



# ARTS *Access*

ANNUAL REPORT 1991



*Making the Arts Work  
for Everyone.*

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## Aims and Objectives

Arts Access is an independent organisation creating opportunities in the arts with people disadvantaged by physical, intellectual, emotional or social conditions.

Arts Access is a non-profit organisation funded from a range of government and community sources.

### Arts Access believes:

- ☐ That every person has the potential for creative expression and growth;
- ☐ That every person should have the right of access to the tools of creative expression;

### and that the Arts:

- ☐ Provide experiences and skills which give people choices about the way they live;
- ☐ Contribute to the goal of integration by assisting all people to participate in the community's cultural activities;
- ☐ Create opportunities for people to use leisure in enjoyable ways.

### Arts Access' objectives are to:

- ☐ Use all forms of the arts to stimulate and develop creativity;
- ☐ Educate arts organisations, artists and the broader community of the needs and the creative potential of disadvantaged people;
- ☐ Assist in making arts venues and resources accessible to people with disabilities;
- ☐ Assist potential professional artists with disabilities to gain access to arts training facilities and resources;
- ☐ Provide advice and management skills to people working in fields related to Arts Access.

Arts Access achieves its objectives by managing an Artistic Unit consisting of practical arts projects in a variety of locations; running a ticketing and information service known as the Entertainment Access Service (EASE) and managing a Resource Unit which provides information and assistance on a variety of arts-based issues.

### The Artistic Program

Projects are developed within specific guidelines. All Arts Access projects strive for a high professional standard and emphasise active participation of users, clients and staff. Other important elements are integration within the broader community, consultation between artists, clients and staff and evaluation on completion to assess further potential. Priority is given to pilot and demonstration programs.

### EASE

The Entertainment Access Service, EASE, is a low-cost ticketing and information service enabling people to access mainstream arts and recreation events.

### Resource Unit

The Resource Unit assists the general community to develop their own programs and supplies answers to many of the problems associated with initiating arts-based projects.



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## President's Report

It seems that each year we report significant growth in our activities, and 1991 was no exception as community demand for Arts Access services and programs continued to increase.

Indeed, 1991 has been our busiest year yet with more participants than ever and nearly 50 artistic programs including a number of major initiatives, like the Koori Arts Project, which have opened up new avenues and opportunities for our work.

The EASE ticketing and access service achieved a 50% increase in ticket turnover and the Resource Unit extended its contacts and support services including the Community Linking Project and a plan for more effective use of the Access Studio.

We can be proud that Arts Access has maintained its record of growth in a climate of economic restraint and uncertainty, and has responded to these challenges in a positive way – first, by maintaining and improving the organisation's efficiency; and second, with a decision to establish a capital fund to provide a more stable and independent financial base for future operations. This latter decision will involve us in a concerted fundraising campaign over the next two years and a great deal of hard work from all Arts Access supporters.

The success of Arts Access programs and activities depends on a network of mutual concern and the efforts of everyone – staff, participants, artists, arts organisations and promoters, funding bodies and other donors, members of the Society and members of the Management Committee. I thank you all for your contributions and support throughout the year.

Perhaps the most important change for Arts Access in 1991 was Judith Isherwood taking over the position of Executive Director when Kate Brennan took maternity leave for a large part of the year. Kate has since decided to take on new challenges and career opportunities, and our best wishes for her future and our appreciation and thanks for her past contributions go with her. Judith has proved herself a most worthy successor and we look forward to 1992 with confidence and optimism.



Judy Morton  
PRESIDENT



## Patron's Message

Arts Access is an organisation which continues to live up to its name. The project summaries listed in this annual report are clear evidence of the imaginative outreach to many disadvantaged people and groups, 'making the arts work for everyone'.

It brings to these groups the professional help to develop their skills in the arts – painting, performance, crafts etc – and thereby the opportunity, perhaps their only opportunity, to develop self-expression; the experience of working and sharing with artists; the chance to take part in joint activities such as painting murals, musical and other performances.

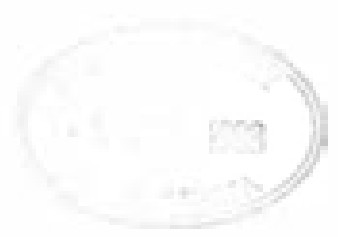
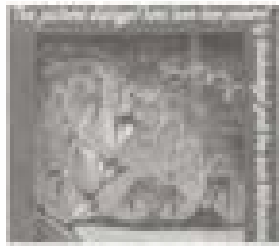
All these activities are not only important in themselves, but they also help to break down the barriers of isolation and build self-confidence and willingness to participate.

All this is possible because of the ability and commitment of the staff, artists and committee members who make these programs possible. They provide personal warmth, understanding and encouragement which, for many of these disadvantaged people, is as important as their professional skill.

I congratulate Arts Access on this excellent report and wish you all well for the future.



Jean McCaughey



## Executive Director's Report

In a financially difficult year, when many organisations have been working to merely maintain their services, Arts Access has continued to break new ground and further develop many aspects of its overall program.

With the departure in April of the Executive Director Kate Brennan for 12 months maternity leave, my task as Acting Executive Director for the ensuing 9 months was made much easier by the commitment and support of all those associated with Arts Access—staff, participants, committee members and artists.

Their belief that everyone in the community has the potential and right to artistic expression, ensured that difficulties were overcome, funding secured and programs launched into action.

During 1991, Arts Access formalised the various aspects of its annual program into three specific areas: the Artistic Unit, the Resource Unit and Entertainment Access Service (EASE). Within each of these areas, new partnerships have led the way for further development.

Programs within the Artistic Unit, for example, formed important links with the Koori community through a major project involving Kooris recovering from alcohol and drug problems.

Other programs formed alliances with arts training facilities to ensure fully integrated programs were made available to the broad community. Public hospitals, nursing homes and major institutions were also party to major new partnerships.

All of these links are proof that the arts have the ability to contribute to the artistic and personal growth of both the individual and the community in a unique and effective way and that everyone has the potential to participate in the arts, given the opportunity, the resources and the encouragement.

EASE, Arts Access' ticketing and information service, continued to expand despite continuing funding difficulties and no increase in staff support. The demand for accessible entertainment by people with disabilities or who are disadvantaged is enormous.

This must surely drive home the message to the entertainment industry that there is enormous scope for new audience development if issues of access and affordability are addressed in a positive manner.

