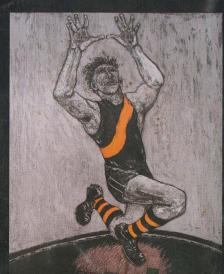
ARTSTREAMS Vol. 10, No. 2, 2005

Whittlesea • Banyule • Darebin • Manningham • Nillumbik • Yarra







Judith Roberts

– ceramics at
ArtStreams Gallery

Richmond 3121

– A History by
Daniel Moynihan
and Anthony Figallo





Colour & Form

An exhibition of painting and ceramics by Jean Bohuslav and Judith Roberts

2.30pm, Sunday, June 12 Till July 3





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Jean Bohuslav is exhibiting a series of encaustic wax/oil paintings that are inspired by her philosophical quest for unity. The exacting wax/oil process gives the work a translucency that helps to depict the "curiosity and search" that were part of Bohuslav's journey.

Judith Roberts is showing a collection of raku ceramics. The cool, aesthetic designs in black and white with mottled luster colour and crackle glaze finishes are surely designed to be experienced rather than used. The platter, bowl and vessel forms have a suggestion of the organic that take us back to the Japanese and Korean tradition of ceramic art.

news in arts and Cultural heritage







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Daniel Moynihan's A Tribute to Captain Blood 38 x 28.8cm

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Contributions are invited from artists, writers and photographers for inclusion in Artstreams.



Comment

Readers who enjoy Artstreams will be pleased to see that it still exists, albeit at only half strength. We must keep the flag flying while we get on top of the logistical problems.

Artstreams is looking forward to celebrating ten years of publication. That celebration is scheduled to take place on the publication of the Summer 05/06 edition. We are not yet assured of getting there.

A magazine that attempts to serve a large arts community in the way that Artstreams does needs more input from the arts community and those with an interest in the region's cultural heritage. As I write this, I am confident that we will celebrate our tenth anniversary and that we will go on to achieve greater things.

We are heartened by the show of support by some members of the arts community, alas too few in a large community with a commitment to the arts. We are however mightily encouraged by promising talks we are currently having with some of the major players in the arts/cultural area.

I remain convinced that there are enough dedicated supporters of the arts in Banyule, Manningham, Nillumbik, Whittlesea and Yarra who understand that a magazine devoted to promoting the arts and culture of this region is unique and worth being a part of.

A rtstreams would like to salute two wonderful people who have left us in recent days. Leon Saper was a wonderful potter and a warm and genuine friend to those who were lucky enough to know him.

For all those years that he provided a cheery presence at St Andrews Market as he engaged in intense conversation and sold his beautiful pots he never betrayed a trace of bitterness about his difficult youth.

Leon survived the Nazi occupation of Europe. He was the first to admit that being in hiding through those years was not as bad as being in a concentration camp but both he and his friends who survived the camps know that neither were the 'easy option'.

His optimism and love for his fellow man was an inspiration to all who knew him. He knew how to get over it and move on.

Shelton Lea was a friend of mine and a supporter of what I try to achieve. More importantly he was a great poet and a tireless advocate for the art of poetry. Many are the poetry venues that remain grateful to Shelly for his support and many are the young poets who remain grateful for the encouragement he gave them.

Shelley was an inspiration to many, not only through his poetry but because he knew better than most how to take life by the scruff of the neck and give it a good shake. Shelton Lea will never be remembered as one who did not go in hard enough.

Artstreams takes pleasure in welcoming the following institutions as 'partners' in it's task of promoting and supporting the arts and culture of the North Eastern region of Melbourne.

LA TROBE UNIVERSITY - MONTSALVAT - THOMPSONS PHARMACY WELLERS RESTAURANT - BRIDGES OF HURSTBRIDGE
HURSTBRIDGE AND DISTRICTS COMMUNITY BANK - BUNDOORA HOMESTEAD ART CENTRE - DYNAMIC VEGIES - ELTHAM GOURMET POULTRY & GAME - WARRANDYTE CAFE SAMSON HILL ESTATE - GET REAL ORGANICS

Richmond 3121

- A History by Daniel Moynihan and Anthony Figallo

by Peter Dougherty

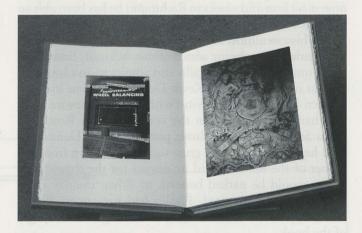
ne way or another it seems that the lives of Daniel Moynihan and Anthony Figallo were destined to be linked. Anthony Figallo is an artist who concentrates on drawings, canvas constructions, photography and visual poetry while Daniel Moynihan focuses on drawing, painting, print making and artists' books.

