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Painting donated to charity to help raise funds

EXHIBITION REFLECTS IMPORTANCE OF ART THERAPY AS AN 'AMAZING FORM OF COMMUNICATION'

BY MORAG LINDSAY

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ONE of Scotland's most popular artists has created a colourful painting for a charity that offers groundbreaking care for people with neurological conditions in the north-east.

Catriona Millar has donated the work, titled Fancy Free, to Sue Ryder Care, which runs Dee View Court in Kincorth, Aberdeen.

The painting will take pride of place at an exhibition being held in the city this month to raise money for Sue Ryder Care and reflect the importance of art therapy in its centres.

Ms Millar has also given the charity the rights and properties of the painting so it can produce prints and cards to generate more funds in future.

The Udry artist said she was delighted to lend her support.

"Sue Ryder Care explained that they use art as therapy in their care centres and hospices, and that it can act as an amazing form of communication for many people in their care who have difficulty with speech and mobility," she said.

"As an artist I express many things through my paintings, from the way people interact to things I find out about myself that I want to convey on canvas, and art is the perfect way to be able to portray them."

The Art Liberating Lives exhibition, at Kippie Lodge Sport and Country Club on November 29 from 4pm-10pm, will feature works by a wide range of north-east artists who were invited to paint what liberation means to them.

Residents at Dee View Court are also submitting works created in their art therapy sessions.

All will be available to buy, with either all or a share of the profits going to Sue Ryder Care.

North of Scotland fund-raising manager for the charity Michael Hodgson said art was enormously important to people with neurological conditions, leading to increased activity, conversation, mobility and co-ordination.



Catriona Millar with her specially-produced painting



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