

# Art and Soul

by Becky Jones

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Whether you've a preference for photograph or a passion for paintings, you'll be amazed by the array of local-produced artwork currently on display at New Walk Museum at Art Gallery, *writes Becky Jones*. Until December 3, the city venue is hosting the 131<sup>st</sup> annual exhibition by the Leicester Society of Artists (LSA). It features more than 200 works of art created by talented LSA members, who live and work or study in Leicestershire and Rutland.

They include gifted amateurs and professional artists who exhibit their work nationally and internationally. Their wide range of styles and subjects include paintings, prints, photography, sculpture, multi-media, ceramics and for the first time this year glass and textiles.

If you find yourself particularly taken by an items, you'll be glad to know most of work will be on sale, with prizes from £60 to £8,000.

A special feature of this exhibition is the inclusion of sketches by Bryan Organ for his recently unveiled portrait of Sir David Attenborough, now on display at the museum. These sketches will be on public view for the first time by special permission of the world-famous portraitist, who is a former president of LSA. There will also be the opportunity to see a magnificent bronze sculpture by internationally-known sculptor John Sydney Carter. A Fellow of the Royal British Society of Sculptors, John is inspired by the sea, sailing, birds, fish, the human form and the East Coast, where he loves to sail.

Winning entries in the LSA Student Award, now in its second year and sponsored by the West End Gallery, will also be on show. This year's winners at De Montfort University Fine Art graduate Tiffany Tangen and Loughborough University student Samson Tudor. Tiffany is a portrait photographer looking at the twilight world of the menacing and the grotesque, while Samson is a painter who has just completed his first year of a Fine Art degree course.

Admission to the exhibition – sponsored by financial investment specialists Charles Stanley – is free.