



PATRON - SCOTT HICKS



THE TUTTI NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2009

Local and International Recognition for Tutti



Congratulations to Tutti's amazing team of staff, artists and volunteers who have recently presented three outstanding artistic events: the lively and colourful launch of the *Extensions* exhibition at the Bay Discovery Centre for SALA, the *Let it Shine* concert on 19 July at Christ Church, North Adelaide, and an extraordinary work in progress performance of *Doghouse aka The Psychology of Loneliness* at Restless Big Space in June. Special thanks to Mel Fulton, Juha Vanhakartano, Philip Griffin, Daisy Brown and Jonathan Bligh for their creativity and leadership of these profile-raising events.

There is great excitement this month as a group of nine from Tutti prepares for a journey to the other side of the world for the US premiere of *Northern Lights, Southern Cross* in October. Originally staged for the 2007 International Fringe Festival, NLSC won the 2007 Advertiser Oscars Best New Music-Theatre Award and is part of an ongoing international collaboration between Tutti and Interact Center in Minneapolis. The South Australian cast includes indigenous dancers Steve and Jamie Goldsmith, and Jackie Saunders from Tutti Arts; also Jane Hewitt and Joel Hartgen from Tutti Arts; soloists Catherine Campbell and Jayne Hewetson (leader of Club Tutti); and Rachel Fisher representing the Tutti Choir. My role is that of composer/ lyricist and America's



Jackie Saunders from Tutti Arts with Steve and Jamie Goldsmith

actor/ playwright/storyteller Kevin Kling is playwright and lead actor. *Northern Lights, Southern Cross* tells the story of Kling's own disability from brain injury following a motorcycle accident. The epic tale begins when his startled soul flies from his brain-injured body, and wakes up on the other side of the world, trying to put things back together. With a typical play on words, Kling says, "I crossed my hemispheres and when something like that happens, you are forced to go epic." Kling remembers during his coma that he was given the choice about whether to come back, and that if he chose to return, life would never be the same. His own friendships with Native American artists guided him toward their traditions and the journey of discovering who he would become. They introduce him to "the heyoke, the wise fool; to the world of dream,

mental illness, brain injury and coma". As such *Northern Lights, Southern Cross* is a story about healing and transcendence, and about learning from personal and cultural trauma. At the end of the story, Kling himself is accepted into the world of the heyoke and finally fully understands his own job to help heal others through the medicine of his humour.

Northern Lights, Southern Cross opens on 24 October for a three-week run at the Guthrie Theatre, an unprecedented opportunity to put Tutti's performers centre stage at one of the most prestigious theatres in America. Although today we enjoy a social environment in which people with disabilities are more integrated into the mainstream, the perception remains that creative passion and professional artistic accomplishment are not part of the mix. Tutti has always challenged that paradigm,

offering the community a broad-reaching vision of radical inclusion, in which every background, every voice and every ability comes together in a continually enriching stream of human potential and creative achievement.

There will be much to share in the next newsletter!

Pat Rix
Founding Artistic Director

PAT'S PAGE



diary dates

Sunday 20 September

Sunday Mail City to Bay Fun Run
— run or walk for Tutti!

Tuesday 3 November, 12 noon
Melbourne Cup Lunch, Salt Bar and Restaurant, Holdfast Shores Marina, Glenelg. **Tickets \$65**
Call Dave on 0412 247 313

2 – 18 November
Tutti Visual Arts 2009 Exhibition, Kerry Packer Civic Gallery, Bob Hawke Ministerial Centre, Uni SA

14 November – 6 December
KP11: Producing Communities Exhibition, The Artspace, Adelaide Festival Centre

Saturday 21 November, 12 to 5pm *A Day With Tutti*, Rundle Mall, Adelaide

Sunday 28 November
National Inclusion Week Rhythm Sticks a drumming spectacular with Tutti drummers and friends, Wheatheaf Hotel, 39 George St, Thebarton

"The singing, band and energy at the church were absolutely phenomenal. It was so beautiful. I was in tears most of the time. This was real food for the soul but it made me address my deepest emotions as well as celebrate the happiness. Wow! What an amazing afternoon." Audience member, LET IT SHINE Concert, 19 July 2009

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www.tutti.org.au

Go to the tutti website for more photos, updates, stories and words





tutti visual arts

The Visual Arts and Design Program has much to celebrate! The fabulous SALA 2009 exhibition *Extensions* at the Mezzanine Gallery, Bay Discovery Centre, Glenelg until the 11 October was launched by Gaelle Mellis, Member Ministers Disability Advisory Council SA, and work includes paintings on canvas, works on paper, soft-sculptures, 3 Digitech animations and associated models. Most works are for sale.