Daniel Moynihan was born in West Heidelberg and as a keen sports participant and fan was able to spend all his after school time during the 1956 Olympic Games watching the athletes training in the Olympic Village. The images and romance of athletic pursuit absorbed during those sessions continue to appear in his work to this day. Although very few of his school friends would follow the same path, Moynihan went on to study art at Preston Technical College.

Tony Figallo was born in Malta and raised in Sunshine. He completed a preliminary year of art studies at Footscray Technical College at a time when there was very little art activity in that part of the world. His family had had a strong connection to the arts through several generations so he cannot remember a time when he was not acutely aware of art. He points out that anybody in the 'west' walking about with an art folio in those days was a rare sight indeed. Figallo went on to further study at Preston Institute of Technology in 1964 and 1965 where he met Daniel Moynihan. Unfortunately, he had to leave in second year for family reasons but not before he had collaborated on a mural project designed by Moynihan. They also worked together creating images for institute publications. Figallo spent some years working in graphic design, photography, exhibition design and gallery design before he returned to Preston to complete his diploma. Moynihan went on to RMIT and eventually combined painting, printmaking and lecturing. Though they met and collaborated intermittently in the following years, in1996 they discovered that they had more in common than creating images. They were both living in Richmond and their friendship and further artistic collaborations grew from there. They remain patriotic residents of Richmond where Moynihan has his printmaking studio and from where the artists' book, Richmond 3121 was created. The book is an artistic venture in which the collaboration runs deeper than putting their work together in a joint project. Moynihan has utilized photographic techniques in his work and Figallo has embraced printmaking techniques in the creation of his photographic images. He produces etchings from computer manipulated photographic images via photopolymer plates; some of them require the combining of a number of photographic images.

So determined was Moynihan to have a photographic image of an FJ Holden in *The Mechanic* that he hunted down a suitable car in original condition and used an extremely complex transfer method to place it on the





Top: Daniel Moynihan's *W.A 'Bill' Johnston* 38 x 28.5cm Above: The book

hoist among the other mechanical symbols of Richmond's past.

The resulting artists book, *Richmond 3121* is a limited edition large format book of prints that in their own idiosyncratic way tell the story of Richmond; a story that combines the history and the constantly evolving everyday



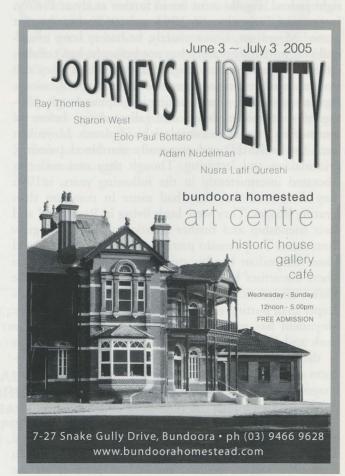
Daniel Moynihan's A Tribute to Captain Blood 38 x 28.8cm

reality of modern Richmond. Both artists have taken the opportunity to interpret the history and topography of Richmond to reflect their own artistic visions and fantasies. Daniel Moynihan could be said to have an obsession with a different kind of tiger not so readily associated with Richmond. Throughout his career, in his studio in Hurstbridge; at Phillip Institute; while studying in Paris; while painting and drawing at Wilson's Promontory and now as he lives and works in Richmond he has been able to spot Tasmanian tigers where no others could. They appear somewhere in almost every body of work he produces. He has managed to bring some of his beloved Tasmanian tigers into the project. Figallo also admits to an obsession. He has incorporated his Kevin Dennis obsession into the project. In the 1960s, Kevin Dennis had a renowned second hand car business on the corner of Punt Road and Swan Street. As Figallo drove past the Kevin Dennis car yard he regularly saw the great tiger sign leaping from the corner of the building and he prayed for the day when a Jaguar would be parked beneath it. When the day came and the Jaguar appeared, Figallo had his camera handy and snapped one of the images that now graces the pages of the book.

Those who have the opportunity to leaf through *Richmond 3121* will find it populated by a football player - a tribute to Captain Blood; Richmond and test cricket bowler Bill Johnstone and other colourful characters who have inhabited Richmond throughout its history. They will also find images of just about every building and structure that can reasonably be described as a Richmond icon.

