



# Outline

news from Arts Project Australia



artist: Alan Constable 'Bird'  
1995 Pastel on paper



Arts Project Australia

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**Christmas provides us with a time for reflection, a chance to ponder progress and plan for the coming year. In doing so, it brings to mind all the members, staff, management committee, volunteers, funding bodies and supporters who have made such valuable contributions to the organisation and without whose help the many successes could not have been achieved.**

This year, we have not only seen many exciting new developments, but also experienced great sadness at the death, in July, of the organisation's President and Founder Myra Hilgendorf. Myra's contribution was inestimable and has laid a solid foundation upon which to go forth.

As we look to the future, we welcome those who are new to the organisation and acknowledge with gratitude those who have been involved for some time. In this, the second edition of 'Outline' we focus on some of the exciting new projects and

innovations we will be developing further in the new year. From the positive responses we received about the first edition of 'Outline' we look forward to making this a regular showcase for the activities and talents of those participating in our studio programs, and for enabling people with an intellectual disability to have a stronger voice in the cultural life of the community.

We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season and a bright and prosperous new year.

## Volunteers

Arts Project Australia has the privilege of having volunteers coming in and taking part in many of its activities. Our volunteers, who come from a great variety of backgrounds, become interested in working at Arts Project for many reasons and therefore not surprisingly they find the rewards of working at Arts Project varied and often even surprising.

Fiona Sutherland is one person who has been volunteering her services for about one year. Her background has included gold and silversmithing as well as teaching art for many years in a variety of settings. Fiona's interest in Arts Project goes back to its original exhibition at George's in 1975. Since viewing that exhibition Fiona continued to take an interest in the growth of the organisation albeit from afar. However after sustaining a head injury and having to retire from her usual activities for a time, Fiona decided to take a more active interest in Arts Project and in this way began her time as a volunteer. At the moment she works in the studio one morning a week and is

engaged in a variety of activities. These include recycling art paper, mixing and preparing paints, preparing clay, and occasionally painting and drawing alongside our regular participants.

In talking about her time at Arts Project, Fiona cites the interaction with staff and participants as being particularly enjoyable. She also finds the approach to art that operates in the studio to be very stimulating and refreshing.

If you feel that you would also like to offer your services as a volunteer we would be very pleased to hear from you.

## Art Fair

Our participation in the fifth Australian Contemporary Art Fair at the Royal Exhibition Buildings last month was a great success with many painting sales as well as card and catalogue purchases. Many of the visitors to the Art Fair expressed their interest and appreciation of the works displayed. For many of them, the Art Fair was their first chance to view the work created in the studio workshop and to speak about the work with the artworkers and members of the management committee who manned the display. The good impression that the work left on people was enhanced by the expertise and flair shown in the framing and hanging of the work which was undertaken by Sarah Tomassetti and Clinton Greenwood.

artist: Terry Williams 'Man with tower' 1995 Acrylic on paper







### Bookmaking Project

Following the success of the handmade books, both in the studio and at the Art Fair, we have decided to maintain bookmaking as an ongoing project. For many of our artists, working on books has been intensely involving and they are very pleased to continue working in this format. In the future, Amanda Laming and Sarah Tomassetti, who are overseeing the project, would like to see the venture expand in a way that would give the creators of the books further opportunities to experiment with ways of presenting their work. This experimentation would complement the continued production of high quality hand bound books.

