

Hawkesbury Regional Gallery Public Programs June—July

1 pm Sunday 21 June

Floor talk with Jules Boag, Exhibitions and Program Co-ordinator at Albury Art Gallery. Jules graduated from Charles Sturt University in 2000, with a Bachelor of Fine Arts, Photography Honours Degree. Jules is also a professional photographer and a university photography lecturer.

11 am Wednesday 24 June

Floor talk (GEMs and their guests) by HRG curator, Diana Robson. Light refreshments will be provided by gallery volunteers.

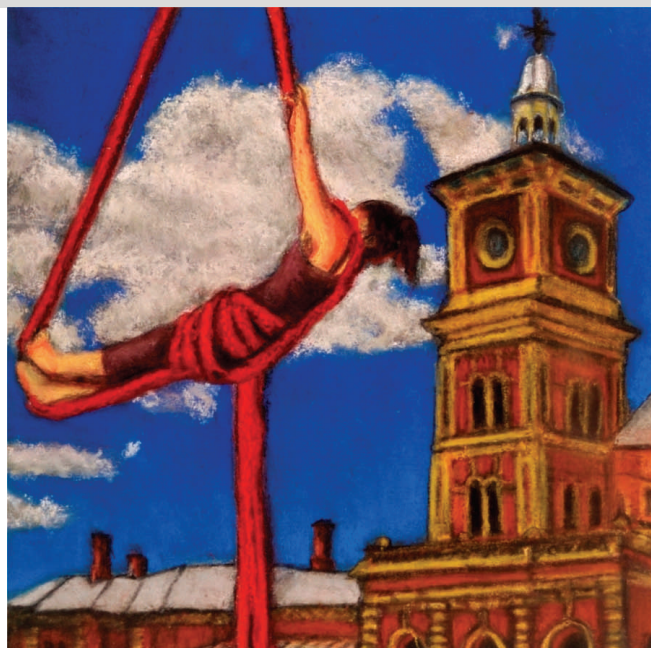
1 pm Sunday 12

Artist's talk with Nerissa Lea. Following studies at Windsor High School in the 1970s, Nerissa graduated with a Printmaking and Cinematography Degree from The South Australian School of Art in 1982. She has had numerous group and several solo exhibitions, and was the 2004 winner of the Portia Geach Portrait Prize (with her painting titled *The Sheik and Me, Self Portrait with Imagined Portrait of Chad Morgan after Frida Kahlo*). For the *Step Right Up!* Exhibition, she completed a set of nine pastel drawings on the circus theme as part of her ten-day residency with Albury Art Gallery. A DVD and slide show will be screened as part of Nerissa's talk.

1 pm Sunday 26 July

Open Forum. Come along and discuss your favourite work from *Step Right Up!* with gallery staff and members. This is a great way to develop your critical and analytical skills as well as confidence in your ability to talk about art in a meaningful way.

Free entry, all welcome.



Nerissa Lea, *Muscles of the Sky—Nine acts of ingenuity* (detail) pastel on paper 2007



Petrina Hicks, *Freya Edney # 1*
Polaroid photograph 2006



Hawkesbury Regional Gallery
Deerubbin Centre (1st Floor) 300 George Street Windsor T: 4560 4441
gallery@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au
Weekdays 10 am - 4 pm Weekends 10 am - 3 pm (closed Tuesdays and public holidays)

Background to *Step right up! The circus in Australian Art** by Rita Lazauskas, curator

The *Step Right Up* project began by offering ten contemporary Australian artists the opportunity to undertake a residency in Albury and immerse themselves in the world of the Flying Fruit Fly Circus. The works made about the 'Fruities' — as they are affectionately known — illustrate current concerns of narrative painting, sculpture, portrait and staged photography. They also give the Albury community and the circus an opportunity to see themselves through different eyes and to celebrate the achievements of both visual and performing artists.

In developing a broader exhibition exploring the 'Circus in Australian Art' we have aimed for more than just a simplistic selection of circus images by visual artists, pulled together because they have a common theme. The exhibition aims to offer intellectual access for a broad range of audiences from children to adults, from circus lovers to art lovers. The new residency works by leading Australian artists, coupled together with historic works from public and private collections, provide an exploration of how both traditional and contemporary art forms represent the circus on a psychological and symbolic level as well as the changing attitudes toward circus itself.



Robert Dickerson, *Blue Clown*, silkscreen
blue ink with hand colouring 662 x 510mm

Vessels of Hope—be part of a unique conceptual art project

In August and September we will be exhibiting *Vessels of Hope*, a tribute to convict women developed by conceptual artist Christina Henri. Christina's dream is to have 25,566 bonnets made, one for every woman transported to Australia. If you have a convict ancestor, Christina invites you to share your information on that woman's life and to make a bonnet with her name on it. If you have no female convict ancestry you can 'adopt' a convict woman to whom you feel drawn. Either way, you'll need the pattern, so contact the gallery and we'll give you one for free. Sewing bees will be held at the gallery on **Sunday 12 July and Sunday 19 July 10.30am—2.30pm**. Attendance is free, and you can use your own materials or buy a kit for \$10 (members \$5). Kits must be ordered and paid for by 30 June.

**Step right up! The circus in Australian Art* is an AlburyCity touring exhibition. Development funding provided by Arts NSW and AlburyCity. This exhibition is supported by Visions of Australia, an Australian Government program supporting touring exhibitions by providing funding assistance for the development and touring of Australian cultural material across Australia.



Australian Government
Visions of Australia



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