

## A new year, a new creative opportunity

Welcome to 2009 and the new look Tutti newsletter where we remember the highlights of 2008 and alert you to two exciting events coming up in the near future. The official launch of Tutti Kids in partnership with Novita Childrens Services by the Honourable Jennifer Rankine, Minister for Disability, is on February 14th at the Odeon Theatre. In March Tutti presents the Australian premiere of Richard Chew and Orlando Gough's radical community opera *The Shouting Fence* at the State Opera Studio for the Adelaide International Fringe Festival.

Adolescence is an intense time of growth and transition and as Tutti leaps into its twelfth year and Tutti Arts into its fifth, having a newsletter which reflects our expanded world-view to members, friends, sponsors, partners and colleagues is timely and exciting.

December 2008 marks our first year as a Key Producer with the Australia Council and as national winner of the inaugural *Australian Music in Communities Awards*. Both are great achievements and with over 220 music organisations nominated for the awards, it's no wonder both Jonathon Welch and



Tutti Kids made their sensational debut at Mission Ignition, July 2008.

Hon. Peter Garret sang our praises.

It means that our brand of social inclusion is working, that cultural constructs about disability are shifting, and that Tutti is opening doors to a new world of possibilities for everyone in the community. It is also great to know, that through our contribution to the national Arts and Disability strategy we are doing our bit to change public perceptions about disability and encourage debate about public policy and law.

2008 saw several excellent high profile interstate performances by our singers, and Tutti's visual artists collectively presented their fabulous and colourful *Mosaic Clouds Exhibition* at Pepper St Studios. Since then, in SALA and other events, several individuals have exhibited and sold work at Marie Hart's Gallery Glenelg, Hedgerow Flowers Fullarton and AARTBOX in Sydney.

In July, Tutti Kids made a sensational debut at *Mission Ignition*, the World Youth Day concert at Adelaide Entertainment Centre which also brought Tutti, St Bakhita and the Big Country Choir together on stage for the Sing for Life project. The animation and film work produced by Digitech artists was enthusiastically received at the ARATA Conference in September and in October, *Blind Date* attracted significant attention at Australian Regional Art at the Heart Conference in Alice Springs, and has been booked for an Adelaide Metropolitan tour in March 2009 and a Northern Territory tour in 2010.

It was a real experience being away with four blind singers in Alice and then Victoria for the *Awakenings Festival*. They helped me see, feel, touch and taste the world in a very different way

and I learned things about rubber and cactus that most sighted people might never know. I also never would have believed that you could re-write an entire show between Bordertown and Horsham. But then, as everyone keeps reminding me *'Anything is Possible'*

Hearty congratulations to Annika Hooper, Brenton Shaw, Aimee Crathern, Emma Taylor, Jayne Hewetson and Michele Thredgold for a stunning standing ovation performance with Jonathon Welch and Kevin Cameron and the Unley Concert Band for the Australia Day Luncheon at the Adelaide Town Hall on Jan 23rd. It was breathtaking.

See you at *The Shouting Fence*. For *Blind Date's* Out of the Square performance venues, dates and times in March 2009 see: [www.tutti.org.au](http://www.tutti.org.au)

Pat Rix

Artistic Director

PAT'S PAGE



### diary dates

- Feb 14** Launch of Tutti Kids  
Odeon Theatre, Norwood
- Mar 10 - 18** Out of The Square  
*Blind Date* Matinee Season
- Mar 19 - 28**  
*The Shouting Fence* - collaboration  
with Opera SA, Opera Studio,  
Netley

[www.tutti.org.au](http://www.tutti.org.au)

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

"The Tutti Monster takes us for a wild, exciting, galumping ride  
to places we would never have dreamed of." - Judy Daily 2008

« unlocking creativity »





## tutti visual arts

Tutti Visual Arts has been quietly busy over the last few months. After our major exhibition *Mosaic Clouds* and our *Open Studio* for SALA, as well as some of our artists being involved in independent exhibitions, we have been diligently working away in preparation for shows in 2009.



