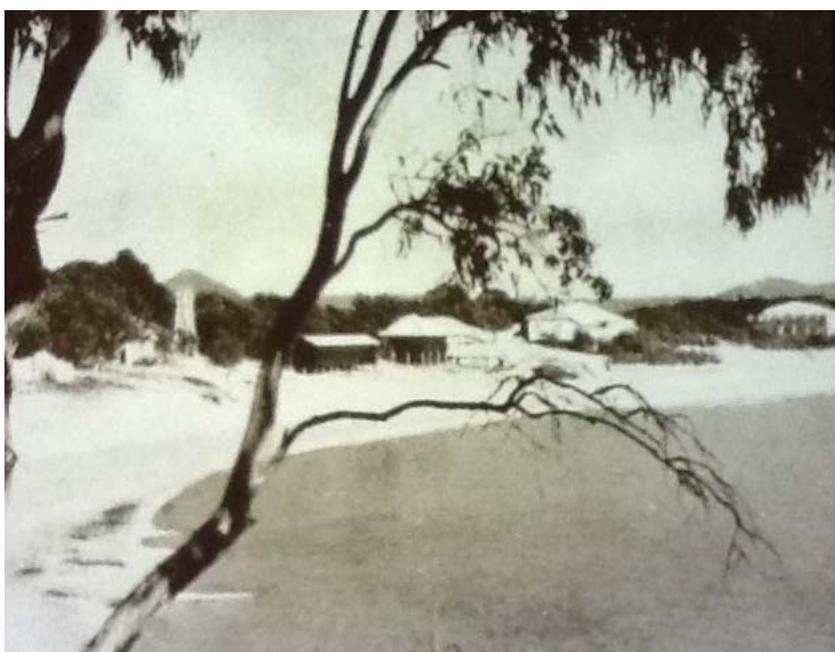
Paula Rosenstengel (1920-1999). She was an active member of The Half Dozen Group and was the daughter of Brisbane's master furniture maker Edward (Rosie) Rosenstengel.



There is an extensive display of Queensland Tourist Posters and Queensland Magazines.



Above ... A day at the beach somewhere? Below ... The Oasis, Sunnybank ... Brisbane's swimming pool.



Left ... guess where ... Noosa beach.



Right ... plein air painter Rubery Bennett.

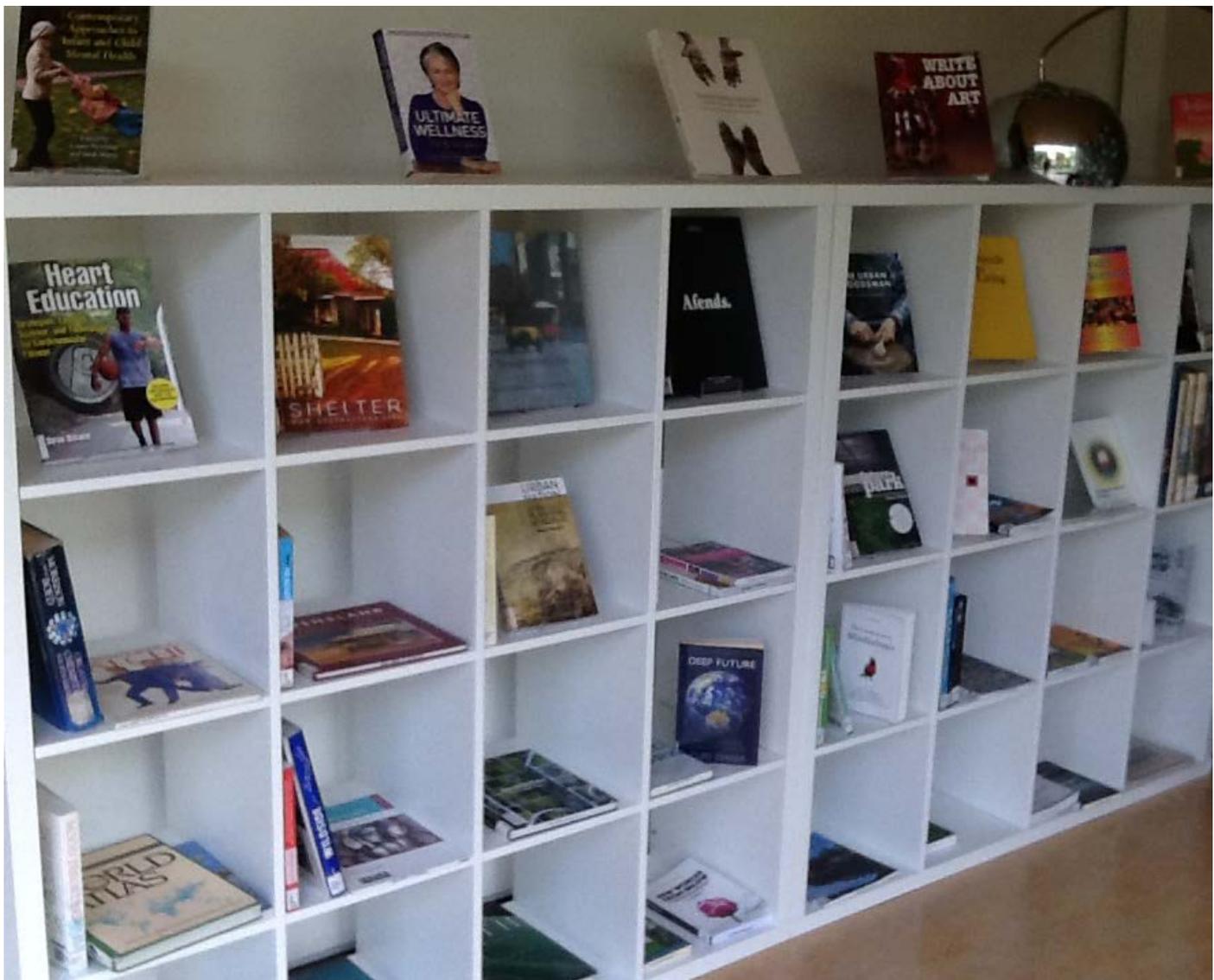


Above ... Surf lifesavers in a Greenmount Surfboat ... I can't pick the background headland.



Another mystery spot ... Surf carnival somewhere where on the Gold Coast?

*All the photos in this presentation were taken with my handheld ipod.
The black and white photos shown were taken as they came up on projection screen.
There are lots of memory joggers of Queensland for you to enjoy.*



There is a small library with books about Queensland ... take a seat and have a browse.