James Kurtze, *The Beach*, 2009, acrylic on canvas

Early August we had our SALA 2009 Open Studio where members of the public were able to visit the vibrant workplace and unique environment of the Tutti Visual Arts and Design Program. Visitors were impressed with the quality and quantity of work produced and presented, and with the enthusiasm and vitality of the artists. Three Tutti artists, Tim Cannell, Charlie Taplin and Alexandra Hill have paintings in the SALA 2009 Arts Access SA Art on the Edge Show, 106 Currie Street, Adelaide until 21 August. Currently we are packing up paintings, drawings and soft-sculptures to be sent off to Interact Arts Center, Minneapolis, USA for exhibition in conjunction with the *Northern Lights, Southern Cross* joint production. And don't miss the Tutti Visual Arts 2009 Exhibition at the Kerry Packer Civic Gallery, Bob Hawke Ministerial Centre, Uni SA, 2 -18 November. Our Celebration Evening of the exhibition is Friday 13 November, 6pm in the gallery. See you there!



digitech

Jason Crowhurst has been working with and leading other Tutti artists in the creation of a new music video for his track *Folsom Prison Blues* from his CD, *What Shape is Rain?* Jason's CD is one of three (alongside Aimee Crathern's and Annika Hooper's) to be developed through Digitech and Jason's completed music video is now on YouTube. Look up *Folsom Prison Blues Jason Crowhurst* www.youtube.com/watch?v=3deZ8dpWYYA Digitech has completed two publicity photo-shoots featuring Tutti artists for the upcoming Tutti fundraising Melbourne Cup Luncheon and the *Northern Lights, Southern Cross* concerts. Emma Taylor has been using the Sibelius music notation software to transcribe audio recordings of original Tutti compositions (*Colours* by Annika Hooper and *Cicadas* by Pat Rix) to sheet music. The sheet music will then be made available to other choirs and music groups for practice and performance of Tutti works.



Tutti artists and the Melbourne Cup Luncheon promotion

tutti choir

The full Tutti Choir and the smaller choir Poco Tutti are involved in several performances over the coming weeks: 10 October Port Adelaide Festival as part of the *Somersault Umbrella Festival*; 17 October *Anti-Poverty Week* run by SACOSS; 22 October *Arts Ageing and Creativity Conference*, Adelaide Convention Centre; 1 November *Celebration of Disability*, Adelaide West

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Jayne Hewetson in *Let It Shine*

Uniting Church; 21 November *A Day With Tutti* Rundle Mall and 4 December *Disability Awareness Week* at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. Many members of both choirs will also be involved in the recording of Christmas Songs for our Tutti Christmas CD, to be directed by Philip Griffin in the lead up to our Christmas Concert. Several members of Tutti and the Elizabeth-based choir Harmony of Hearts and Minds recently visited the Big Country Choir - Clare for a joint rehearsal and sharing of each others' current music repertoire. Choir Coordinators now meet on the first Wednesday of each month at Tutti to address issues particularly relevant to the management of the choirs, performances, membership, OHS matters and liaising with the Artistic Director and choir conductors.



performing arts

Performing Arts have been working on developing the artists' physical condition with warm ups, stretching exercises and local walks - fitness and mobility have improved all round. Our current major work in development is *Extensions - The Show*, a full company piece reflecting the ways in which we extend ourselves physically and emotionally in our daily lives. A mix of physical theatre, drama, voice, visuals, music, installation and a touch of comedy, a work-in-progress performance is scheduled for December.



Let It Shine concert at Christ Church, North Adelaide

club tutti

Club Tutti has made the move from their previously big, draughty rehearsal room to the warm, cosy and intimate Tutti space in Galway House. Rehearsals are now even more of a joy! In keeping with this exciting move, Club Tutti members have set themselves a raft of musical goals that they want to achieve over the next six months. Challenges include new songs and percussion skills. A new SEASONS song has been written by the group and is now being worked on for a performance at our end of year Christmas concert.

big country choir – clare

Big Country Choir – Clare are currently rehearsing for two performances as part of the *Somersault Umbrella Festival*. First up will be the 4 September concert at the Clare Town Hall, a free all-day event with a BBQ in Ennis Park. BCC will perform original compositions, as well as Pat Rix's *When the Rain Comes*, in the 6pm show alongside the Superstar Group and Tumba Drum. The choir will next sing at the Port Adelaide Festival on 10 October. Both performances will feature guest drummer, Bortier. Rehearsals are also underway for the BCC Christmas Concert, details to be announced shortly!

tutti kids

There has been a lot of movement in the Tutti Kids groups. Some members have moved up and onwards to older groups and we have welcomed some new members and families to the land of Tutti. The Tutti Kids program is constantly developing and we have recently benefited from the results of an evaluation document compiled by Sophia Poppe. Another student, Erin Mahony is also currently undertaking a study of our group's work. A new look flyer has been designed, and the ongoing round of grant applications continues.