Our Artists have had individual success in several exhibitions in the latter part of 2008. Charlie Taplin exhibited a painting, *Stripes 2* in October as part of Accessible Arts' AART BOXX show at the Tin Sheds Gallery in Sydney.

Charlie sold his work – our first Artist to sell interstate!

Aimee Crathern won the *Under 26 Young Artists Award* at the *Arts Access A Frame 2008* exhibition, held in the Adelaide Festival Centre in November. Jasmine Jones, Jenna May and Jackie Saunders all won Commendations in this exhibition and Jenna won 3rd in the People's Choice. Trisha Ferguson was accepted to exhibit in Melbourne in December 08, in the *Difference, source for growth* show, organised by DISTSS (Disability In-Service Training Support Service) at the Gasworks Arts Park in Albert Park. Great work girls!

## digitech

Digitech now has its own YouTube channel!

To view animations, music video clips, please go to [HYPERLINK "http://www.youtube.com/user/philipgriffin"](http://www.youtube.com/user/philipgriffin)

This year Tutti Visual Artists have made three music videos; two featuring songs from Aimee Crathern's recent



Tutti Artist Alexandra Hill at work in the Tutti Visual Arts and Design Program

CD recording and one from Annika Hooper's latest CD.



Short films have also been part of Digitech's focus for 2008 with editing just finished on an 18 minute film by James Kurtze entitled *My Brother Kushal and His Passage Out of India*. James takes us on the inside of his family's trip to India to collect James' new brother Kushal from an orphanage in Pune. The quality of the storytelling is magical and we hope to submit it to short film festivals and eventually try for a broadcast screening.

## tutti choir

A quick update of recent Tutti Choir performances include the Nature Foundation Annual Dinner at the SA Wine Centre, International Day of Disability Concert Celebration, Combined Concert with Norwood Symphony Orchestra, Carols on the Lawn at Minda, Carols Service together with Brighton Secondary School music students in the beautiful St Peters Cathedral in North Adelaide, our fantastic Christmas Concert and Carols on Whitmore Square.

Annika Hooper's beautiful singing of *Paradicsom* accompanied by Philip Griffin, Paddy Montgomery and Anne Harrington at Channel Seven's *Carols by Candlelight* at Elder Park on December 21st was wonderful.

Tutti began the year with an outstanding performance by Annika Hooper, Aimee Crathern, Brenton Shaw, Emma Taylor, Jayne Hewetson and Michele Thredgold with Jonathon Welch and the Unley Concert Band for the 2009 *Australia Day Lunch* (Jan 23rd) at the Adelaide Town Hall where they received a standing ovation.

## performing arts

A new appointment for Tutti Performing Arts is co-ordinator Juha Vanhakartano. Juha brings a deep knowledge of movement and physical theatre to his role at Tutti and first up introduced a fitness and stamina program for the artists.

Our work for the next year will focus on encouraging a self generation of ideas from the artists themselves with interaction between movement and voice - 'exploring myself in my world'.





Tutti Performing Arts will also be involved in a training film project for Minda's new training centre.

It has also been a busy time for our Tutti Choir members Annika Hooper, Emma Taylor and Jason Crowhurst who together with partially sighted blues musician Chris Finnen and non-sighted singer-songwriter Michele Thredgold make up the cast of *Blind Date*, an original eye-opening cabaret which premiered at the Adelaide Fringe 2008. With a standout performance at *Art at the Heart* in Alice Springs as well as a successful show at *Awakenings* in Horsham, Victoria, in 2009 *Blind Date* is set to take Adelaide by storm with a matinee season of a new show *Out of the Square*.

### club tutti

Club Tutti formed five years ago as a choir for people who want to sing but can't perform or don't want to perform in front of an audience. Club Tutti also acts as a training ground for those wanting to join the Tutti Choir - to get the feel of the choir and what it might be like to become a member.