### Printmaking

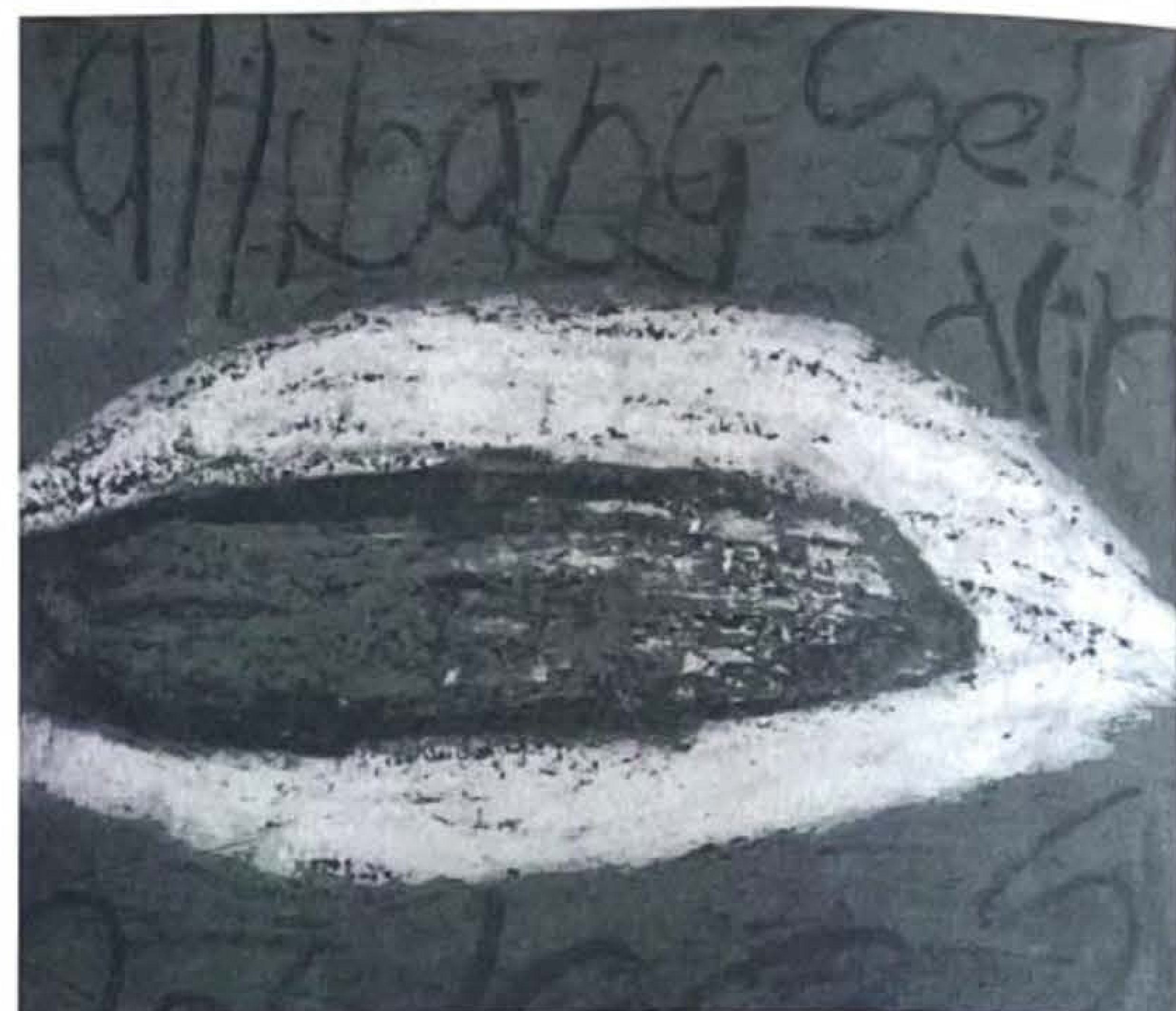
Miniature etchings are the latest works being produced at the Australian Print Workshop by a number of Art Project participants who have been coming to the workshop fortnightly with Artsworker Carmella Grynberg. Some of these prints will be collated into hand bound books and as each artist has produced a series of images some of the artists may choose to include some narrative to complement their images.

### Animation Project

The animation project under the guidance of Tina Douglas is continuing to expand with many of the artists adding sound, words and music to complement their moving images. Other artists are experimenting with ever more sophisticated ways of creating movement and depth to their films. In an exciting new development, Adele Haan from the Media Resource Centre, in Adelaide has been in touch with Tina and has expressed her interest in screening animations from Arts Project Australia in mid January. She has in fact already put Arts Project on the calendar of events so we look forward to their professional debut.

