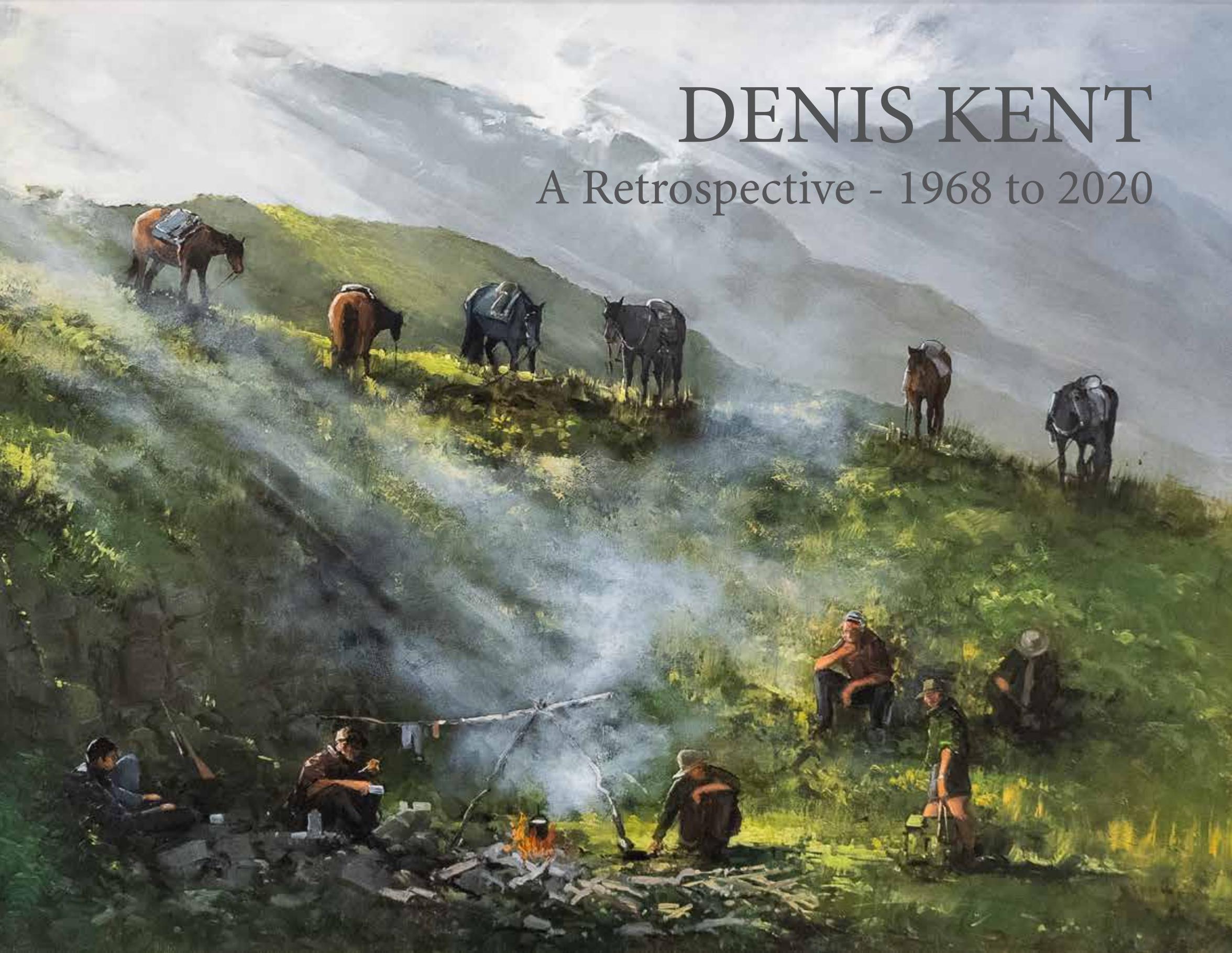


# DENIS KENT

A Retrospective - 1968 to 2020



**Denis Kent**

**A Retrospective - 1968 to 2020**

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# Denis Kent

Internationally acclaimed Central Otago artist Denis Kent celebrated his 80th birthday in 2020. In September and October of that year, Central Stories Museum and Art Gallery in Alexandra displayed an exhibition, a retrospective of his art works from 1968 to 2020. The pieces, on loan from private ownership and the artist's collection, had never been seen together.

Denis started painting while at school in Dunedin and has never stopped. His prolific career has been recognised with a range of awards including life membership of the Central Otago Art Society. He has exhibited at each of the Central Otago Art Society Blossom Festival shows.

Specialising in realist landscapes and often depicting images referring to fishing and hunting, Denis' works encourage the viewer to imagine themselves within the atmospheric scenes. While he has painted many other locations, Denis has a special relationship with Central Otago and in particular Mt Aspiring National Park.

The exhibition and this book have been made possible thanks to the Central Otago District Arts Trust, Central Stories Museum and Art Gallery and private sponsors.

