

**W**here did the first half of 2010 go? Here we are with a July edition of the Jarmbi Newsletter already, half the year gone, and an exciting line up of events and news from the Cultural Centre to share with you.

Since the last newsletter, in addition to our many regular music nights and a huge exhibition program we've also enjoyed some of our signature annual events: the Hillside Film Festival in February, Dandenong Ranges Open Studios in May and the Belgrave Lantern Parade in June. These events have witnessed excellent participation with inspiring and creative outcomes.

We have news on the forthcoming Burrinja and Café Gallery exhibitions, some fabulous music nights, and an update on the progress of the theatre building project.

We look forward to seeing you at Burrinja!

*Committee, Staff and Volunteers – Burrinja*

## Burrinja Gallery

Both Burrinja and the Cafe Galleries continue the year the way they began, with engaging exhibitions that come after a packed six-month program that has included *Station Rats and other Scum Bags*, *Vivid Visions*, 'Out of the Blue' Open Studios exhibition and solo shows from Steven Firman, Joy Serwylo, Noah Symons, Kirsten Laken and Sebastian Nicholas.

### Bill Henson: Early works from the MGA collection

30 July - 26 September 2010

*Bill Henson: early works from the MGA collection* offers audiences the opportunity to view some of the most powerful and beautiful photographs made by one of Australia's best-known contemporary photographers. This exhibition features twenty-nine exquisitely printed examples from many of Henson's major series from the 1970s through to the early 1990s, all drawn from Monash Gallery of Art's (MGA) collection.

Passionate discussions in Australia, especially the media, about Henson's work and what it says about the nature of art are ongoing. This exhibition at Burrinja offers a rare opportunity for local audiences to experience the diversity and complex materiality of Henson's work first hand, unhindered by the distortions of reproduction.



**Bill HENSON**  
**Untitled 1985–86**  
from a series of 154  
chromogenic print  
Monash Gallery of Art, City of Monash  
Collection: 1988.22

Henson prints his own work by hand, using chemicals and carefully chosen paper stock. The uneven surfaces of his early black-and-white works are a result of this wet process, and give the photographs a mysterious, almost alchemic quality. These material properties are not evident in reproductions of Henson's images.

The other aspect that is lost in reproduction is the physical difficulty of seeing Henson's pictures clearly. The darkness appeals to Henson's romantic sensibility, and he tends to let shadows obscure visual detail so that enigmas lurk at the threshold of perception. Viewers of this exhibition will find themselves drawn into an inscrutable visual space of shadows and deep, reflective blacks.

According to Dr Shaune Lakin, Director of MGA: "The exhibition includes some of Henson's most iconic works from the 1980s and 1990s and I'm delighted that visitors to Burrinja have the opportunity to see the works of this major Australian photographer from the MGA Collection".

Our Visual Arts Manager at Burrinja, Tilla Buden, says, "We are very pleased that Burrinja has the opportunity to host this important exhibition, and are looking forward to bringing this significant work to the Dandenong Ranges region. While many may have heard of Bill Henson, not all are familiar with his photographs, particularly his earlier work. This exhibition offers Burrinja Gallery visitors the opportunity to experience his work first hand, and to gain a greater understanding of his early output."

#### **GALLERY FLOORTALK - 11am Thursday 26th August**

Join exhibition curator Stephen Zagala for a guided floor talk. Gallery entry fees apply. Places are limited – bookings essential.

#### **WANT TO KNOW MORE?**

One of Burrinja's own gallery volunteers, Claire Lynch, has written an insightful essay about the way in which Henson's photographs inspired her own artistic practice: Bill Henson: articulating experience. The piece also addresses the polarizing affect that Henson's work tends to create:

*I... remember the first time I saw some of Henson's work. I would have been fifteen or sixteen years old and starting my VCE. I was around the age of the subjects and could relate, but also felt that perhaps, however human these images were, that they were bordering on dangerous territory. ... To me, and many others, Henson is able to articulate visually humanity and emotions. He shows what it is to be human...*

[To read the full essay, see our web site.](#)