### The Word

During September 1996 Arts Project Australia held an exhibition titled 'The Word'. This exhibition came into being as a response to the works of many artists who use letters and words as the major part of their images. As a happy co-incidence the exhibition opened during the



Westgarth Writers Festival. This gave Arts Project the chance to participate and interact with the local community. Robert and Helen, owners of Alphabet City Cafe and neighbours of Arts Project, organised some of the festival events to be held in our gallery. Two readings were held in the Arts Project Gallery to full houses. They consisted of a crime night with readings by S. Maloney and J. R. Carrol and a play night with readings by P. Motherwell and E. Watt.

### Poles - Poles - Poles

A walk or drive down the Westgarth shopping strip in High Street Northcote is becoming a visual feast as telegraph poles along the street are quietly being painted by the artists at Arts Project Australia. This project took off when traders in the street were thinking about ways to beautify their surroundings. Rather than hiring outsiders to come and work in the street Robert Price from Alphabet City Cafe suggested that our resident artists would be the perfect choice for the task. We look forward to seeing all the poles transformed over time.

### Popular Culture

The travelling exhibition Drawing on Experience: Reflections on Popular Culture is about to open in Canberra at the Canberra Contemporary Art Space. Director of Arts Project Australia, Cheryl Daye, will attend the opening on 3rd December, which is also the International Day of the Disabled Person, and participate in a panel discussion. On the same day in Sydney, Telstra will be launching its new package of services for people with disabilities. This event will also mark the release of Telstra's new phonecard depicting work from this exhibition by artists from Arts Project Australia.

### "Excuse Me"

On Wednesday 8th January 1997 at 8.30pm Channel 31 will be screening the final episode of "Excuse Me" a women's arts program which focuses on women's experiences in the art world. This edition will feature interviews with a number of women artists including Dorothy Berry and Anne Lynch who both attend the Arts Project Australia studio.

### Annual Christmas Show

In the spirit of the season, Arts Project Australia offers a huge selection of works by our artists at ridiculously cheap prices as part of the Annual Christmas Show.



artist: Alan Constable 'Fox' Pastel on paper



Friends, family and the public are invited to join us in celebrating the past year and in welcoming the new. All the variety, colour, and charm of the works of Arts Project will be on offer in a display worthy of the Festive Season. Resplendent in the finest, hand picked op shop frames, these original art works are a gift from the artists to all those who have supported Arts Project in the past, presenting an opportunity to pick up the work of a favourite artist at a bargain price. Of course, it's also the perfect introduction to those thinking of beginning a collection, or wanting an extra special gift! So come join in the celebration, or just pick up a Christmas bargain!

### DSAV Exhibition

Entries by artists with Down Syndrome are currently being sought for the 1997 art exhibition. This exhibition will be held at Arts Project Australia between March 16th -23rd 1997, and works to be exhibited will be chosen by an independent selection panel. For further information and entry forms please contact Arts Project Australia on 9482 4484. Entries close 10th February, 1997.