The Resource Unit has greatly expanded its networks and facilities with the development of further links with the broader community, focusing people's attentions on the enormous creative potential that lies within all of us.

The promotion of the ACCESS Studio to a wide range of community groups has given many individuals and groups the ability to develop activities independently of Arts Access.

The future direction of all Arts Access' activities was fully addressed at the end of the year by a Planning Committee which sought input from artists, support workers, community groups and individuals.

The result is a detailed Three Year Plan with key priorities and target areas identified for all aspects of Arts Access' work.

Important new directions were forged on a national basis with Arts Access' involvement in the formation of a national body with the working title of 'Disability and Disadvantage in the Arts Australia'. With the arts funding dollar dwindling each year, this national body will have an important role to play in ensuring that disadvantaged groups and individuals receive an equitable share.

At a time when many people are experiencing economic hardship, the support and encouragement Arts Access has received from many sectors of the community, reaffirms our belief that involvement in the arts can change people's lives for the better and augurs well for an exciting and productive 1992.

Plans for a major fundraising strategy are well underway and will ensure that Arts Access continues to deliver quality programs that meet the needs of the community.

Your support and interest in Arts Access is vital and I look forward to your continued involvement in 1992.



Judith Isherwood  
Act/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



# Arts Access Society Inc

## Management Committee

President  
Judy Morton

Senior Vice President  
Alan Moor

Junior Vice President  
Barbara Champion

Treasurer  
Isi Plack

Secretary  
Prue Leggoe

Patrick Burroughs  
Margot Capp  
Fiona Robertson  
Mark Williams  
Rita Zammit

## Finance Committee

Bryce Hamley  
Patrick Burroughs  
Isi Plack

## Planning Committee

Rhonda Whittaker  
Maria Filippow  
Kate Clere  
Judy Morton  
Jane Trengove  
Isi Plack

## Staff

Executive Director  
Kate Brennan (to March 1991)

Acting Executive Director  
Judith Isherwood (from April 1991)

Development Officer  
Judith Isherwood (to March 1991)

Senior Project Officer – Programs  
Ray Richards

Resource Officer  
Carol Downey

Finance Consultant  
John Paxinos

Office Administrator  
Rhona Bester

Office Assistant  
Samantha Marsh

Volunteer Office Assistants  
Margaret Goode  
Jan Smietanka  
Gaye Walsh

EASE Project Officer  
Julie-ann Willems

EASE Bookings Assistant  
Barbara Milne (to February 1991)  
Lisa McKoy (from March 1991)

EASE Volunteers  
Barbara Kitchen  
John Pidd

EASE Sub-committee  
Mary Longman  
Betty Rankin  
Jan Reuker  
George Fairfax  
Jane Trengove  
Prue Leggoe  
Margot Capp  
Sue Parkes

Cleaner/Handyman/Gardener  
Gary Morgan

Auditor  
Lawrance L Reilly FCA

Honorary Solicitor  
Henry E P Steel LLB B Comm

Honorary Financial Adviser  
Bryce Hamley AASA

Bankers  
State Bank of Victoria  
ANZ Executors & Trustees





## New Partnerships in '91

New partnerships could well have been Arts Access' catchphrase in 1991 with many programs forming new alliances with organisations and individuals.

One of the most significant programs conducted during the year was the Host Artist Scheme which culminated in the "10 + 10 Exhibition" at the Access Gallery of the National Gallery of Victoria.

The Host Artist Scheme developed new partnerships on many different levels by bringing together 10 of Melbourne's established artists with 10 emerging artists with disabilities as mentors and proteges. The culminating exhibition was also the beginning of an exciting new relationship between Arts Access and the National Gallery of Victoria.

The twenty artists were matched in teams of two by co-ordinator Tracey Naughton, according to their visual imagery, personalities and backgrounds. While the artists officially met once a week for 10 weeks, it often went further than that and in some cases the artists are still painting together.

The artworks created during the 10 week period formed the unique exhibition which opened the National Gallery of Victoria's new Access Gallery. The response from the general public was enormous, with much media interest and many works sold.

The creative boost the project gave all participating artists was one of the most exciting aspects of the project, with each individual learning from the other.

For the emerging artists, it was a rewarding experience which has given them the confidence to develop their work further. For the professional artists, the experience has given them new sources of inspiration. For both, the experience has brought new insights into their lives as artists.

For Arts Access, this exhibition was the beginning of what will hopefully be an on-going relationship with the Access Gallery. Already, plans are underway for a major exhibition there in 1992 as part of Senior Citizens' Week.





## ■ The Artistic Program

There were many highlights in the Artistic Program in 1991. Close to 50 separate projects were run with a total of 1,780 direct participants.

Perhaps one of the major characteristics of the year was the diversity of artforms used in programs—from video production to emu-egg carving!

One of the most innovative projects for the year was the Koori Arts Project which aimed to develop the artistic skills of residents of Winja Ulupna and Galliamble, two drug recovery houses for Aboriginal men and women. This project also sought to enhance the participants' employment opportunities in the art world on completion of the project.

Co-ordinated by Jacqui Geia, the project provided instruction for 22 participants in a wide range of arts activities including painting, pottery, leatherwork and emu-egg carving. In addition, personal management and self-development skills were included in the project.

During the project's 20 week period, many beautiful works of art were created. The end result was a major exhibition entitled 'Feelen Boordup' (Feeling Good) held at the Fitzroy Allstars Gym.

Many of the participants had no arts experience at all prior to their involvement in the project. Which makes the many thousands of dollars worth of artworks sold during the week-long exhibition all the more remarkable.

The quality of the exhibition was a showcase for the participants' talent and, undoubtedly, many will continue this area of their lives in the future.

A major new initiative for Arts Access was the commencement of an on-going project known as the CSV Inner Urban Project. This rather abstract title falls well short of describing the exciting and rewarding activities that make up this project.

Funded through Community Services Victoria, the project involves 18 adults with intellectual disabilities from within CSV's Inner Urban Region in a wide range of arts activities throughout the year. The aim of the project is to use these arts activities to assist in the participants' integration into the general community.

Activities have included music, mask-making, drawing, painting, singing, ceramics and dancing. All the activities take place in local community venues and are co-ordinated by project officer, Linda Murrow.

The program is structured on a four-term basis with participants encouraged to develop both artistic and personal skills. Currently, the majority of participants have been referred through Adult Day Training Centres. As the project develops, however, referrals will be accepted from throughout the region.