As one peruses the images with the artists, their connection to the subject matter becomes clearer. Broad vistas of Richmond such as the centre spread, depicting the view from one of the artist's doctor's window are alive with cameo representations of people, buildings and other objects that help to tell the story. This image here is the house of a friend with whom Moynihan played Betont; that house was the home of author Peter Mather and another was the home of Mary Rogers. A mother of four, Rogers was a true believer and the first woman in Australia to become a municipal councillor. She features in C.R. Mrs. Mary Rogers J.P., a renaissance inspired etching that depicts her life and achievements. Corroboree Tree looks even further back into history and bridges the gap with an acknowledgment of the barrier erected to protect it from vandals. Moynihan expresses optimism through a man clinging to the tree. His hands consist of leaves from surrounding trees, symbolising new life.

Figallo's Fashion Clearance employs chine collé, a medium via which printed matter is incorporated into the etching process to refer to the clearance houses and coffee shops that have replaced many of the traditional businesses of the area. The chine collé element of the image consists of dress making patterns and antique planning maps. Death by Number revisits the theme as a dead bird, a street map and a fragment of an industrial fan intone for all the businesses that have died or outgrown Richmond. Mario and the Meatworks also celebrates things gone by. Mario was a well-known Richmond character who featured in Moynihan's paintings. The artist has not seen him for some years. In the etching he is seated on his custom built, hand operated tricycle in front of the old meatworks. The sheds depicted, were of particular archi-





Tony Figallo *Peace and Prosperity* 27.5 x 19.5cm. Right: *Swan Tyres* 20.5 x 13.5cm

tectural and historical interest but unfortunately they have been demolished. Mario sits facing a Tasmanian tiger.

While Figallo bemoans the passing, Moynihan celebrates the new. Using etching, aquatint and *chine colle*, *The Table* acknowledges the street market and the restaurants of the region. *The Room*, by Moynihan depicts a couple sitting in the special window area of a Richmond coffee shop. It recognises the myriad of coffee shops and cafés for which Richmond is now renowned, many of which became the bases from which the project was launched.

Dimmeys Emporium, the Pelaco factory, the Rosella cannery, Richmond Baths, Richmond Town Hall, Smorgon's meatworks, the Richmond Cricket (footy)

or by email Tony. Trembath@nillumbik.vic.gov.au



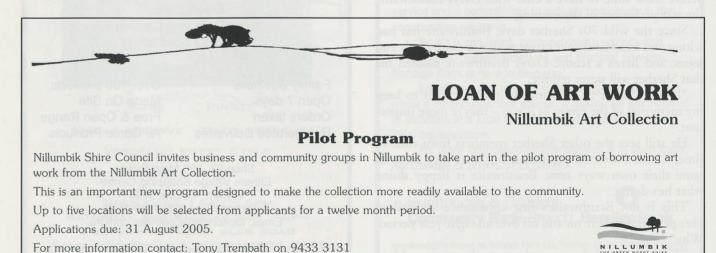
Ground and the Skipping Girl sign in its various forms are all there. The book documents the history of Richmond but it is not just an historical document. It is the work of two artists who could not have put it together without putting their own personal stamp on it.

The variety and complexity of the images to be found in the book are matched by the techniques employed in creating them. Embossing, photo etch, hard

ground, soft ground, aquatint, transfer, lift ground, sugar lift aquatint, open bite, dry point, engraving, hand roulette, scrapping, burnishing, hand colouring and *chine collé* using antique planning maps all find their way onto the pages of *Richmond 3121*.

Fastidious attention to detail is the hallmark of this limited edition volume. It starts with the embossed end papers featuring contour maps of Richmond. Every image is placed with consideration of its facing image where applicable or of the image backing it. Impressions are not allowed to intrude through the page and careful consideration was given to what processes were suitable to print back to back. The Technical considerations are almost as important as the artistic.

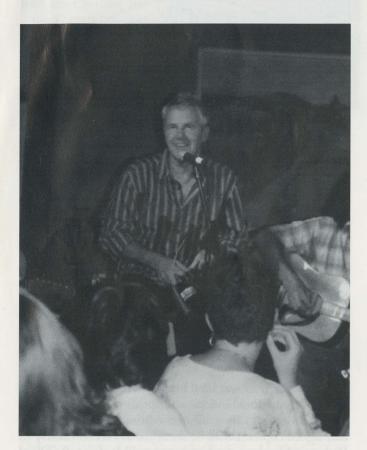
Richmond 3121 was hard bound in Richmond by Irwin & McLaren Bookbinders and printed in Moynihan's Richmond studio in a limited edition of 23 numbered and signed copies. It will be launched at Pivotal Gallery in Richmond on June 4 when a copy will be formally gifted to the City of Yarra. There will be an exhibition of framed, individual prints from the book, a copy of which will be on view.