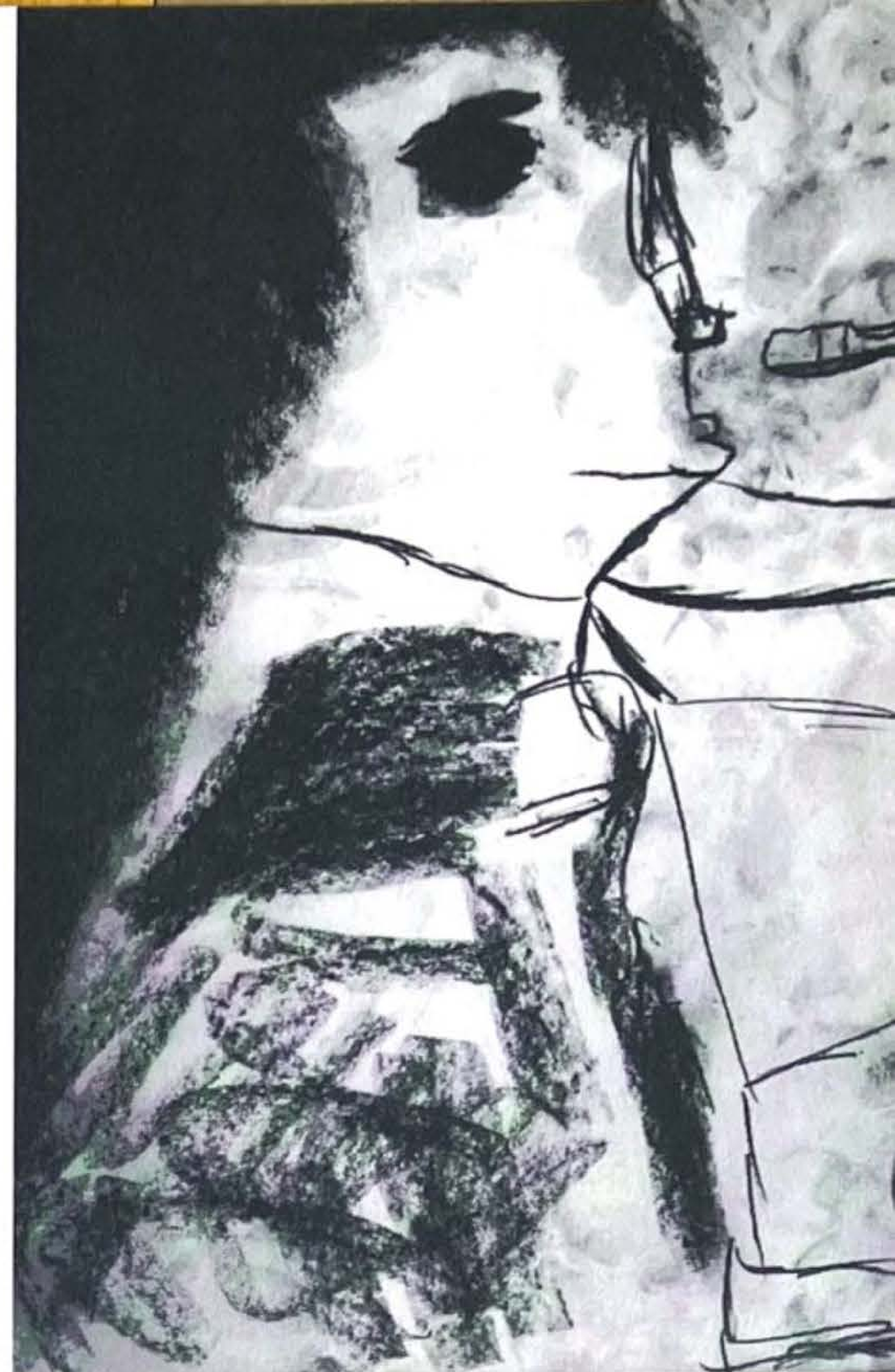
### Feature Artist: Dorothy Berry

Dorothy Berry has attended Arts Project Australia for eight years and approaches her work with great enthusiasm; this is evident in the energy and vibrancy of her technique. She has a keen love of animals which often recur as symbols in her work. In her paintings and drawings, she has developed an intricate set of signs in order to construct extended personal narratives. Her work frequently consists of an accumulation of incidents or symbols, the resulting images are densely packed compositions recounting an experience or articulating a belief or opinion about her life.

Dorothy's work is characterised by her imaginative use of colour and elements of nature. As demonstrated in her recent exhibition Penguins, Ducks, Owls and Angels, the titles she gives her work go a long way towards describing the flavour of her work. Some of these titles include 'A morning Story: in the branches the birds are kissing good morning.' and 'The birds are chirping and the lion's



artist: Dorothy Berry 'Doctor Cat'  
1995 Goache on paper



artist: Kelvin Heffernan 'My Girlfriend' 1995 Charcoal on paper

getting mad.' These quirky titles aptly describe the humour imagination and sheer exuberance which fill Dorothy Berry's works.

Apart from the Arts Project Australia gallery, some of the places Dorothy Berry's work has been shown include 200 Gertrude Street, Australian Print Workshop's Access Studio and the National Gallery of Victoria locally, as well as in Hawaii, Paris, Latvia and Belgium.