It is hoped that this project will serve as a model for the establishment of further projects in other regions.

The on-going relationship Arts Access has established with Fairlea Women's Prison took on a new dimension in 1991 with the production of a video and information booklet called "A Roof of My Own."

This six-month project aimed to help women who are coming out of prison find safe, secure housing.

The two resulting hour-long videos were produced entirely by the women. They feature interviews with representatives of different agencies as well as drama pieces illustrating common situations that the women often find themselves in.

The first video deals with the various issues of housing and explores some of the options available to women. The second video explores the options and services available for drug and alcohol rehabilitation.

Response to the videos has been overwhelming and the package of videos and booklet will be distributed to prisons and community groups throughout Victoria.







## 1991 Artistic Program Details

### ☐ Harold McCracken Nursin Home

Artist: Rose Marie Szulc

This visual arts project was conducted over an 18 week period with the staff and residents of the Nursing and Palliative Care units working on the creation of a textile mural. Despite the residents' disabilities, the artist involved them both physically and emotionally in the creation of a beautiful 3 piece textile mural which reflected their individual contributions. The mural is now a major feature of the nursing home.

### ☐ Eaglemont Nursing Home

Artist: Kim Tarpy

In a similar fashion to the project at Harold McCracken Nursing Home, this project was run with residents of the Eaglemont Nursing Home. Here, a textile mural was designed around the theme of "Marriage," a theme chosen by the participants as a common event in all their lives. The finished mural consisted of three separate panels, each one depicting a different stage of the participant's lives in relation to their marriage. Panel one was based on events that happened prior to marriage, panel two was based on the wedding itself and the third panel featured events that happened after the marriage. It is now displayed proudly in the home.

### ☐ Kew Cottages Artists-in-Residency

Artists: Kate Clere, Lyndsay Mason, Kerry Gavin

This major project has been an on-going "Artists-in-Residency" with two artists working two days per week throughout the year. The artists input has helped not only to "colour and enliven" the physical environment but also the morale of both staff and residents. Highlights of the project in 1991 included a series of painted murals on the walls of three units and two large-scale outdoor celebrations--the Rock n Roll Fiesta and the Spring Festival. The project is planned to continue in 1992.

### ☐ Special Accommodation House Project

Co-Ordinators: Noelle Curry to April '91  
Marg Trail April to June '91  
Jedda Bellham July to Dec '91

Artists: Kim Tarpy, Sue Anderson, Peter De Ryk, Rosalie Hastwell, Rob Eastcott.

The Special Accommodation House project has been a regular feature of Arts Access' annual program for a number of years. In 1991, residents of four Special Accommodation Houses in the Western Suburbs expanded their social and creative networks and continued to enjoy a broad range of community interaction. Special events staged in 1991 included an exhibition of residents' handiwork in Footscray and music/theatre concerts in Williamstown, Yarraville and Footscray where local artists, SAH residents and the local community joined together for an hour of performance, singing, dancing, and fun.

### ☐ Koori Arts Program

Co-Ordinator: Jacqui Geia

Artists: Trevor Anstead, Karen Casey, Nicki Hepi, Ellen Jose, Donna Leslie, Robert Mate, Rocky Mattioli, Carol Morton, Bill Muir, Gabrielle Possum, Majorie Walker.

The Koori Arts Program was a twenty week intensive arts-based skills-development program for residents of Winja Ulupna and Galiamble Aboriginal Alcohol and Drug Recovery Centres. Artforms taught in the program included emu-egg carving, pottery, screenprinting, signwriting, leatherwork, printmaking, general art classes and business skills.

The skills gained by the participants during this program were evident in the high quality works they produced and exhibited at the "FEELLEN BOORDUP" (Feeling Good) exhibition. Over \$5,000 worth of art work was sold at the opening alone, with sales continuing during the week of the exhibition and several artists being commissioned to produce new works. Plans are underway to continue the program in 1992.

### ☐ Integrated Performance Project

Artists: Caz Anderson, David Bridie, Paul Summers, Patricia Cornelius, Trevor Major.

This exciting training and skills development project was run as part of Prahran TAFE's Showbiz course. The project



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aimed to provide an opportunity for disabled and able bodied performers to work together and form an on-going performance group.

To date, the group has produced three performance pieces that have been performed at a number of university campuses. Now called "Workers, Students, Revolutionaries and Thieves," the group will continue to perform independently of Arts Access in the future.

## ☐ **A Roof of My Own**

Artists: Greg Sneddon, Carey Lai, Sally Marsden, Maud Clark.

This video-based project saw Arts Access' work with Fairlea Women's Prison take on a more far-reaching aspect. Four artists worked with women from both Fairlea and Barwon Prisons on all aspects of creating two videos and accompanying booklet about housing options for women upon their release from prison.

The title of the videos and booklet is "A Roof Of My Own." It is now available as a resource to all women prisoners throughout Victoria. Alcohol and drug rehabilitation centres are included along with a range of short and long term accommodation options.

## ☐ **Turana Radio Project**

Artist: Paul Agar

A Radio Production and Writing Project was conducted at

Turana Youth Training Centre during 1991. The project ran for 20 weeks and involved participants in the production of a regular half-hour radio program that was broadcast throughout Turana. Broadcasts included interviews, short dramatised serials and music.

## ☐ **Host Artist Scheme & 10 + 10 Exhibition**

Artists: Angela Morgan – Barbi Voiti  
Carol Morton – Ian Harris  
Daniel Kogan – Dariusz Troc  
Voula Therios – Yve Fallon  
Margarita Krivitsky – Renald Portelli  
Greg Irvine – John Shirres  
Karen Ward – David Kellow  
Stephen Eastaugh – Bruce Plant  
Amanda Laming – Monica Burns  
Drew Lawson – David Maddill

This innovative project matched ten emerging artists with disabilities with 10 established professional artists, with similar styles and approaches, in a mentor relationship. The project culminated with an exhibition of all the artists work, and was entitled "10 + 10". It was presented as the inaugural exhibition of the "Access Gallery" space at the National Gallery of Victoria and opened by the Gallery Director, James Mollison.





