

# JOHN SHAW NEILSON ACQUISITIVE ART PRIZE

## Entry Form

To be sent to Penola High School, 43 Cameron Street, Penola by Friday 30th April 2010. Cheque payable to Penola High School.

Artist's Name: .....

Address: .....

.....

Post Code: ..... Telephone: ..... Email: .....

Title of Artwork: .....

Medium: ..... Selling Price: \$ ..... Entry Fee Enclosed \$15.00

I HAVE READ AND ACCEPT THE ENTRY CONDITIONS

Signed: ..... Date: .....

Method of Submission:  By Hand:  Other Means: .....

To be returned by: ..... Will be collected

PLEASE ENCLOSE THE FOLLOWING IN AN ENVELOPE AND SEND WITH THE PAINTING OR ENTRY FORM

The inspiration for my work came from: .....

.....

.....

.....

2010  
JOHN SHAW NEILSON

ACQUISITIVE ART PRIZE  
\$5000

ROBERT RIDDOCH RYMILL  
MEMORIAL PRIZE  
\$1000

Official Opening at the  
Penola High School Hall  
Friday, May 7, 2010 at 5.30pm  
Exhibition Open 5.00pm - 6.00pm

Sponsored by  
Wattle Range Council  
Susan Pender  
Penola High School  
Raidis Estate

Penola Coonawarra  
Arts Festival

The Penola Coonawarra Arts Festival invites artists to submit ONE artwork for:

The 2010 John Shaw Neilson Acquisitive Art Prize \$5000

The 2010 Robert Riddoch Rymill Memorial Prize \$1000

#### Conditions

1. Each 2D artwork, suitably framed and ready for hanging, the subject of which will be the inspiration gained from the poetry of John Shaw Neilson, must be the work of the competitor. Artworks must have name, address, title and price clearly written on the back.
2. Artworks should be left or consigned to Penola High School, 43 Cameron Street, Penola SA 5277 by Friday, 30th April, 2010. No payments whatsoever will be made by the Penola Coonawarra Arts Festival Committee for freight or other charges incurred in the delivery of any entry. A fee of \$15 per entry must be paid or lodged with the entry form by Friday, 30th April, 2010, any cheques/money orders/cash to Penola High School.
3. The Penola Coonawarra Arts Festival Committee reserves the right to refuse to display any entry without being required to give any reason. The Penola Coonawarra Arts Festival Committee reserves the right to exhibit for a period of up to fourteen days any entry submitted for competitions.
4. The Penola Coonawarra Arts Festival Committee will exercise all reasonable care with exhibits submitted but will not accept responsibility for loss or damage while they are in its custody. Packing should be suitable for return and artists are expected to pay all charges incurred in sending and returning works. Artworks are to be picked up on Friday, 14th May or Monday, 17th May, 2010 between 9am - 3pm.
5. THE WINNING ART ENTRY WILL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE PENOLA COONAWARRA ARTS FESTIVAL COMMITTEE.
6. The announcement of the winner of the prize will be made at the Penola High School, 43 Cameron Street, Penola on Friday 7th May, 2010 at 5.00pm. All competitors are invited to be present.
7. 25% Commission + GST will be charged on any work sold.
8. MAXIMUM SIZE OF ART WORKS 1.00 metre high x 1.00 metre wide (oversize paintings not eligible for judging).
9. ENTRIES CLOSE FRIDAY, 30th APRIL, 2010.
10. Only artists' entries from the Wattle Range Council area are eligible for the Robert Riddoch Rymill Memorial Prize.

# JOHN SHAW NEILSON (1872-1942)

## Information for Art Prize entrants

### BACKGROUND

Neilson was born on February 22nd, 1872, in a slab hut owned by his parents, John and Margaret (nee McKinnon), out on Racecourse Road, Penola. He was the first of six children.

He spent the first nine years of his life in Penola, during which time he came to know well the surrounding countryside with its swamps, trees and abundant bird life.

He attended the school in Robe Street (now Riddoch Street) for about fifteen months, from 1880 until his parents moved in 1881 to the block they'd selected at Minimay. In 1885, he briefly resumed his formal education, but left at the age of fourteen to work full-time with his father.

From then until 1928, when he moved to Melbourne to work in the office of the Country Road Board, his life was one of unremitting physical toil, personal sorrow, and economic hardship. Family farms in the Wimmera and Mallee districts of Victoria, were unproductive because of rabbits or mice or drought or fire. Consequently from 1916, Neilson worked as an itinerant labourer until he moved to Melbourne in 1928.

Despite these difficulties, Neilson produced the poetry on which his reputation as one of Australia's most original and important lyric poets, is based. Three collections were published in his lifetime.

Neilson died in Melbourne, in 1942.

### SUBJECTS

Neilson was widely read and well-informed. As is evident from his poetry, autobiography, notebooks and letters, he was an intelligent, perceptive, sensitive, compassionate man. He also had a keen sense of humour. He was influenced by his Scottish heritage and by the strict Presbyterian upbringing of his early years.

He wrote about the natural world, particularly birds, and about people of all ages, creeds and social circumstances. He wrote about life and death; joy and sorrow; innocence and experience and love.

### PUBLICATIONS

AR Chisholm (ed .) Shaw Neilson Selected Poems (Sydney: A&R Modern Poets 1976)

Cliff Hanna (ed .) John Shaw Neilson; Poetry, autobiography and correspondence (Brisbane: UQP 1991)

Hugh Anderson and Les Blake The Spinning of a Dream: The Story of John Shaw Neilson (Melbourne: Red Rooster Press 1986)

### ENQUIRIES

Phone 08 8737 3434, 08 8737 2391 or 08 8737 2382.

### VIEWING HOURS

Friday, 7th May: 5pm - 6pm

Saturday, 8th May: 10am - 4pm

Sunday, 9th May: 10am - 4pm

Monday, 10th May - Friday 14th May: 10am - 4pm