A special thanks to all those who loaned works from their private collections for the exhibition and this publication.

## Fleet at Rest 1968

The fishing fleet in port at Careys Bay, Port Chalmers. This work was selected and shown in the 1968 Kelliher Art Award. Denis was very proud of this because, at the time, it was quite something to even be catalogued.



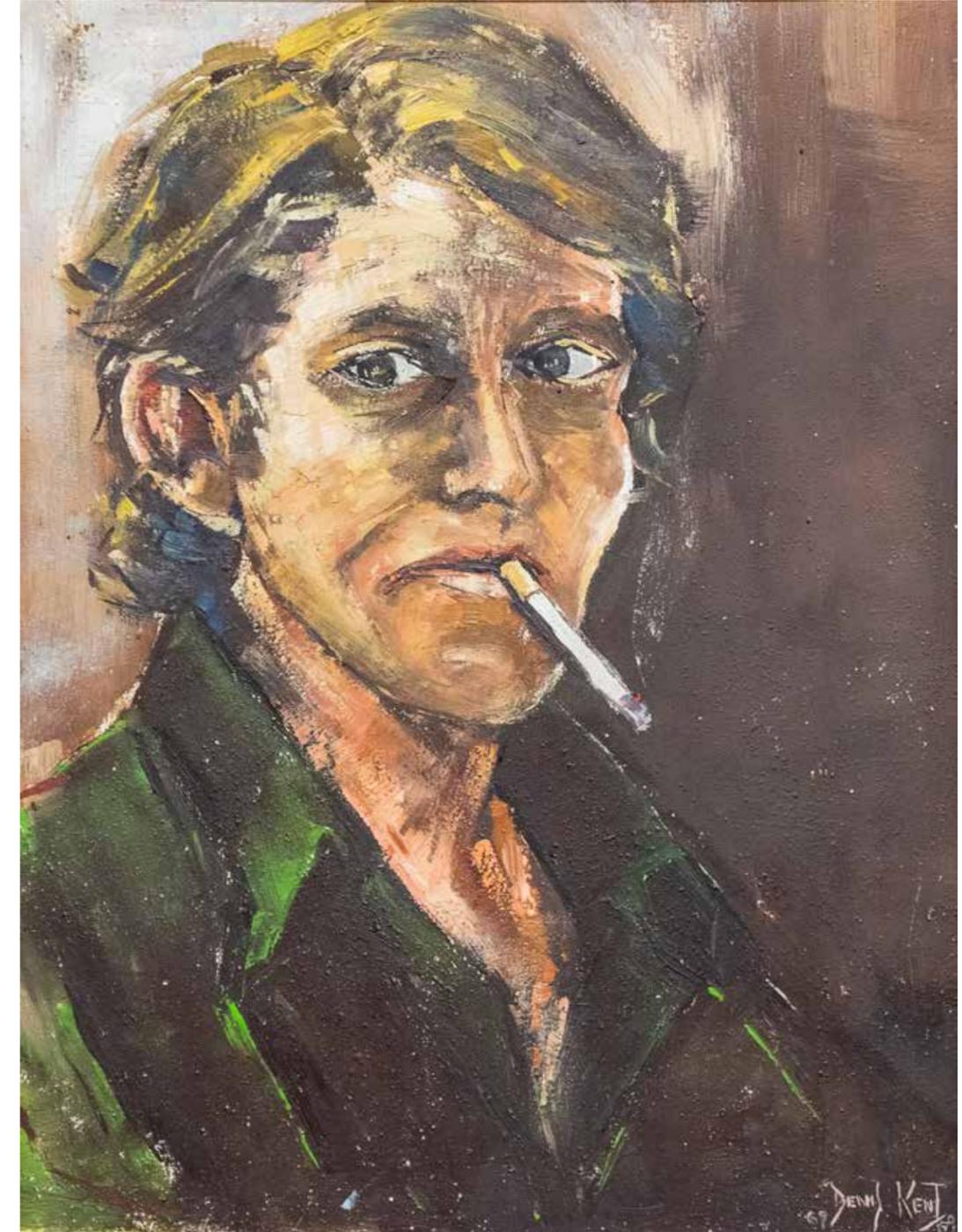
## Shotover Landscape 1970

Denis included this painting to show what happens when a board is not properly prepared. You can see that the paint in the sky area is all lifting. This is because an undercoat was used first instead of a primer. This highlights the importance of following the correct preparation procedures.



## Self Portrait 1971

An early attempt at a self portrait. It was painted in very quick time, about 2 or 3 hours.



## The Syndicate 1984

Every Saturday a group of friends met at the former Bendigo Hotel in Alexandra to place a small wager on the horses somewhere in New Zealand. Denis says 'We made a small profit over a period of one year. We spent the whole lot on a night out, and had a lot of fun.'

From left to right – Irene McCallum, Barry Legett, John Corrie, Ian Duggan, Graham White, Charlie McCallum, Peter Partridge, Denis Cronin and Bob Botting.