#### ☐ **Senior Citizens Treasures Exhibition**

Co-ordinator: Diana Stewart

A broad range of treasured art work and handicrafts made by senior citizens from varied backgrounds was put together and exhibited in Port and South Melbourne Libraries. Items included a 100 year old violin made from papier mache by one senior citizens' father when he was in his 60's and a knitted farm complete with farm animals, house and paddocks and kitchen utensils.

This project was a pilot for a larger scale project planned to be launched in the National Gallery during Senior Citizens Week 1992.

#### ☐ **Regional Development & Artists Training**

Artist: Ruth Komisaroff

Regional Development during 1991 again targeted South Western Victoria. Working in conjunction with the Regional Cultural Services Co-ordinator, an Arts Access program was developed involving artists as trainees in the Warrnambool area.

Later, a series of "hands on" movement/dance workshops in the community were conducted by the trainees in consultation with the trainer artist.

#### ☐ **Victoria Lodge**

Artist: Maria Filippow

Artist Maria Filippow ran regular weekly drawing classes with residents of this Richmond Fellowship House, over a

period of twelve weeks. Participants produced a wide range of interesting works.

#### ☐ **Portraits of the Artist**

Co-ordinator: Heather Graham

An innovative project entitled Portraits of the Artist was run in 1991. It involved six artists with disabilities attending a range of Arts-Access projects in order to draw portraits and/or their impressions of the project in action.

Works by each artist were then purchased by Arts Access as the basis for a collection.

#### ☐ **Saturday Arts Classes**

Artist: Evelyn Vhynal

In order to service the community better, a series of "open" Arts Classes were run every Saturday in the Arts Access Studio, for people with psychiatric disabilities. These proved to be so popular that they will now be an ongoing component of Arts Access' Artistic Program in 1992.

#### ☐ **Boomerang Club**

Artist: Ann Scanlan

A series of Drama/Movement Classes were run at the Boomerang Club early in 1991. However, due to low numbers of participants these classes were postponed and eventually replaced by an "open" program conducted from the Incinerator Theatre in Moonee Ponds.



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## ☐ West Theatre

Artist: Ann Scanlan

This program was based on the Saturday Arts Classes in that it was open to people with psychiatric disabilities. This proved very popular in the Western Suburbs and the classes were quickly booked out. Participants reported learning new skills, increasing their self confidence and social networks and generally enjoying themselves.

## ☐ Ernest Jones Clinic

Artist: Ann Scanlan

A series of 10 drama/movement workshops were run with clients from the Ernest Jones Day Clinic. The workshops culminated in a small performance for family and friends.

## ☐ Richmond Lodge

Artist: Michael Mildren

Residents from this large Special Accommodation House enjoyed regular weekly music/drama workshops which catered for the high percentage of participants with multi-cultural backgrounds. The workshops ran over a twelve week period.

## ☐ Royal Melbourne Mural Project

Artist: Claire Humphrys-Hunt.

The Oncology Unit of the Royal Melbourne Hospital was involved in a textile mural project that involved staff, patients, their families and friends in the creation of a mural. The finished product has been displayed within the unit.

## ☐ K Division Arts Workshops

Artist: Jo Weiss

A series of textile and screenprinting workshops were conducted with the women from K Division at the Melbourne Metropolitan Prison. The women focused on making individual items and learned skills that will assist them when looking for future employment.

## ☐ CSV Photography Project

Artist: Viva Gibb

A series of photographic workshops were conducted with young women from the Collingwood area and based at the Good Shepherd organization. Many of the participants' photographs will be published and/or displayed by CSV in a new booklet promoting resources for young women.

## ☐ Girl Guides Weekend

Artists: David Bridie, Jo Weiss, Helen Mountford, Jedda Bellham, Rhonda Whittaker, Maria Filippow, Rod Primrose.

A live-in weekend of arts workshops was held at Yarra Junction which involved disabled and able-bodied girl guides exploring a range of artforms including drama, music, screenprinting, painting, mask and puppet making.

The weekend was a lot of fun and culminated with each group presenting their work. There were wonderful printed T-Shirts, huge puppets, masks, a drama performance, musical concerts and a mural, all with a Bush theme.

## ☐ Janefield Integrated Music Project

Artists: Andrew Ioannou and Stewart Carter

With artists Andrew and Stewart, residents from the Janefield Adult Training Centre created a "Janefield Anthem" and promoted it by making a dramatised video clip.

## ☐ Mont Park Mural Project

Artist: Kim Tarpy

Patients and staff from Mont Park Hospital's Rehabilitation Unit worked with artist Kim Tarpy to create a nine piece textile mural which will hang in the entrance to the unit. The mural depicts scenes relating to people's lives with panels representing a wedding, the Melbourne Cup, the Grand Final, Ballroom Dancing and more.

## ☐ Pleasant View Multi-Arts Project

Artists: Claire Humphrys-Hunt, Rhonda Whittaker and Robby Douglas Turner.

A major project for 1991, the Pleasant View Multi-Arts Project was conducted with three different components with residents and outpatients attending various units of this drug and alcohol rehabilitation centre.





**The three components were:**

- 1 A large scale mural based on the participants' lives and experiences and of their journeys from self destructive behaviours through to healing, health and wellbeing.
- 2 A drama group which devised and performed a play for public performance.
- 3 The production of a 30-second video performance piece entitled "Love Life" which presents the message that people diagnosed as HIV positive are living, loving members of the community who still have a worthwhile contribution to make.

☐ **Gill Memorial Mural Project**

Artist: Megan Evans

This eighteen week project involved residents of the Salvation Army's Gill Memorial Day Centre in the design and painting of a very large mural which now covers the main wall in the centre's entrance.

The centre is refuge for homeless men and many became enthusiastically involved in the project. The mural itself is very grand and enhances the characteristic architecture and style of the building itself. It was the second mural project to be conducted at the centre.

☐ **Southport Visual Arts Workshops**

Artist: Jedda Bellham

A series of 10 mask and prop making workshops were conducted with staff, residents and volunteers of the

Southport Nursing Home to create a festive environment for the home's "Annual Cruise". In 1991 the cruise's imaginary destination was South America.

☐ **Victoria Lodge**

Artists: Michael Mildren and Stewart Carter.

Artists Michael and Stewart conducted a series of 10 workshops with residents from this Richmond Fellowship House which culminated in the making of a short music clip written and performed by the participants.

☐ **Integrated Dance Program**

Artist: Marita Smith.

This project enabled young people with and without disabilities to develop physical and creative skills in the area of dance. Participants attended eight sessions held at the Ascot Vale Special School.