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Daryl Braithwaite Rocks Up at Wellers

by Fiona Sievers



There was a buzz of excitement in the air at Wellers on Wednesday, April 27. The dining area was packed with people enjoying their three course meals while waiting for the show to begin. I arrived a little before show time to have a chat with Daryl Braithwaite, the star performer of the evening.

Since the wild 70s Sherbet days, Braithwaite has had a long and successful solo career with new songs, cds and tours; and here's a scoop: Darvl Braithwaite assured me that Sherbet will never reunite.

"It could never be the same as it was. I want to keep my memories of the group as it was - they're more impor-

He still sees the other Sherbet members from time to time, Garth Porter in particular, but that they have all gone their own ways now. Braithwaite is happy doing

This is not Braithwaite's first appearance at Wellers. He's performing here on and off over an eight-year period.

"The crowd and the atmosphere are always great. I love the ambiance. And the setting is fantastic - with all the natural timbers and magnificent views. Not to mention

Incidentally, he recommended the risotto. The band normally features three other members: David Collins on acoustic guitar and Geoffrey Wells on electric guitar. The drummer, John Corniola was absent on this occasion.

The interview went well. Afterwards, I muscled my way to the bar area to secure a position with a clear view of the stage. The bar was full of friendly, love-sick, thirtysomething women, all waiting for the show to begin. Braithwaite casually walked onto the stage. He looked pleased by the screams and applause. The band followed him on stage and began to play, launching into song with no introductions. Braithwaite chatted between songs and sets and had the audience laughing. He looked comfortable and in control. The well-tuned working relationship with the other band members was subtly apparent by the

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knowing looks and glances that indicated the starts and endings of songs and music.

People seated at the tables were a little restricted in their movement. The bubbly bunch at the bar couldn't contain themselves and about five songs in, started singing and bopping. The group on the table beside me couldn't stand missing the action; they gave up their seats to join the boppers at the bar. The bar staff joined in. It was an amazing atmosphere. There was no crowd surfing - nothing too crazy - just clean, old-fashioned fun.

Braithwaite gave the crowd a mix of material, from the Sherbet days, and his early solo career, to his latest work. He sang the ever-popular Horses and even sang a James Reyne song. At 56 years old, Braithwaite has aged gracefully. His greying hair adds to his boyish looks. His voice is more powerful than it has ever been. And he is so charming. This was live music at its best - no pre-recorded, manufactured stuff. Just a good honest performance, and the crowd couldn't get enough.

There was an encore, to the sound of stamping feet and repeated calls for more. Then it was over and people began to leave. The rowdy group at the bar stayed on. A few minutes later Braithwaite appeared and began mingling, chatting to the loiterers. He was very obliging, signing autographs and posing for photos. The owner, Stephanie, confirmed my impression that he is a 'really nice guy'. A few stayed and had a drink with Stephanie, discussing the events of the night and checking out the moon over the hills of Kangaroo Ground. She was really pleased with the success of the evening - a fantastic night.

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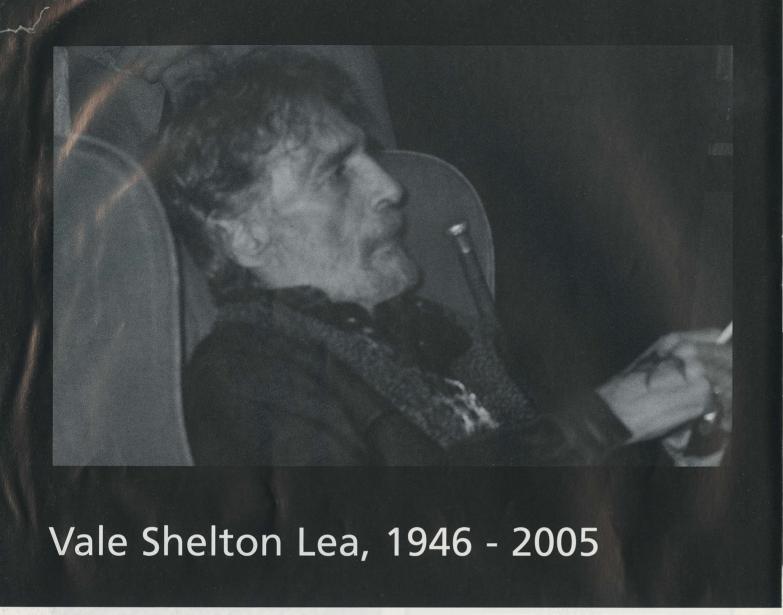
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6 ARTSTREAMS JUNE/JULY 2005