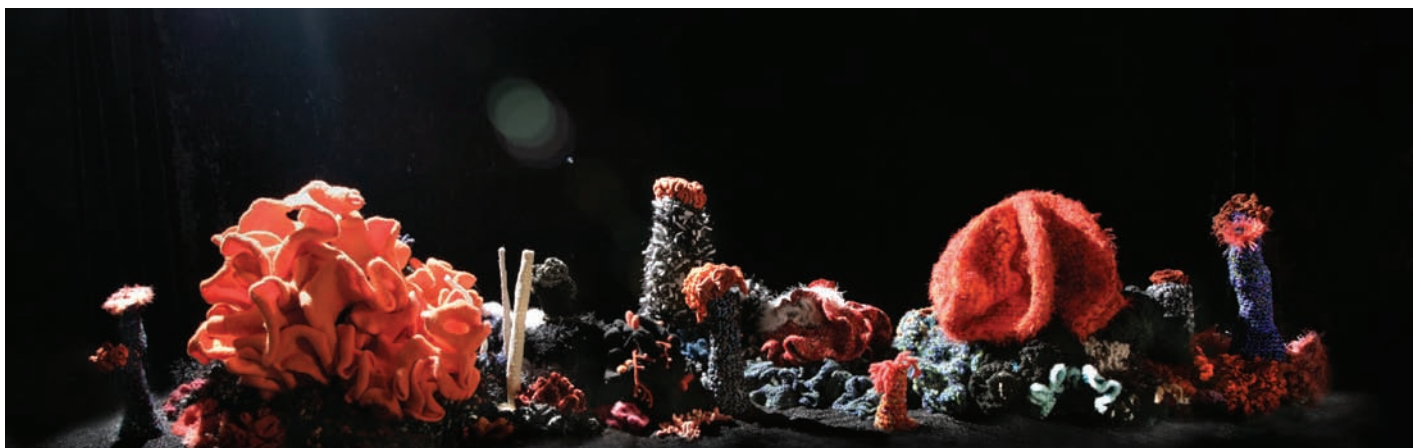
## **The Melbourne Satellite Reef Hyperbolic Crochet Coral Reef Project**

**8 October - 21 November 2010**

A Satellite of the worldwide Hyperbolic Crochet Coral Reef Project created by Margaret and Christine Wertheim of the Institute For Figuring in Los Angeles.

The Crochet Reef is a woolly celebration of the intersection of higher geometry and feminine handicraft, and a testimony to the disappearing wonders of the marine world. The Reef has spawned an international community of crafters, through whom this ecology continues to evolve. "Satellite Reefs" are now developing across the globe, including right here in Melbourne.

Come along to one of the Melbourne Reef workshops in the Burrinja Cafe. Discover what a hyperbolic plane is and how to crochet one. Learn how to use colour, shape, texture and size to full effect, and swap patterns and ideas. BYO crochet hook and yarn.



Regular workshops are held in the Burrinja Cafe on 4th Saturday of each month from 1-4pm. Check out the blog at [melbournesatellitereef.blogspot.com](http://melbournesatellitereef.blogspot.com)

For more information contact the Victorian Co-Ordinator Tracy Hayllar: e: [melbourne.satellite.reef@gmail.com](mailto:melbourne.satellite.reef@gmail.com)

## **Café Gallery**

The Café gallery continues its program of exciting contemporary and emerging local artists.

## **JENNY MAI HALL Going Down Town**

**14 July - 22 August 2010**



*Going Down Town is a beautiful exhibition of original hand crafted prints presenting recognizable everyday moments with grace and style. An exhibition like this shows us what we already know, in a manner that encourages us to notice what we don't.'*

Jenny Mai Hall's art practice explores the human condition voyeuristically within the context of 'the everyday'. The prints in this exhibition are images of people negating the busy streets of Melbourne.

Although the city streets are busy there is a sense of detachment and isolation. The prints are all original prints of a limited edition. This means all the prints have been printed in a traditional manner using printers ink and a manual printing press.