☐ **Health and Homeless Project**

Artists: Claire Humphrys-Hunt and Nicki Hepi

A series of leatherwork and drawing classes were conducted with homeless people at the St Marks Drop-in Centre in Fitzroy and Ozanan House in Flemington.



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## ☐ Austin Hospital Mural

Artist: Sally Marsden

Artist Sally Marsden completed work on a "Circus Theme" Mural which was first established in the Outpatients Unit in 1990. The Mural now extends throughout the entire unit and provides a bright and colourful environment for staff and outpatients alike.

## ☐ Esprit Youth Arts Project

Artist: Lynden Bobbitt.

This exciting project developed through links made with the Esprit Cares Trust. Artist Lynden Bobbitt worked on creating a mural with disadvantaged youth from the Richmond area every Sunday for six weeks. Each week the mural was displayed in the shop window of Esprit's Richmond Store on the corner of Bridge Road and Lennox Street, where the public had the opportunity to see the new additions and design in progress. It is hoped that Arts Access and Esprit can continue to work together in 1992 on programs with young people.

## ☐ Altona Radio Project

Artist: Roger Taylor

This project involved disadvantaged youth from the Altona area in radio workshops aimed at developing their literacy

skills. As well as learning a range of production skills, the participants also conducted interviews on relevant issues with several local and statewide personalities, including the Victorian Premier, Mrs Joan Kirner.

## ☐ CSV Inner Urban Project

Co-ordinator: Linda Murrow

Artists: Rosalie Hastwell, Patricia Fenner, David Wells, Maria Filippow, Claire Teisen,

This major, on-going project provides practical arts activities for 18 adults with intellectual disabilities from CSV's Inner Urban Region. Structured on a four-term basis, participants are involved in a wide range of arts activities including, painting, drawing, movement, drama, singing and ceramics. The project was established in conjunction with CSV to be part of the participants' integration process into the general community.







#### ☐ **Senior Citizens Booklet**

Producer: Judith Isherwood

As part of Senior Citizens' Week 1991, Arts Access produced an eight page booklet, called "Arts Alive," to help people plan creative activities for older adults. The booklet gives examples of activities that are possible and lists people and organisations to contact for further advice or resources. More than 2,000 copies were distributed throughout Victoria during the year.

#### ☐ **Nepean Exhibition**

Co-ordinator: Stuart Koop

Initial development activities were undertaken by co-ordinator Stuart Koop towards staging an exhibition of artworks by young people with disabilities. Working with the Nepean Centre Committee, this project will continue in 1992.

#### ☐ **P-art-icipate Follow-up**

Co-ordinator: Judith Isherwood

As a follow-up to the highly successful P-art-ICIPATE Conference held in 1990, a series of practical, arts-based workshops were conducted during September in response to requests aired at the conference. Workshops were

conducted in a range of artforms and were attended by people with a wide range of disabilities.

#### ☐ **Voice Workshops**

Artists: Frankie Armstrong, Vivienne Ellis

Two voice workshops were held early in the year by the widely acclaimed voice teachers, Frankie Armstrong and Vivienne Ellis. More than 45 people attended these workshops.

#### ☐ **National Conference**

Arts Access has played a significant role in the establishment of a national body representing arts-based organisations working in the area of disability and/or disadvantage. A national conference was staged by Arts Access in the middle of the year at which time the working title DADAA (Disability and Disadvantage in the Arts Australia) was adopted. Arts Access will continue to be a part of these significant developments in 1992.



## The Arts Access Resource Unit

The Arts Access Resource Unit entered its third year of operation in 1991 and now comprises:

- ☐ The Resource Unit Reference Collection
- ☐ A Training and Advocacy Program
- ☐ The Community Linking Project
- ☐ The Access Studio

During 1991, the Unit has continued to grow, expanding the reference collection, the information base, the facilities and contact with user groups.

All staff of the Resource Unit have worked together to broaden the client base through involvement in existing networks and co-ordination of information dissemination.

The aim of the Resource Unit is to provide a service of education and information which will assist people with disabilities to participate in arts-based activities. Consequently, the service extends its assistance from individuals and community groups through to professionals in health, education and service provision.



### The Resource Unit Reference Collection

Housed in the Resource Centre, this extensive reference collection comprises over 1000 catalogued books, reports, videos, slides and periodicals relating to all forms of the arts and their application in developing creative arts programs with people with disabilities. Many of these items have been produced by, or for, trained artists.

An increasing demand for more practical ideas, materials and activities for direct use by recreation workers in the field has made this area a priority in the future development of the Resource Centre's collection.

### The Training and Advocacy Program

A program of information seminars and practical, hands-on workshops during 1991 involved over 600 staff, artists, students and workers in the area of health, recreation, education, social welfare and disability.

Through this involvement, participants have been inspired to initiate exciting projects in their own work-place. Examples of these are a Writing/Reminiscence program with elderly residents in a hospital; a Drama Group in a Psychiatric Rehabilitation Centre; an integrated music/singing group in a Neighbourhood House; and Creative Movement Sessions with disabled children and non-English speaking women.

The Training and Advocacy Program has also involved staff working in partnership with a number of organisations to provide an awareness of the value of arts in people's lives and to link arts providers with people with disabilities.

The National Gallery of Victoria hosted a major forum on access for older adults which opened the way for on-going communication.

Funding from the Department of Further Education for Professional Development Workshops in Neighbourhood Houses also resulted in the development of more creative programs for local communities.

Contact with a number of tertiary institutions has resulted in the inclusion of creative arts sessions with students who will enter fields such as recreation, residential services, occupational therapy and special education.

### The Access Studio

A successful submission for funding from the Australia Council's Community Cultural Development Unit enabled the Resource Unit to employ a co-ordinator for the ACCESS Studio—a space ideal for seminars, meetings, exhibitions, small performances, rehearsals, dance and music events.

The initial period was devoted to researching community needs and the peak times for exhibitions, improving facilities and establishing management procedures.



A promotional brochure was produced and widely circulated to community groups, arts organisations and potential users. This resulted in a number of enquiries and confirmed bookings for a variety of uses.

"Works on Paper," an exhibition by Arts Project Australia, was held during the Melbourne International Festival of the Arts to take advantage of audiences attending the performances at the adjoining Malthouse Theatre.

A colourful mural painted by Maria Filippow and Arts Access participants has also increased the visibility and profile of the studio.