by Ian McBryde

As ad milestone was reached on Friday, May 13, with the passing of seminal Melbourne poet Shelton Lea. Lea was diagnosed with cancer several months ago, but its rapid assault on his health took him from us earlier than had been anticipated.

Lea's ninth poetry collection, "Nebuchadnezzar", published by Mebourne's Black Pepper Press, was released and launched just eight days before his death. The huge crowd of over two hundred and fifty fellow-poets, musicians, artists, friends, and admirers pressed shoulder to shoulder at the Rochester Castle in Fitzroy, a venue that saw the nascent birth of Melbourne's then fledgling spoken-word and poetry scene. Lea, along with many other Melbourne poets, made the Rochester the place to be on Saturday afternoons during the 1970s and 80s, and as this venue was long a favourite gig of Lea's, he felt it fitting that the launch be held there. People came from not only all across Melbourne, but from Adelaide, Sydney, and Darwin to be present for this remarkable event. The night was MC'd by Black Pepper publisher Kevin Pearson, and Lea's new col-

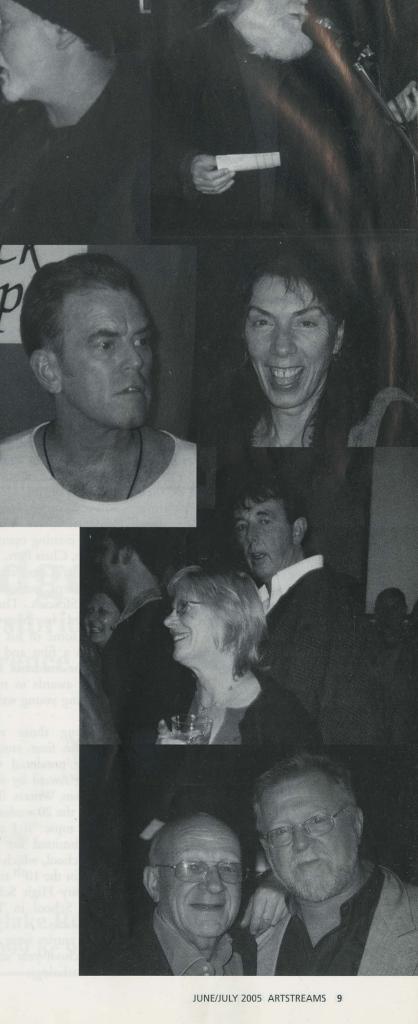
lection was adroitly launched by Dorothy Porter. Several poets who had long been associated with Lea then each read a poem from "Nebuchadnezzar". The absolute highlight of the evening was Lea reading an excerpt from the title poem of the collection, to thunderous applause.

Lea was long an avid supporter of Australian poetry, always giving generously of his time and expertise to countless budding poets. A hugely captivating performer of his own work, he cut a dashing figure in the Melbourne scene. Many of his previous eight books are now, sadly, out of print, especially the classic "Peach Melba Hat", however this fine new collection highlights a career of street-wise yet tender work that has always challenged and delighted the reader.

The work in "Nebuchadnezzar" shows an artist at the top of his form, from the quiet pathos of the poems on his adoption and challenging formative years through to delightful vignettes on fish and nature. There are poems about Lea's time in prison, through to pieces dedicated to fellow artists such as Barrett Reid and others. And

of course there are many poems dealing with various aspects of Lea's beloved Fitzroy. This is an incredibly well-rounded book, moving through from start to finish with the verve and immediacy and elegance that Lea was well-known and respected for. It is a fitting finale for a remarkable career, although there are plans afoot for a selected/collected book of the breadth of Lea's work in the future.