**Exhibition Opening Event - 6pm Sunday 18th July**  
With live music! All welcome - entry is free.  
Dinner Bookings: Burrinja Cafe 9754 5707

## **DO YOU HAVE AN EXHIBITION IDEA?**

Burrinja is now accepting proposals for our 2011 exhibition program in the soon to be renovated Jambri Gallery, and the Burrinja Cafe Gallery space. Proposals are invited from artists, groups and curators working across all mediums.

Simply complete the application form and submit your proposal by Monday 23rd August 2010.

For more information see the application pack on-line, <http://bit.ly/duoWs> or contact Tilla Buden, Visual Arts Manager to discuss your ideas on 9754 8723.

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## Music & More...

**Kutchu Edwards**  
**yuyukatha**

Friday July 16



In *yuyukatha*, award-winning singer-songwriter Kutchu Edwards weaves songs and stories together to recount his life's story. He shares his insights about reconciliation and the true meaning of being "Australian".

"The main message of *yuyukatha* is that through adversity there is hope," says Edwards. "Life is about opportunity, and this is an opportunity for my mob and non-indigenous mobs to see this production and hear the message."

Joined by performers Andrew McSweeney and Tonchi McIntosh, Edwards tells the audience of his experience of the stolen generations as seen through the eyes of someone taken from the banks of the Murrumbidgee River as a young child.

He says he hopes *yuyukatha* will encourage people to share their history with others.

"I would hope that other stolen generations members who see *yuyukatha* find the courage to tell their stories."

Edwards was named NAIDOC Indigenous Person of the Year 2001-2002 and won Best Male Artist at the 2001 Deadly Awards. He is well known from appearances on RockWiz, at WOMAD and the Perth International Arts Festival. He has recorded two CDs, *Coinda* and *Hope*.

Burrinja Café is the perfect relaxed and intimate venue for this show. Enjoy a pre-show dinner or drinks in a cosy setting.

**When :** Friday July 16, 2010, 8.00pm  
**Tickets :** \$29 Adult, \$24 Jarmbi/Conc  
**Bookings :** Burrinja, 9754 8723  
**Dinner :** From 6pm. Dinner bookings 9754 5707  
**Where :** Burrinja Café 351 Glenfern Rd Upwey

## Music in Burrinja Café

Burrinja Café continues to grow its long tradition of presenting great live music in the hills.

### Blues & Roots @ Burrinja

The Second Friday of every month – Blues and Roots at Burrinja is a recent, thriving addition to the regular music line up. Dutch Tilders has just played to packed house, and next up it is Phil Manning on August 13. \$10 entry. Meals and bar available all night. Book early for a guaranteed great night out!

### Burrinja/Ranges Folk Club

This hugely popular night continues on the last Friday of every month. July's band is The Perriwinkles. \$10 entry. Check: [www.rangesburrinjafolk.org](http://www.rangesburrinjafolk.org) for further information.

You can also keep up-to-date with Burrinja events and happenings on our Burrinja Facebook page!



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## Performing Arts Centre Update

### Building Progress

It is exciting to now see the auditorium itself start to 'come out of the ground'. The major support pillars are in, the first pre-cast panels installed and form work is in place for the stage level floor.

A key cause of celebration has been the emergence of the lift well, which will finally provide the cultural centre with full disability access to the first floor performance, rehearsal and community spaces.

Internally the renovations to the existing building are well advanced. It is a fabulous experience to walk through the framed walls for four dressing rooms, new public facilities, new administration, a green room, and much more as the plans become reality. Externally, the completion of extended parking and upgrades to Matson Drive have been welcome.

Progress photos of all the works are on the [Burrinja Facebook page](#)

### A Vision for the new Theatre

A new Strategic Vision for the theatre envisages a totally integrated arts experience. Burrinja will actively seek and facilitate partnerships and relationships with existing and future performing arts groups, and community and touring productions. The centre will continue to focus on the facilitation of community arts and stakeholder involvement through its performing arts programming.

