

Drawn to streetscapes

BY JODIE BRUTON

A MELBOURNE artist who made a big impression on New York has shared the secret to his success with a Wodonga audience.

Italian-born Marco Luccio felt compelled to capture the iconic streetscapes and skylines of New York City long before he finally took the plunge in 2007.

He "swapped money for time" to build up a bank of artwork and connections that led to him getting a studio inside the city's most famous Art Deco skyscraper.

It was an organic process, which started with his paintings and prints going on show in the Chrysler Building.

"At first I stored my paints up there and no one really minded as I eventually moved in!" he quipped.

"New Yorkers love it when you're responding to their city."

Australian Decorative and Fine Arts Society (ADFAS) Murray River hosted Luccio's lecture: *My Studio in the Chrysler Building: 10 Years in an Art Deco Masterpiece*, at Wodonga Senior Secondary College on Monday night.

The Chrysler Building holds the record for being the first building to surpass 1000 feet (305 metres) in height and remains the tallest brick building in the world.

Hauling giant canvases

across Manhattan and even on the subway, Luccio said after a day of painting or etching on the streets of New York City he needed to retreat.

"I usually take a day off after painting like that," Luccio said.

"In New York, it's very interactive.

"In Paris they leave you alone; in Italy they give you advice!

"Painting on the street, I have a real fight or flight response.

"But I love the process as much as the finished product."

Luccio said he suffered from vertigo for a long time; a challenge when working high in the city skyline.

But he's philosophical too: "You've got to suffer for your art!"

Luccio's work is represented in 42 public and corporate collections including the New York Public Library, the Museum of the City of New York, The National Gallery of Australia and The National Gallery of Victoria. He has done artist residencies in New York, Paris and Italy.

ADFAS Murray River runs lectures throughout the year at The Butter Factory Theatre in Wodonga or Albury Entertainment Centre Theatre.

For the 2023 program, visit adf.as.org.au/societies/murray-river-wodonga



Melbourne artist Marco Luccio hosts a workshop at MAMA after giving an inspiring talk about his work capturing New York City streetscapes. Picture by James Wiltshire

MONEY FOR FIRE TOWNS ON THE WAY

OUTDOOR fitness equipment worth \$301,000 will be installed at Myrtleford and Porepunkah as part of \$1.6 million in bushfire recovery funding being spent in the North East.

Federal government money will also upgrade Corryong golf course (\$327,004) and Tintaldra reserve (\$304,420), and fund digital training for small businesses in Alpine and Towong shires (\$225,000).

The Yackandandah readiness program (\$276,543) and Upper Murray catering (\$183,101) are the other beneficiaries.

LATEST DAM, RAIN FIGURES

HUME Dam was at 97.6 per cent capacity on Tuesday, holding 2932GI, at a height of 191.64m. It was 97.7 per cent on Monday. This time last year the dam was at 98 per cent. Dartmouth dam was holding 3786GI at 98.2 per cent of capacity. There was no rain recorded in Albury-Wodonga for the 24 hours to 5pm Tuesday. The Bureau of Meteorology is forecasting a mostly sunny day with light winds. The top for Wednesday should reach 31C.

Weather: P23

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WEATHER

TODAY	TOMORROW
Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny
Min: 15°C Max: 31°C	Min: 16°C Max: 35°C

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LOTTO

Oz Lotto: Draw 1513
Winning Numbers: 38, 41, 18, 14, 27, 8, 5
Supplementaries: 11, 2, 13
Division 1: Jackpotted
Division 2: \$24,553.60
Division 3: \$3,553.20
Division 4: \$290.50
Division 5: \$48.60
Division 6: \$24.50
Division 7: \$14.25

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