Lea was laid to rest in a private ceremony for family and friends, but in the near future there will be a more public wake/gathering to enable all who loved and respected Lea to come together and celebrate his life, details to be announced soon. Do not miss out on the opportunity to visit one of Melbourne's better bookstores, such as Collected Works in the city, and pick up a copy of "Nebuchadnezzar", a fine and vital crown to a unique and distinguished career. And wherever you are now, Shelley old friend, keep scatting, hogging the joints, being insolent to the angels, and laughing the laugh that none of us who loved you can ever forget. Sail on, Brother.



artin'about

angaroo Ground poet and has combined his poetical and artistic ideas in Recent Paintings, an exhibition hanging at Montsalvat till

The work represents a brave effort that extends the artist's ideas and electric violin and pizzicato cello to black and white with mottled luster moves them into a new dimension. evoke an eerie, mysterious landscape colour and crackle glaze finishes are The scale and grandeur of gesture is and Gypsy Song employed a mandolin surely designed to be experienced engaging if not overwhelming. Most works are between one and two metres square. In a space age setting with metaphysical overtones his human ing problem The use of a ukulele viofigures are at times ambiguous. They lin and cello created a lively evocation move between realism and stylization of the sea side and assured us that she and don't always do justice to his proven rendering skills. The work does however reach out to express big artistic visions and represents progress toward Burns' ultimate goals.

Itham artist, David Manson indicates in his current exhibition at the Eltham Library Community Gallery that he is committed to the adventure of painting before the effort of representing the ever released, the Eltham High School outside world.

engaging oil and oil/acrylic paintings artistic achievements of the school's lies in Manson's use of space, shape and colour. The colours often indicate an interest in Fauvist painting. Kath Shadow uses an interesting sympathy of forms and Portrait in Blue and Woman in Green demonstrate a capacity to express character with minimal physiological detail. Unfortunately the design of the gallery discourages visitors from viewing works from a ence. suitable distance. that distance is successful tonal substitutes. Hanging till May 24.

Mathew Arnold, violin; Jenny Rowlands, cello and Anthony Leonard, vocals, keyboard, guitar, mandolin and ukulele come together they form Free Reign. On Sunday, May 8 they presented a programme of Leonard's original compositions at Artstreams Gallery in

Among their offerings was A painter, Jules Christian Burns Desperate Man, that starts simply with guitar grows with the addition of the violin and blossoms into an orchestral sound as the cello enters while Leonard sings of the desperate mans as utilitarian items, some could be put struggle with alcohol. Bunyip used an to use. The cool, aesthetic designs in to move from wild celebratory music rather than used. The platter, bowl to the most soulful sounds of Gypsy poetry. Seaweed Sally also has a drinkeniovs her carva.

> The overall feel of the concert was in June. one of very accessible music that resonates with the enchantment of chamber music to accompany the lyrical, humourous and at times dramatic

keenly anticipated annual event took place in the Long Gallery, Montsalvat on April 28. If I am anthology of student writing was Lady Sings, a tribute to the late Doris The attraction in many of these launched during a celebration of the students.

The evening opened with a set by jazz trio, Chris Port, Kent Ohanessian Waits reads successfully on an abstract and Asher Carter and continued with level with its interesting juxtaposition a confident performance by singer of shapes and its colour unity. Man in Shelly Sforcina. The anthology was launched by Mac Gudgeon who shared some of his extensive experience as a film and television writer with the students. He went on to present awards to many of the very promising young writers in the audi-

Among those receiving awards needed to appreciate that Manson's were the four students who were use of 'chaotic' colour translates into recently presented with a National Writing Award by the Fellowship of Australian Writers. They were representing the 20 students whose writing Then Warrandyte musicians, on the topic "If I am ever released" was submitted for judging. Eltham High School, which has now won an award for the 10th time was joined by University High School and Lahore Private School in Tasmania on the winners dais.

> The entries were all written in the 2004 school year and appear in the 2005 anthology.

Teramicist, Judy Roberts showed a collection of her Iraku work at the Nillumbik Shire Office early in May.

Though the pieces are not created and vessel forms have a suggestion of the organic that takes us back to the Japanese and Korean tradition of ceramic.

Roberts will show a selection of her raku work in Artstreams Gallery

The professional writing and editing course at Northern Institute of TAFE has gone into the publishing business. Flat Chat Press, a non-profit organization is publishing a wide variety of books and other literary materials.

Appropriately, the first offering from Flat Chat Press is The Fat



Leadbetter. Doris Leadbetter who Her carefully rendered and intricately as the eldest of eight children she had died in November 2004 was a fine poet and an inspiring teacher. Much of the defiantly funny poetry is really quite tragic. Almost the last entry is is less defined. The blurred images titled 'What the Stars Foretell': Bugger all. A joke, perhaps?