The hiring fees have been structured to accommodate a range of user groups and will be returned to the project to continue development. The outlook is bright for those who will use the ACCESS Studio for exhibitions or activities in the future.

### **The Community Linking Project**

This year was the Community Linking Project's third year of operation and it was marked by an increase and diversification of activities. During the year, the project went way beyond its initial role of providing information and linking individuals with disabilities to locally-based activities.

Firstly, the information/linking service was streamlined to become a targeted information service through the production of a range of newsletters and fliers.

On a broader level, the Community Linking Project was involved in the development of community-based arts activities and services in a number of areas. Three major activities developed during 1991 were Creative Dance Classes for people with intellectual disabilities at Preston Neighbourhood House, Textile Classes for people with intellectual disabilities at a Neighbourhood House in Coburg and a Drama Class for people with disabilities at the Coolaroo West Community Centre.

The Community Linking Project supported the development of these activities with the aim that the organisations would eventually take on the management and promotion of these activities independently of Arts Access.

Other activities undertaken in 1991 by the Community Linking Project include the development of activities for all Arts Access project participants to continue their involvement with the organisation.

Special Participants' Days were organised and a support group for visual artists with disabilities called the 'Sightless Visionaries' was established and continues to meet on a regular basis.

The future of the Community Linking Project will be dependent on funding and all efforts are being made to ensure that this highly valued and effective service continues on a permanent basis.



## ■ EASE – Entertainment Access Service

The EASE – Entertainment Access Service was established in 1987 by Arts Access with the aim of improving access to and opportunities in entertainment events for people within Arts Access' target groups.

EASE has grown and expanded enormously during its four years of operation as a highly valued ticketing and information service. In 1991, the service distributed 12,857 tickets to a wide range of sporting and entertainment events, an increase of 4,561 tickets from 1990.

Whilst EASE has received on-going support from many major companies and promoters over the last four years, 1991 saw many new promoters and companies from throughout Australia support the service.

Information provision is an important aspect of EASE's work and during 1991 this was expanded by offering extensive information about 'what's on', access and facilities, free events and how to book fullprice tickets through BASS and the venues.

Membership records and services were upgraded during 1991, with an 'EASE Update' being introduced which provides comprehensive information on all tickets available through EASE. This update is issued with the bi-monthly newsletter and is also available to members on request at any time.

The formalisation of EASE's advocacy role was also a major task in 1991. EASE staff developed this role by further focusing on access issues and working closely with BASS, promoters and venue management on improving facilities and access for people with disabilities.

As a result, wheelchair booking procedures have been improved and additional wheelchair seating is often made available; seats are now sometimes held at venues for people with mobility problems; parking for disabled motorists has been increased and many other access issues are currently under review.

Venue assessments continued throughout 1991 in conjunction with the Access and Mobility Committee of the Victorian Division of ACROD. These have resulted in a second edition of The Melbourne Venue Guide being produced which will be launched in 1992. This edition will be much broader than the first edition and will include 17 new venues, including cinemas and regional venues.

During 1991, EASE staff were also involved in a number of special projects. In June, Audio Description was launched at the Victorian Arts Centre. Audio Description is a revolutionary new concept for theatre patrons with visual impairment that describes what is happening on stage when there is no sound.





Through the use of a small transistor and earpiece, it gives people with visual impairment details of the program notes, scenery, costumes and body language as the performance progresses.

Audio Description has been pioneered in Australia by The Association for the Blind with sponsorship from the Rotary Club of Hawthorn and assistance from the Melbourne Theatre Company and the Victorian Arts Centre. EASE has been involved in the project since its inception and all bookings for Audio Description are done through EASE free of charge.

Securing an adequate level of funding continues to be a priority for the service. The EASE Sub-committee are looking at a range of funding options.

Organisational priorities for the coming year will focus on a range of special projects including developing appropriate disability awareness training for entertainment industry personnel; developing promotional material on entertainment options; and investigating the establishment of a volunteer network that will assist clients to overcome transport, escort and access problems.

#### Comments from users of EASE tickets during 1991 include:

"... thank you for your help with the AC/DC and Cliff Richards tickets ... keep up the good work and thanks from all the kids whose experiences are broadened by your hard work ..."  
Ruth Price (Cottage Mother) St John's Homes.

"Our night out at the Last Laugh was a tremendous success! Thank you for your support in arranging the occasion and for your letter of support to assist us in gaining Council funding. We will certainly utilise EASE again in the future ..."  
Pahran Community Health Centre

"Thank you for the ticket to Torvill and Dean. I loved it! In fact I can't remember when I have enjoyed something for so much for many, many years. Pure magic! I have been ill for some years now and of course finding the money for such things is almost impossible—So many good people doing things most of the public have no knowledge of."

"Our night out at the theatre was most enjoyable. Following liaison with Arts Access and the Arts Centre we were directed to our seats via the backstage area. Our allocated seats provided a good view for my husband who has a visual impairment and I was able to transfer from wheelchair to seat with ease. All in all a good night out and our thanks to EASE and staff and management of the Playhouse."



