

MARCH 2024



# NEWSLETTER



## MARCH WORKSHOP

Mead, wax and bees - our March workshop was all about some of the other products that can be harvested, refined and made from keeping bees. In the morning we were joined by award winning mead maker, Terry Thomson, who ran us through how to make mead, before providing us with a chance to taste some delicious mead. Gary Weiley (also an award winning mead maker) joined the workshop a little later in the morning to demonstrate how to render wax, providing us with tips and tricks on how to make clean award winning wax. We also checked the bees at Rookwood estate and can happily report they are strong with plenty of honey and pollen stores for Winter.



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# CREAMED HONEY

Creamed honey is a process using 1 part of a creamed honey seed to roughly 9 parts of liquid honey and stirring/whipping it slowly to change the crystal structures within the honey to create a smooth, velvety texture. Creamed honey is delicious on toast, a crumpet or as a substitute for quince paste on a charcuterie board. It is also a way to value add to your honey products.

## INGREDIENTS

- 1 part creamed honey
- 9 parts liquid honey

## EQUIPMENT

- Mix master or kitchen aid with a paddle and adjustable speed dial.

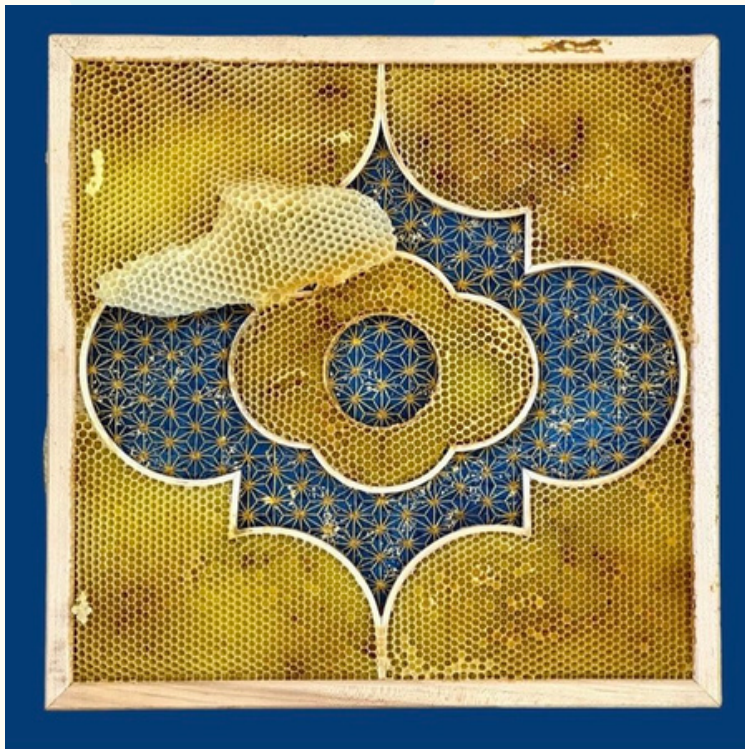
## METHOD

- Place all ingredients in mixer and start the mixer at its lowest speed.
- After 15-20 minutes, turn the mixer off and rest for 40 minutes.
- Repeat the process above 3-4 times.
- Rest honey for 20 minutes before jarring.
- Place honey in the fridge to set for at least 2 days.
- Store out of direct sunlight.





# AVA ROTH



Ava is a Toronto-based encaustic painter, embroiderer and mixed-media artist. A maker her whole life, Ava has spent the past decade working almost exclusively with beeswax. Ava is fundamentally guided and inspired by the organic and local materials she relies on, such as Canadian beeswax, foraged wood, birch bark, foliage and horsehair.

Ava is currently working on an inter-species collaboration with local honey bees. This work begins in her studio with the creation of encaustic collages which are suspended in embroidery hoops. The hoops are then fixed to custom-made Langstroth hive frames, and placed inside honeybee hives where thousands of bees embed the work in comb. This project explores the boundaries of where humans collide with the natural environment, and imagines a more beautiful outcome of our encounter.

You can learn more about Ava's work by visiting [www.avaroth.ca](http://www.avaroth.ca) and follow her on instagram @avarothart.





# LISA BRITZMAN

Lisa Britzman is a master potter and artist. After visiting the Leatherwood on our Bee Queens SW adventure, Lisa was inspired to complete a body of work for the upcoming 'Art of Dining'. The recently completed artwork captures the integral connection between bee, flower and food by highlighting the importance of Leatherwood to beekeepers in Tasmania. The exhibition opens April 4 and closes April 30 at Hadley's Orient Hotel. Lisa will be doing an artist talk on Saturday April 6 at 3.00pm



Cake stand with plates and iced cream dishes



## BON VOYAGE!

All the best to Bee Queen Carla Best, as she takes off over the next 2 months on a travelling adventure in her van. Carla has been a wonderful participant over the past year, and as a new beekeeper has managed to inherit some hives with tricky problems that she has resolved! As we head towards Winter, it is a perfect time of the year to leave our Island state and head to warmer climates. We wish you all the best on your travels Carla, and look forward to hearing all about your travels when you return, maybe over a drop of mead?

## STONEMAN'S ART

We are full of art news this month! Bee Queen, Jo Stoneman recently commissioned Tasmanian artist Jamin, to complete a stunning mural at Stoneman's nursery. The artwork comprises many familiar Tasmanian images including an Eastern spinebill, pardalote, billy buttons and a bee! The piece took 5 days to complete and is now a distinctive drawcard in the northern suburbs. You can visit the art and the nursery at 94 Grove Road Glenorchy, open 7 days a week.