The second book, A Rosebush Grabs My Sleeve features the haiku poetry of Myron Lysenko. Lysenko whose work and a lot of wisdom can be condensed into approximately seventeen poetry, more extended works and of strong, vibrant colours. some haiku.

anton Hill artists, Kristin Polglaze and Maitre Ray are at Chapman & Bailey Gallery in Abbotsford to present 'Divine Unrest'. The two painters have chosen very different approaches to interpret the role dance plays in their lives.

Polglaze's oil paintings of belly dancers hold back on colour a bit to emphasize the sensual form and line

detailed works express the exotic grace of the dance. A second series is executed in an alla prima style and movement.

Ray's work is imbued with the spirit of folk art. Her use of colour and composition suggest an influence has received critical acclaim in Japan of Indian painting traditions. She reminds us that a lot of observation often sacrifices biological accuracy in the quest to express the movement and excitement of tango, flamenco syllables. Winning and Losing Again, and traditional Indian dancing. The also by Lysenko consists of concrete folk art aspect is reinforced by the use

She was a science graduate in ✓the 1960s and had been teachsharing the exhibition space ing chemistry in a technical school. During the Cultural Revolution, she was "retrained" as a textile factory worker, but later became a textile designer in 1974. She retired in 1995 after 21 years in the job, and migrated to Australia to be with her children in

that is integral to the dance form. nity to study art in her youth because, and bipolar affective disorder.

to help provide for them.

In Australia she studied English. One day, seeing some petals lying on the ground she collected and dried abandon detail as they seek to capture them to make a thank you card for her teacher. When the card caught attention and earned considerable praise she decided to do more and the end result is 'Nature's Inspiration' a body of work that is now showing in Artstreams Gallery at 63 Yarra Street Warrandyte.

n exhibition, featuring a selection of works from the Cunningham Dax collection of art was shown at Bundoora iuxian Feng, was born in China. Homestead Art Centre in April and May. Dr. Cunningham Dax who worked in the mental health area in Melbourne in the 1950s and 60s encouraged his patients to paint. He used the process as therapy and the product to gain an understanding of the patients' problems. The exhibits were accompanied by texts that indicate the specific problems associated with them and offered a clarification Liuxian was denied the opportu- of terms such as mania, depression



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A section of the gallery is devoted to an exhibition of paintings from Splash Art studio. These works are vibrant, uninhibited and honestly expressive of the artists' emotions.

The monthly Courthouse compositions. Poetry Readings in Eltham continue to feature some of Ian McBryde were featured as invited readers. The contrast could not have been stronger. Stubbs gave a hilarious performance of poetry that spoke of family relationships and domestic disasters. "Unfathomable"," uncategorisable" and "unpredictable" have all been used to describe her writing and performing style. McBride utilizes the sophisticated tools of verse writing to explore the darker side of the human the peoples of Europe during WW2.

Jules Burns, James Waller, Mark Kennedy on drums and Jimmy Janet Boddy, Sue Stanford, Toby Davidson and Joan Scott contribut-

ed through the open reading while variety with some guitar and vocal

The May reading featured a tribute to the late Shelton Lea. Convenor; the most highly regarded poets on the Helen Lucas took the opportunity Melbourne scene. They also give the to read from his newly published not so recognised poets a forum to test volume, Nebuchadnezzar. West their work in a friendly, relaxed atmo- Australian import, Toby Davidson sphere. In April, Yvette Stubbs and and Melbourne poet, Jennifer Harrison were the featured readers.

> egular Sunday afternoon performer at St Andrews Hotel, presentation. Long known as a solo create vibrant, glowing colourscapes singer/songwriter/pianist, Cowan is that conjure up the visual experience now leading a sextet.

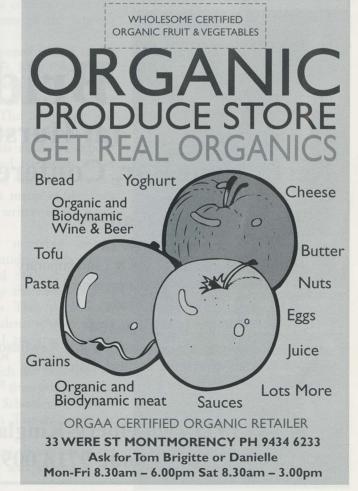
for a crowded house of wildly enthu- of colours present the artist's unique siastic fans. Cowan produces a lot of interpretation of has subject matter psyche. Material from "Domain", his horsepower with a deep, raspy and and leaves room for the viewer to read fourth collection of poetry featured engaging voice and powerful keyboard them as they wish. A lack of attenin his selection. It attempts to make hands when he performs alone. With tion to compositional possibility has sense of the tremendous suffering of help from Gavin Andrews and Geoff Wright on guitars, Joe Imbroll on bass, being far less engaging.