# Statement of Income and Expenditure

For the year ended December 31 st 1991

1990 \$	INCOME	1991 \$	1990 \$	EXPENDITURE	1991 \$
118,759	Federal Grants		114,322	Salaries	106,933
-	Disability Services	125,218		Program Costs	
-	DEET	41,800	216,948	Artists Fees	247,539
6,000	Drug and Alcohol		50,126	Other Salaries	56,604
	Foundation		18,496	Materials	26,033
	Australia Council		9,138	Travel	3,697
2,700	Brought forward from		5,111	Documentation	4,396
	1990	2,000	8,013	Other costs	19,759
26,000	General Grant 1991	27,000	21,075	EASE Program Costs	6,692
11,000	Resource Centre Grant	11,000	328,907		364,720
31,424	Other Project Grants			Administration Overheads	
(2,000)	Transfer to 1992	(2,820)		Advertising	285
69,124		37,180	2,628	Bank Charges	66
193,883	Total Federal Grants	204,198	38	Computer Costs	502
	State Grants		774	Couriers	56
	Victorian Ministry for		405	Cleaning	3,010
	the Arts		2,986	Depreciation	26,645
56,000	General Grant	56,000	23,536	Electricity & Gas	2,830
20,600	Project Grant	2,000	2,724	Fees and Permits	
	Community Services		92	Gifts	355
16,325	Victoria	49,308	-	Insurance	1,800
	Dept of Premier &		1,448	Hire Purchase Charges	79
18,200	Cabinet	5,390	987	Hospitality	896
23,700	Health Department	33,915	1,146	Journals	20
	Dept Sport &		258	Meeting Expenses	680
11,750	Recreation	11,500	971	Motor Vehicle	
7,210	Other State Grants	2,485	7,005	Expenses	3,644
153,785	Total State Grants	160,598	5,833	Postage	4,795
	Other Income		4,124	Printing & Stationery	5,695
571	Corporate Donations	2,664	3,430	Public Relations	3,562
70,572	Organisation Fees	57,778	320	Rates & Taxes	396
15,152	Administration Fees		25,226	Rental	30,837
12,560	Commissions	17,941	4,995	Repairs & Maintenance	4,292
	Sales- Project		1,050	Seminars	2,684
2,533	Materials	2,156	181	Secretarial	
49,412	Trust Donations	84,309	1,026	Staff Amenities	792
2,336	Sundry Project Income	1,023	690	Subscriptions	696
10,835	User pays	7,677	6,390	Telecom	7,828
3,501	Workshop fees	1,530	1,883	Travel	1,409
19,787	Interest earned	18,875	100,146		103,854
	Membership		72,073	EASE Program Ticket Purchases	108,114
3,314	subscriptions	4,550	615,448	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	683,621
2,978	Miscellaneous Income	1,410	(2,156)	DEFICIENCY FOR THE YEAR	(6,325)
-	Profit on sale of asset	4,473			
193,551	Total Other Income	204,386			
72,073	EASE Program Ticket				
	Sales	108,114			
\$613,292	TOTAL INCOME	\$677,296			

## Auditor's Report

I report that I have audited the books and accounts of Arts Access Society Incorporated for the year ended 31 st December, 1991. In carrying out my audit, it was not practicable to positively confirm all membership subscriptions, donations and sundry takings beyond accounting for amounts received as shown by the books and records of the Society.

Subject to this reservation, in my opinion the foregoing Balance Sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the Society and the accompanying Statement of Income and Expenditure is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and fair view of the income and expenditure for the year.



L. L. REILLY FCA  
Chartered Accountant  
Melbourne, 3rd March, 1992

## Statement by the Directors

It is the opinion of the directors that:

- the accompanying financial statements are drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the state of the organisation's affairs as at 31 st December 1991 and its result for the year ended on that date;
- as at the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due;
- the financial statements of the company have been made out in accordance with Statements of Accounting Concepts and applicable Accounting Standards. This statement is made and signed in accordance with a resolution of directors.

JUDY MORTON, President  
ISI PLACK, Treasurer  
Melbourne, 19th March, 1992

Notes to the Accounts:

- Depreciation on assets acquired on capital grants is charged as an expense and written off against revenue. Capital grants are treated as an addition to accumulated funds in the year in which they are received, without deduction and excluded from the Revenue Statement.
- In the current year, expenditure incurred and income, including grants received for the EASE program, have been allocated to appropriate accounts and the 1990 comparative figures have been amended to reflect the change in accounting methods.



# Balance Sheet at 31st December, 1991

1990			1991	
\$	Members Funds		\$	
16,203	Retained Surplus—Prior years		14,047	
(2,156)	Deficiency this year		(6,325)	
101,151	Capital Grants—Prior Years		105,791	
13,952	This Year		19,868	
129,150	Balance at 31st December, 1991			133,381
	<b>Represented by:</b>			
	<b>Current Assets</b>			
114,594	Deposits at Call		150,603	
200	Petty Cash		200	
13,660	Sundry Debtors		—	
10,441	EASE Ticket Debtors		16,145	
37,094	Cash at Bank		23,352	
239	Trust Account		247	
—	Prepayments		4,828	
79	Unexpired Terms Charges		—	
176,307	Total Current Assets			195,375
	<b>Add Fixed Assets</b>			
89,131	Leasehold Improvements—at Cost	89,131		
(36,307)	Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(52,491)		
52,824			36,640	
11,160	Motor Vehicles—at Cost	15,811		
(4,883)	Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(2,372)		
6,277			13,439	
	Office Furniture & Equipment			
53,034	—at Cost	58,491		
(19,481)	Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(26,560)		
33,616			31,931	
—	— Artists Equipment	6,310		
—	— Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(947)		
			5,363	
92,717	Total Fixed Assets			87,373
269,024	TOTAL ASSETS			282,748
	<b>Less Current Liabilities</b>			
388	Hire Purchase Current Liability			
6,134	Sundry Creditors		10,131	
226	Accrued Expenses		134	
—	Provision for Holiday Pay		7,469	
30,000	Provision for Public Appeal Costs		27,907	
	Provision for Future			
10,292	Development—EASE		10,292	
92,834	Grants Received in Advance		91,772	
—	— Other funds		1,662	
139,874	Total Liabilities			149,367
129,150	NET ASSETS			133,381



## 1991. The year in review

Perhaps the most outstanding features of the 1991 statistics, as summarised below, are the significant increase in the number of direct program participants and in the number of hours worked on programs by artists.

This increase has not been the result of an increase in programs, but in running many more major, long-term programs. The establishment of long-term programs, such as the CSV Inner Urban Project, is testament to the enormous value now placed on arts-based activities by many of Arts Access' target communities.

Also of note is the significant increase in tickets provided by the EASE – Entertainment Access Service.

These impressive results have not been matched by an increase in Arts Access' resources and it will be important to ensure the organisation's level of activity is carefully monitored in 1992.

The statistics summarised below provide an accurate indication of the nature and level of Arts Access' service.