*Enable : Event : Engage: Educate*

The '4 E's' framework integrates and extends Burrinja's existing four key activity areas: Arts, Performance, Education and Community, and furthers Burrinja's mission statement: *'Building Community through Arts'*. The framework is designed to enable and encourage experiential and extended performance 'events' through a range of activities.

## Programming

With only twelve months to go until the opening of the new 400 seat theatre at Burrinja the community can look forward to a raft of new programs and activities that further engage the entire region in events that inspire. A range of touring and community-based programs are currently under consideration for the opening season, with exciting prospects on the horizon.

## Bookings Open Soon

The theatre will become home to many of the local schools and other organizations that will finally be able to access a quality, purpose-built performance venue 'on the mountain'. With the opening just a year away booking, ticketing and other systems are now being finalized. Venue hire bookings will be open shortly.

## Art of Place Indigenous Cultural Garden

A key element of the development is the cultural education garden that will better integrate the redeveloped arts centre with its surrounding environment, creating a space that allows visitors to expand their experience of Indigenous culture from the Burrinja Collection to this landscaped 'Art of Place'.

This project too is now well advanced. AQL Landscape Design and Sinatra-Murphy have been appointed to coordinate the project. They have facilitated a number of inspiring workshops with the Indigenous and local community and stakeholders that has developed the project vision into schematic design concepts.

## Public Fund update

We have set a target of \$90,000 for our fundraising in order to purchase the audiovisual equipment necessary to fit out the theatre. To date over \$24,000 has been generously donated to the Burrinja Public Fund by Foundation donors: from individual supporters to schools and local businesses. This support is greatly appreciated. All donations to the Burrinja Public Fund are tax deductible, and donations of \$200 or more will be acknowledged with a theatre seat plaque recognizing your support, giving you an on-going stake in the region's new theatre.

You can keep up-to-date with the project via 'New Performing Arts Venue' on the [Burrinja website](#), or via our Burrinja Facebook Page.

## Burrinja Gallery & Café STAY OPEN during building

Look out for our usual regular event updates, or drop in for a coffee or a meal and visit the gallery.

### Events @ Burrinja

Check our Events Listings or on the web for all event, music, exhibition and workshop details. The Burrinja Events page is *updated weekly*:  
[www.burrinja.org.au](http://www.burrinja.org.au)

## People at Burrinja

A number of changes are taking place at Burrinja as we head towards a new operational structure. Regrettably, due to these changes Suzanne Hewett's position at the cultural centre has ended. Everyone at Burrinja would like to thank Suzanne for the eleven years of service she has given to the Dandenong Ranges Community Cultural Centre Inc, and the work that she achieved during that significant period of establishment and growth. We wish Suzanne every success and happiness for the future.

### Committee of Management

Louis Delacretaz	<i>President</i>
Paul O'Halloran	<i>Vice President</i>
Sue Amico	<i>Treasurer</i>
Sid Lawrence	<i>Secretary</i>
Rachel Burke	<i>Project Control Group, Theatre</i>
Elizabeth Conolloy	<i>Art of Place garden</i>
Kieran Dennis	<i>Youth Arts, BCAP</i>
Mary Fitz-Gerald	<i>Education</i>
Stax	<i>Music</i>

### Staff

Ross Farnell	<i>Executive Officer</i>
Tilla Buden	<i>Visual Arts Manager</i>
Tracy Hallyar	<i>Weekend Duty Manager, Coordinator volunteers</i>
Angie Morris	<i>Weekend Duty Manager</i>
Steve Wickenton	<i>Audio/Visual House Tech</i>

### Volunteers

Up to 20 volunteers give generously of their time and skills to assist Burrinja in delivering its programs, with everything from reception and administration to driving supported residents to our weekly arts therapy groups. This valuable contribution is now being augmented with volunteer Gallery Attendants and Gallery Guides. Anyone interested in joining our dedicated group of volunteers should contact Tracy Hallyar at Burrinja.

Burrinja would like to thank its key partners for their ongoing support:



## Contact Burrinja

P: 9754 8723

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W: [www.burrinja.org.au](http://www.burrinja.org.au)