### Acknowledgements

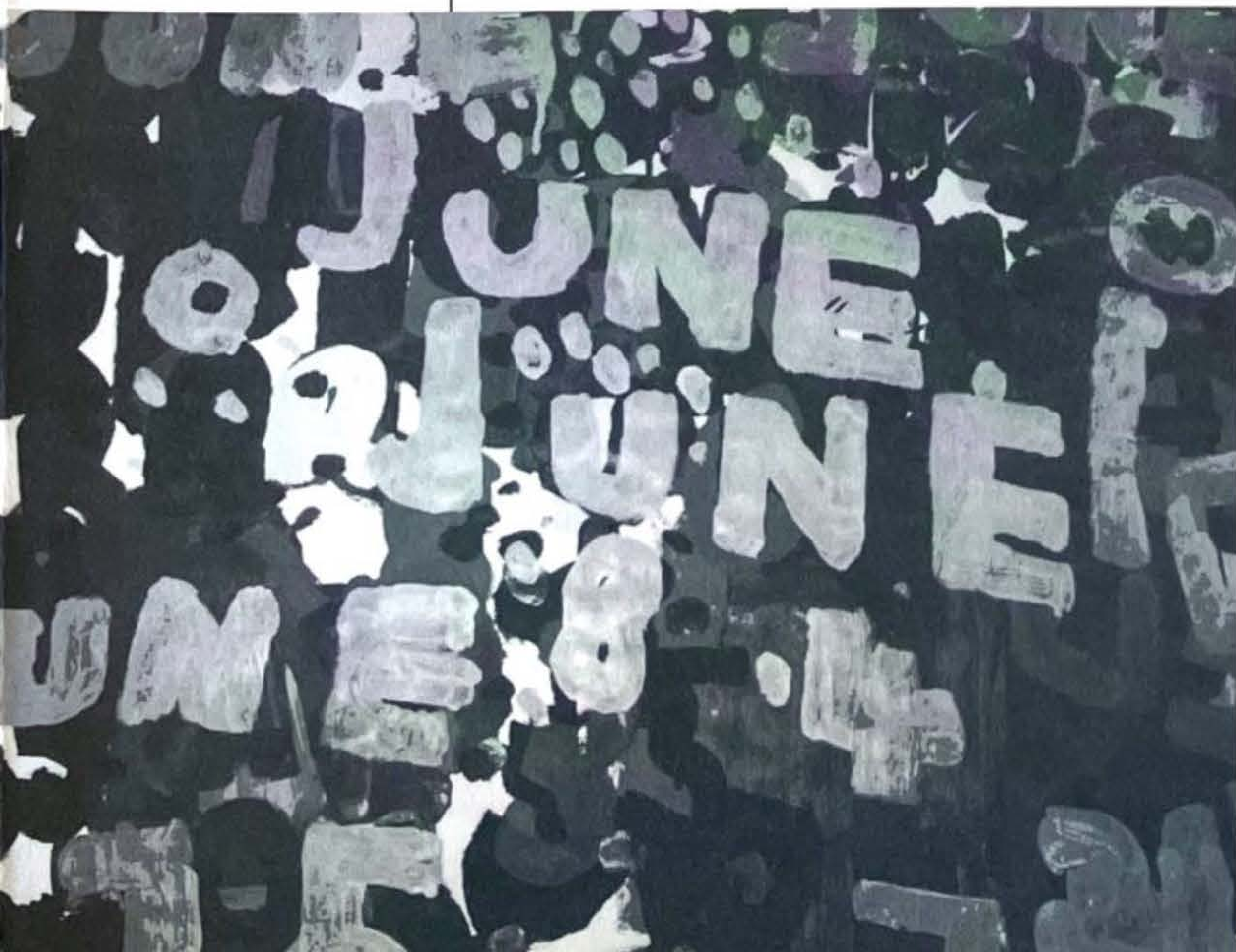
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*We are also grateful for the project funding received through ACFE (Council of Adult, Community and Further Education), Dept. Sport and Recreation Victoria, the Australia Council, Arts Victoria, the Australia Foundation for Culture and the Humanities, and the Stegley foundation.*

*Arts Project Australia is an incorporated association and a recognised charity.*

*Donations over \$2.00 are tax deductible. Membership subscriptions are available for \$20.00 per annum.*



artist: Chris Jackson 'June' 1995 Acrylic on paper





artist: Dorothy Berry 'Charlie Chaplin, his wife and a wife' Pastel on paper