

GALLERY SUNSHINE EVERYWHERE

2011 REPORT

Looking back at 2011 we've held 16 exhibitions.

These have included work from three western suburban preschools (Dorothy Carlton, Fairbairn Road and Sunshine South), five primary schools (Mackellar, Western English Language School, Albanvale, St Albans North and Sydenham Hillside) and two secondary schools (Marian College and Sunshine College: Ardeer Campus,) and for the first time, TAFE. The Victoria University TAFE Project told the stories of the educational pathways of recently arrived immigrants and was facilitated by Dr Karen Charman in conjunction with and the Immigration Museum.

Eight local artists were featured during the year: Merike Redenbach, Zeynep Cakir, Skye Fairclough, Rosa Salvatore, Allison Orton, Trevor Donoghue, Mirjana Margetic and Kate Lyons. Merike is a former principal at Movelle Primary School, Zeynep and Kate are Sunshine College graduates who worked with us as students there, Allison teaches at Sunshine College and Trevor completed part of his VU teacher education program there with Allison as his mentor teacher.

Many of the exhibitions were the product of partnerships with community organizations. The 1,000 houseboxes exhibition grew out of a project facilitated by local artist and teacher, Mira Vuk-Nikic and represented the work of large numbers of schools, families and artist facilitators who participated in workshops with us as part of Brimbank and Funtasia festivals during 2008-2011, all culminating in a huge display at Sunshine Plaza shopping centre telling stories from over 50 backgrounds, extending from the oldest, Yorta Yorta to the newest, Timor Leste and South Sudan. A paper is available on the web site e describing the project in more detail. Additionally, with two local artists, Megan Evans and Jenni Kamp I presented a paper at the International Arts in Society Conference in Berlin in May 2011 this year which documented the houseboxes project in addition to Megan's and Jenni's own projects: The Suburban Landscape Reframed Utilising New and Traditional Technologies to Visualise Changing Notions of Place and Belonging: Three Reflections from Three Perspectives.

With a team of Victoria University teacher education students we ran Saturday morning workshops for the fourth year with SAIL (Sudanese Australian Integrated Learning) program and this year as well as paintings, the young people produced a short animated film. We are indebted to the expertise of VU PhD student Sarah Tartakover and her daughters, Emilia and Lucinda in completing the magical Goat's Surprise: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IWzqIt26qAE>

Other VU links during the year included the performance by the Jumping Fleas

choir from Kings Park Primary School, led by teacher, Jayson Cooper (Masters' students at VU) and the display of the wonderful twelve metre environmental panorama of the Victorian Volcanic Plains Grasslands, facilitated by Wendy Lang at Iramoo.

We had two international exhibitions this year, one from young people in Alfalyca Art School in Baucau, Timor Leste, facilitated by Kim Dunphy and colleagues from Many Hands International and another, of work from students in Al Anjal International School in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, facilitated by Ibrahim Saadi, PhD student at Victoria University.

More information about each of the exhibitions is on the web site (www.gallerysunshine.com)

What a wonderful year,..... paintings and drawings, music, dresses, houseboxes, a short film, stories and lots morethank you all so much.....with a special note to Simon Kwok for maintaining our web site and to Tom and Acacia and all their staff at Granary Cafe for their gracious and ongoing support.

None of this could be done without the wonderful support of the schools and kindergartens, local artists, VU students, Board members and especially all the people who volunteered many hours in fulfillment of the houseboxes project.

Happy Days,

Maureen Ryan