

## **FOUNDING MATHS PROFESSOR FINDS PRIDE OF PLACE IN ART EXHIBITION AT STIRLING UNIVERSITY INNOVATION PARK**

3<sup>rd</sup> June 2011

Various cultural strands come together this month at Stirling University Innovation Park, as local journalist and poet Lesley Duncan exhibits the artwork of her late parents, including portraits of her brother, Professor Douglas Munn, who was the founding Professor of Mathematics at Stirling University.

Inspired by a colleague's earlier art exhibition at the Innovation Park, Lesley decided that it was time to have a dedicated show of the paintings of her father, Robert Tainsh Munn (a railway official) and her mother, Elizabeth Munn (a teacher). Both were members of Paisley Art Institute in the inter-war period. The combination of Robert's watercolour landscapes and Elizabeth's oil paintings suggested the exhibition title of "Oil and Water." The dual show is now adorning the walls of the Innovation Park's Scion House.

Elizabeth Munn's portraits of her son Douglas Munn are a reminder of his academic legacy on the Campus. There are also other family portraits by her and a wide selection of the flower paintings that were her life-long passion. Robert Munn's pure watercolour technique, influenced by that of Sir Russell Flint, is reflected in scenes ranging from the West of Scotland (Arran being a favourite subject) to Cornwall.

This is the 35<sup>th</sup> exhibition at the Innovation Park, which has seen a variety of styles through the Art on the Park initiative, launched in September 2006.

It was Lesley's initial conversations with Lynn Blaikie, Business Development Manager at the Innovation Park, which prompted her to showcase the work of her parents. She noted: "I wanted to show the artistic talents of my parents and Stirling University Innovation Park was ideally suited to be the venue, since my brother was one of the founding members of the institution, as well as being the subject of three of my mother's portraits.

"For me the passion of their creativity comes through in the varied artwork and I hope that visitors to the exhibition will feel a sense of the same."

Lynn Blaikie commented: "The Art on the Park initiative has been very successful in providing local artists with the opportunity to display their work. We are delighted to be working with Lesley and showcasing such an

eclectic mix of art. We wish Lesley and her family every success with the exhibition.”

**The opening of the exhibition is Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2pm-5pm**

Thereafter, the exhibition is open Monday to Friday 8:30am – 5:00pm until 10<sup>th</sup> July 2011

ends

***For further information contact: Kay Aschaber 07786 065493***

**\*Images of paintings also available on request**

**Notes to the editor**

More information on Stirling University Innovation Park

<http://www.suip.co.uk/>

More information on the artists and on Lesley Duncan

[http://www.lesleyduncanpoetry.co.uk/content/family\\_matters/](http://www.lesleyduncanpoetry.co.uk/content/family_matters/)