

TUTTI ARTS
june 2008
EXHIBITION

'mosaic clouds'



PEPPER STREET ARTS CENTRE JUNE 6 - 27


tutti

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MOSAIC CLOUDS

*"Jivin' on down to the beach, to see
the blue and the grey
Everything is all on, and it's rosy,
it's a beautiful day." – Syd Barrett*

Finally got to visit the Tutti visual artists' studio. The atmosphere was great; everyone friendly and happy... a hive of creative activity... and ocean breezes! Tim Cannell was there. I've been a fan of his pictures for years. We have one on our wall at home... hanging between a Balgo painting and a print by the German artist A.R. Penk.

Tim has developed a distinctive theme and a style of his own. His consistent motif has been grid like structures... aerial views? City-scapes? Street maps? I love them... because they are absolutely original. He is a real talent. I wanted to see them big!

Recently, some other images for this show have arrived by email. The first is particularly delightful... a beach scene by Kimberly. It's a halcyon day... sun and the sea, blue skies and fluffy clouds. There's a dolphin, the surf, a picnic display. Fish and other marine life array themselves around a girl playing.

The colours are as jubilant as a cartoon. My eye dances from one element to the next. A song comes to mind... I spend hours trying to recollect the tune. Art can do that to you!

The next picture by Jasmine Jones has a curious animal at its centre. The background is abstract... blocks of clean colour. A red square dominates.

I thought of Rothko... but happier! It's a brown fox... depicted with just a few quick gestures, and a smile.

In more experimental work by Jenna May and Jasmine... collage and stencils have been used very effectively in the construction of the paintings... Matisse? In Jasmine's piece an asymmetrical form is repeated three times... sea-horse? Fractal?... Marine floral! The sea plant theme is also present in Jenna's painting. Two red edged, plant-like outlines... just enough to suggest a

pattern... float in a field of horizontal and vertical shapes. The colours... mostly blues with subtle traces of white and pink, are confidently applied with a Klee-like 'scumbling' technique.

And these are just a few examples. Clearly the Tutti VA program is being very successful in its encouragement of technical experimentation and individual artistic development. There is obviously a lot of talent here... and enjoyment to be had! I am left eager to see more.

Paul Hoban,
Tutti Visual Arts Advisor
May 2008



Jasmine Jones, 'Fox' 2008, acrylic on paper, 28 x 38cm



Tim Cannell, 'Fences' 2008, acrylic on canvas, 25 x 25cm

A DAY AT TUTTI VISUAL ARTS

- 9.00 Arrival. "Hello." "Hi." Bags Dumped. Drinks of water, tea, coffee.
"Can I talk to you about something?" "Ok."
- 9.30 Begin. Breathe and stretch. Taking places. Some sit close, some like space. Jars, brushes, lumps of clay selected. Day's brief. Suggestion. Direction. Feedback. Encouragement.
"I can't do that." "Think about the painting of the tree you made. You said you couldn't do that, but you tried, and you did."
"Ok. I did, didn't I?" Thick paint dragged on.
"It's too hard." "Keep going." "Lighten blue with white. How many blues can you make?"
- 10.00 Progress. "I need yellow!" "How about some black lines here?"
"Are you forcing or suggesting?" Good question. What am I doing? Guiding, teaching, showing, facilitating, coordinating, controlling, suggesting. "I am suggesting." "Look at this colour, how vibrant it is. Show the others." "How do you do a cloud?"
- 10.30 Break. Cups of tea. Looking through the kitchen window to the ocean - today steely grey, yesterday brilliant turquoise.
- 11.00 Work. "That looks great! See how when you layer one colour over another you get this beautiful effect." Squared canvas, a kaleidoscope of shapes and colours, rich and glowing. Hearts on, over and etched into squares. Hands quick and deft, and a lump of clay morphs into an elephant. Rough, ancient, heavy, knowing.
- 12.00 Lunch. Food bought, heated, eaten. Sitting outside, looking to the hills. Pine trees latticed against the sky. Magpies watch and wait. Phone rings. Jars refilled.
- 1.00 Work. "How about taping up the canvas to make those stripes?"
"I don't want to do this anymore." "Can I have more paper?"
"Ok. But work on this next time. It's looking good, and needs just a bit more."
Transparent autumn yellows and golds, gridded over black and green.
In another room, a tentative, scratchy line follows photographed sequences of images on a computer screen. A new thing is made, an animation. "How'd it go?"
"Ok. Do you want to come and see?" "Love to. Wow!"
No high tech, international, mind-bogglingly expensive production can match the poignancy of these first explorations. Paul Klee's idea of taking a line for a walk, made real.
- 2.45 Review. Jars emptied. Brushes rinsed, clay wiped, pencils collected. Canvases displayed.
White cut-out clouds over a sweet blue sky. Rainbows and butterflies direct from happy cartoons.
A kind of perfection, created in an imperfect world.

Melanie Fulton
Tutti Visual Arts and Design Coordinator

Exhibiting Artists:

Aimee Crathern
Alexandra Hill
Charlie Taplin
Debbie Osborne
Jackie Saunders
James Kurtze
Jane Hewitt
Jasmine Jones
Jenna May
Kimberly Sellers
Sophie Janzon
Tim Cannell
Tracey Pagett
Trisha Ferguson



Charlie Taplin, 'Stripes' 2008, acrylic on canvas, 35 x 46cm



Jenna May, 'Hearts' 2008, acrylic and beads on canvas, 30 x 40cm



Kimberly Sellers 'Day at the Beach' 2008, acrylic on paper, 28 x 38cm



James Kurtze, 'Dream of Boat Riding on a Chocolate River' 2008, acrylic on canvas, 45 x 60cm



• Inclusion
• Respect
• Choice



Tutti Arts is a partnership
program with Minda Inc.

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