### DIRECT PROGRAM DELIVERY

Artistic program	1990	1991
No of projects	51	48
No of direct participants	1,600	1,780
No of other participants (includes support workers and audiences)	8,526	8,965
Artists employed	53	102
Artist hours	11,009	11,631
EFT (equivalent full time)	7.6	8.0
<b>EASE program</b>		
Tickets provided/participants	8,296	12,857
Subscribers	300	407
Access assessments	27	30

<b>Resource program</b>		
Visits and serviced enquiries	366	471
Workshop participants	1,100	619

<b>Direct Program Participants</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>1991</b>
Intellectual disability	2,226	2,375
Psychiatric disability	1,340	1,945
Aged	699	734
Physical	1,985	2,762
Mixed disability	1,167	642
Disadvantaged	1,464	2,898
Youth	1,015	2,801
Staff, support workers and volunteers	1,536	1,099
Total participants	11,006	15,256

<b>General Resource and Consultancy</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>1991</b>
Project consultancy (hours)	160	208
Arts management (hours)	300	250
Interstate/international (hours)	100	100
General enquiries (number)	5,450	6,500
Training opportunities provided (number)	13	9
Arts industry and community support (no of committees)	11	10





## Acknowledgements

Arts Access would like to sincerely thank the following organisations, companies and individuals for their generous financial assistance and support during 1991:

The Australia Council through the Community Cultural Development Unit  
 Victorian Ministry for the Arts  
 Commonwealth Department of Community Services and Health – Disability Services  
 Ministry of Ethnic, Municipal and Community Affairs (Older Persons Planning Unit)  
 Health Department Victoria (Office of Psychiatric Services)  
 Department of Sport and Recreation  
 Community Services Victoria  
 Ministry of Education – Division of Further Education  
 Department of Employment, Education and Training  
 CRA  
 David Syme & Co Ltd  
 Coles/Myer Community Trust  
 Victorian Women's Trust  
 The William Angliss (Vic) Charitable Fund  
 The Flora and Frank Leith Charitable Trust  
 The Stegley Foundation  
 The Sidney Myer Fund  
 The Myer Foundation  
 The Lance Reichstein Charitable Foundation  
 The Howard Norman Trust  
 The Fletcher Jones Foundation  
 ANZ Executors & Trustees  
 The Danks Trust  
 The Scobie & Claire McKinnon Trust  
 The William Buckland Foundation  
 The Ešprit Cares Trust  
 Kew Cottages  
 The Austin Hospital  
 Melbourne District Health Centre  
 Graham Berry (Typographical Services)  
 Robin Goodall (Inkwell Studios)  
 Peter Ingham (Craftsman Press)  
 Brian Longmore (Spicers Paper)  
 EASE and Arts Access would also like to thank the following companies, organisations, individuals and promoters for their support in 1990:  
 Agency for Performing Arts  
 Anthill Theatre Company  
 Australian Ballet  
 Australian Ballet School  
 Australian Chamber Orchestra  
 Australian Dance Theatre  
 Australian Opera  
 Australian Pops Orchestra  
 Back to Back Theatre Company  
 Bell Shakespeare Company  
 Bharatam Dance Theatre  
 Bill Mordey's Classic Promotions  
 Buddy Holly Production Company Pty Ltd  
 Cameron McKintosh  
 Chamber Made Opera  
 Circus Oz  
 Clifford Hocking Pty Ltd  
 Comedy Club  
 Corporate Affairs by Hannah  
 Dennis Smith Entertainment Organisation  
 Discurio  
 Duet Productions  
 Edgley International  
 Elston, Hocking & Woods

### FEIPP

Flying Pig Theatre Company  
 Frontier Touring  
 Gary Van Egmond  
 Geelong Performing Arts Centre  
 Greater Union/Village  
 Hoyts Corporation Pty Ltd  
 Independent Cinemas  
 International Management Group  
 Jon Nicholls  
 Kevin Jacobsen & Ellen Williams  
 Last Laugh  
 Melbourne International Festival of the Arts  
 Melbourne International Comedy Festival  
 Melbourne Symphony Orchestra  
 Melbourne Theatre Company  
 Melbourne Tigers Basketball  
 Michael Coppel Presents  
 Midnight Oil Enterprises  
 Moomba  
 New World Productions  
 Nostalgia Productions  
 Palace Entertainment Corporation  
 Park Entertainments  
 Paul Dainty Corporation  
 Peter & Ellen Williams  
 Playbox Theatre Company  
 Premier Artists  
 Royal Melbourne Agricultural Society  
 Sam Manusco & Larry Tyler  
 Sandy Beach Centre  
 Sidney Myer Music Bowl  
 South Melbourne Saints Basketball  
 Spokes Promotions  
 St Martins Youth Theatre  
 State Orchestra of Victoria  
 Sydney Dance Company  
 Tennis Australia  
 Trade Union Labour Day Celebration Committee  
 Victoria State Opera  
 Victorian Arts Centre  
 Victorian Arts Centre – Art in Education  
 Vision One  
 West Australian Ballet  
 Woolly Jumpers Theatre Company  
 World Wide Production

We would also like to thank the management and staff of the following venues and ticketing agencies:

BASS Victoria  
 The Comedy Theatre  
 The Princess Theatre  
 Her Majesty's Theatre  
 The Athenaeum Theatre  
 The Malthouse  
 The Sports and Entertainment Centre  
 Flinders Park – National Tennis Centre  
 Russell Street Theatre (MTC)  
 Victorian Arts Centre  
 Geelong Performing Arts Centre  
 Last Laugh  
 The Comedy Club  
 The Kino Cinema  
 The Dendy Cinema  
 Hoyts Group Sales  
 Greater Union Russell Cinemas  
 Her Majesty's Theatre Ballarat  
 The Palais Theatre  
 The Universal Theatre  
 Sidney Myer Music Bowl



**Arts Access—  
Making the Arts Work for Everyone**

Arts Access is a non-profit organisation committed to creating opportunities in the arts with people disadvantaged by physical, intellectual, emotional or social conditions.

**Why not join us?**

Membership of Arts Access is open to individuals and organisations and is tax deductible.

By becoming a member of Arts Access you will be helping our programs reach more people. You will receive regular copies of the quarterly newsletter 'Access' with details of our activities and invitations to attend those programs which culminate in public performance or exhibition.

If you are interested, simply contact us at:

**Arts Access**  
109-111 Sturt Street  
South Melbourne, Victoria 3205  
Phone: (03) 699 8299 Fax: (03) 685 5112

Donations of \$2 and over are tax deductible.

This Annual Report has been produced with the generous assistance of:

Robin Goodall (Inkwell Studios)  
Graham Berry (Typographical Services)  
Peter Ingham (Craftsman Press)  
Brian Longmore (Spicers Paper)

Arts Access is supported by the Victorian Ministry for the Arts and the Australia Council, the Federal Government's arts funding and advisory body.

*Making the Arts Work  
for Everyone.*

Photographs by Colin Bogaars and Carol Downey

This annual report has been printed on re-cycled paper.