Lily Durkin of Tutti Kids

There are vacancies in Tutti Kids, Parafield Gardens on Fridays, 4.30pm for children aged 8-10 years - if you know of anyone who may be interested, please call Karen Inwood on 0412 548 889



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Dougie's World

Tutti Artist Dougie Jacobssen is determined to raise money to get his three disabled friends in the Tutti Performing Arts Program to America to star in *Northern Lights*, *Southern Cross* at the famous Guthrie Theater, Minneapolis. Tune in to ABC Adelaide 891, on Tuesdays just after 8.30pm to hear Dougie discuss fundraising tactics with presenter Peter Goers.

big country choir – barossa

Next performance of the choir is at the Barossa Community Variety Concert, *Spotlight in the Valley* on 27 September. The two choirs, Choir of Delights (disability) and Community Choir of Delights will come together for the first time for a rehearsal on 11 September, which will be exciting for all. The Spotlight Concert has proved a vehicle for a number of our groups to perform and showcase their vocal and dramatic talents and art works. The day is a combination of developing fundraising ideas, performances and afternoon tea at the Angaston Town Hall complex. The next opportunity to perform will be on 17 October at the opening of the TryLeisure Games at Angaston Primary School.



Charlie Taplin, Patterns, 2009, acrylic on canvas



word from the president

After a special meeting for members of Tutti on 12 August, the role of Vice President was added to the Rules of Association as a new Board position. Board Member Philip Ellison has accepted the nomination of Vice President and will be working with the President to inform local and federal MPs of the longer term need for larger artist studios, exhibition, rehearsal and performance premises. A Board vacancy exists at present and we are particularly looking for a person with exceptional grant writing skills.

I hope you will join with me in giving *your gift to Tutti* to assist in sending a small group over to Minnesota as well as displaying some great Tutti art. Every gift over \$2 is tax deductible so please support Tutti to make this happen.

Glenys M Jones OAM

SPOTLIGHT ON: Tutti Volunteer, Judy Dally tells us how it all started for her, at Tutti.

"When John and I joined the Tutti Ensemble Choir in 2003 neither of us had had anything to do with community activities or charitable organizations, one of us felt uncomfortable around people with a disability and neither of us could sing. We joined because a friend belonged. We joined because we saw the choir at their Christmas concert and thought it would be fun to be a part of it. I joined because I wanted to sing loudly in a place where no-one could hear me and because, since retiring three years earlier, I needed something to do. Five and a half years on both of us are deeply involved, both of us love being around people with a disability and still, neither of us can sing without support. I work two days a week on literacy with the sixteen young adults who make up Tutti Arts. Retirement could have been a time of quiet, bland activities: of early teas, golf, the bowling club, dinners with mother, daytime television – and boredom. Thanks to Tutti our lives are richer, fuller, busier and happier than they have ever been!"



in appreciation of support for tutti:

Donations over \$2 are tax deductible and we thank all those who have supported Tutti.

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tutti events roundup

5 – 12 July, NAIDOC WEEK saw Tutti showcased with a Family Fun Day stall and representation at the Flag Raising Ceremony Adelaide Town Hall.

On **19 July**, Tutti held a very successful mid winter concert, *Let it Shine*. Sponsored by Anglicare SA, the concert was held in Christ Church, North Adelaide. Two highly acclaimed "Sisters of Soul", Lil' Fi and Kelly Auty from Victoria, joined us for this concert and ran workshops with Blind Date and the whole Tutti Choir in the days leading up to the concert. Renowned blues performer Chris Finnen also joined us for this concert.

20 August was the Fox Creek Wines launch of Braille labels on their bottles. Held at the Salt Bar and Restaurant, Holdfast Shores Marina, Glenelg, this was supported by Tutti's Blind Date performance.

21 August, *Us in our Blue Beautiful World* Tutti Kids first Cabaret performance was a sociable and fun event. The performance was MC'd by Tutti Kids members and the concert included games, raffles, quiz and performances of two original songs written by Tutti Kids members. We all adore *Blind Date* and were so happy that they agreed to be our Support Act!

STOP PRESS:

Register for the City to Bay Fun Run and help our three young Tutti Artists get to America: go online to the *City to Bay Run* website: www.city-bay.org/ click on *Register Online Here* Click on *Create a new login* Click on *Enter Fun Run*, then fill in your personal details At the "Team Name" box, select *Tutti* from the existing teams list To simply donate go to www.everydayhero.com.au/tutti

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