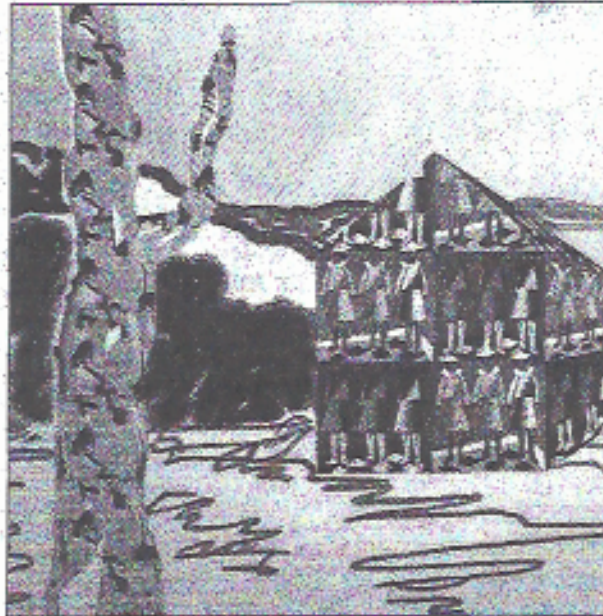




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The winning work by Pat Grindley

Local artist triumphs in national competition

THE COMPETITION may have gone national this year, but the big prize has gone decidedly local.

Pat Grindley, a final-year fine art student from The University of Chichester, is the first winner of the newly-revamped National Open Art Competition - Chichester, formerly the Chichester Open Art Competition.

Pat, a mature student from Funtington, triumphed with her painting *Three Peasant Girls, After Malevich* - a piece chosen from a record 1,200 submissions by artists from across the UK.

"I am stunned at winning," said Pat who was presented with the £10,000 first prize.

Pat's parents were Russian and this inspired her work, she explains.

"The process of creating the work took more than six months and more than 220 hours. Initially I developed

a theme in response to the Malevich painting *Three Peasant Girls*. The image was created by painting with the aid of sketches produced using Photoshop tools, using a tablet and pen.

"It gave me the ability to incorporate layered images, produce multiples and imitate the constructs of computer graphics such as SL (Second Life). From this blueprint, I made a very careful copy in acrylic on canvas. I wanted to remove the emphasis on the brushstroke, to indicate the conceptual nature of the piece and to question the role of painting in the age of digital saturation."