Sloggett on saxophone he whips up a storm. Sunday saw him produce a string of his own blues tinged ballads Libby and Titia Stubbs added more before he finished up with an ode to Elvis and an all stops out rendition of 'You can't always get what you want'.

> urstbridge artist, Ron Bailey recently showed a collection of watercolour and gouache works at the Tony Smibert Gallery, Evelyn County Estate, Kangaroo Ground. The subject matter included landscapes, both local and from further afield.

It is not where the paintings were executed that makes them attractive Andy Cowan has beefed up his but how. Bailey has used his brush to of the landscape rather than record On Sunday, April 10 he performed it. At their best, the flowing mixtures resulted in a series of flower studies

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Gallery at Montsalvat in April.

cess, Bohuslay creates small images directly from traditional African art. on canvas. They depict a collision His works in acrylic, ink and charcoal of her devotion to painting and a philosophical search for unity. The encaustic wax process gives the work a translucency that helps to depict the "curiosity and search" that are part of Bohuslav's journey. The subject matter has a habit of dissolving into clouds of subtle colour. It is imbedded in the painting rather than dominating it. The exhibition is both beautiful to look at and intriguing as one seeks to read the philosophical aims of the artist. Bohuslav will hang a series of her paintings in Artstreams Gallery during June.

oe Malatji and Sutueal Bekele Althe, two African artists exhibited 'Silent Voices' at Manningham Gallery in April. Apart from being pathetically arranged forms suggest from Africa, the only thing they have in common is the fact that their work is engaging and visually excit-

Journey Within, a body of encausisk known in this region for his work tic wax/oil paintings in the Long with 'Thula Sana'. Malatji was born in Mahlabatse, South Africa in 1952. Using the exacting wax oil pro- Mainly self-taught, his art grows are crowded with colourful, mask like faces speaking of love, hope fear and all the emotions that make up the human condition. Like so much South African art, his paintings ring with the songs of life.

Sutueal Bekele Althe was born in Addis Abeba, Ethiopia in 1974. He began painting from an early age and studied for a Diploma of Fine Art in 1989-91. He has painted professionally ever since. Enriched by numerous cultural influences, Bekele Althe's oil paintings remain, essentially North African and speak of love. Beginning with Ethiopian mosaics he draws on the ideas of cubism and creates beautifully composed tableaux that, with their dynamic rhythms of syma reference to Giotto. His use of earth colours picked out with strong

ean Bohuslav exhibited The ing. Malatji is also a musician. He primary colours contrive to create a renaissance style religiosity.

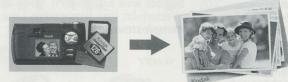
> ordie Albiston, Helen Lucas, the late Sandon McCloud, Ian McBryde and Geoffrey Eggleston are but a few of the poets, together with a smattering of other celebrities who are featured in an exhibition at Collingwood Gallery in Smith Street, Collingwood.

> Over the last 18 months, Raffaella Torresan has painted 116 portraits. The subjects are invariably painted in profile and accompanied by a vase or pot of flowers of their own choice. Those who didn't bring flowers were provided with something from the artist's garden or in some cases a pineapple, a cactus and a bowl of bananas.

The likenesses captured in the portraits are very good, but the quality of the work over the whole canvas is what makes the exhibition satisfying. Torresan enthuses over a little piece of vegetation or some scrumbling on a wall as much as an eye or a nose when she speaks of where she thinks the got it right.



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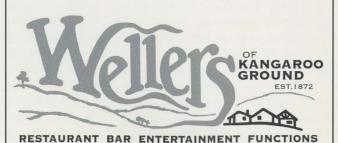
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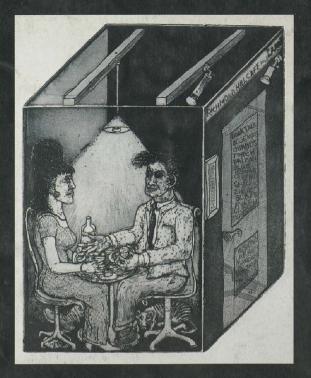
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