Our repertoire is varied and wide, from folk songs to gospel to contemporary African. The choir has proudly sung The Beatles' *Yellow Submarine* every week for the last five years as well as *Sun Arise* by Rolf Harris as repetition is a good basis for choir activities. The choir size can vary each week with a core group of 15 members; a combination of Minda residents, community members and volunteer support workers. Grant, our piano accompanist, has brought along a work colleague and one of his friends to join the choir which proves the power of word of mouth. If you want to come along and sing please contact Sharon on 8422 6510, everyone is welcome.

### tutti kids

Tutti Kids currently has drama and music programs for pre-school and primary school children with a disability in Parafield Gardens, Christies Beach and Lower Mitchum. As a result of excellent feedback on the work of Tutti Kids, Novita will be supporting our program for 2009 commencing with a launch on 14 February at the Odeon Theatre, Norwood.

If you know of any Mums with kids who would benefit from joining us, please call Karen on 0412 548 889.



### big country choir: clare

The Big Country Choir began life as part of the *High Beam* Project, with choir sections in Clare, Barossa Valley and Wallaroo. To date, the Clare and Barossa choirs are still going strong with Sue Puccetti currently directing our Clare vocal group with Paul McCleod as accompanist.

Our repertoire is developing and growing with recent performances for the State Conference for Weight Watchers, Country Women's Association, Volunteers of the District, SALA, concert at Anlaby Station as well as concerts with the Tutti Choir at the Bundaleer Festival, The Fringe Festival, Tutti's 10 year celebration at the Adelaide Town Hall and World Youth Day at the Entertainment Centre. We are currently rehearsing for



**Dougie's World**



Just after 8.30pm, on a Tuesday night, tune into ABC Adelaide 891 to hear Tutti Artist Dougie Jacobsson and ABC Radio presenter Peter Goers talk Tutti events, happenings and just a little bit of Tutti gossip...

our part in *The Shouting Fence*, a Tutti collaboration with SA Opera in 2009.

### big country choir: barossa

The Big Country Choir - Barossa branch (called *Choir of Delights* locally) has performed throughout the past 12 months at the SALA Festival, the VIP Group (for our members with vision impairment), the opening of a new performance venue *The Lodge* for an audience of community and of local services organisations, Spotlight in the Valley Concert also celebrating our 10th birthday and a joint Big Country Choir - Clare and Barossa performance at Anlaby Homestead where we had a wonderful time absorbing the fabulous ambience of the event and catching up with other choir members. We always love getting together with the larger choir group - it energises us!



Rose painted by Tutti Artist Jenna May





## word from the president and chair

As Tutti President, I celebrate the re-birth of the Newsletter in such a jaunty and colourful form. It very effectively shows the many sections that work together to make up the brilliant entity that is our Ensemble.

As Board Chair, I thank its volunteer members who provide their time and considerable talent to making sure that the fundamentals of an organisation like ours are in good working order. The Board has no public profile but it deals constantly with matters like finance, staffing, succession planning, liaison and fund raising; it makes possible what the rest of us do, and that's important.

**John Daily**  
Tutti President



## in appreciation of support for tutti:

Donations over \$2 are tax deductible and we thank all those who have supported Tutti during 2008.

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## the shouting fence

Tutti's forthcoming Australian premiere of *The Shouting Fence* – Don't miss this divine cantata for youth and community choirs and professional singers at the State Opera Studio Netley from March 19th - 28th.  
(bookings [www.adelaidefringe.com.au](http://www.adelaidefringe.com.au))

Written by Richard Chew and Orlando Gough, this work was premiered at the South Bank in London in 1994, and has been performed many times since throughout the UK and the Netherlands. *The Shouting Fence* is the story of a village in the Golan Heights divided by a stretch of no-man's-land during the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, and where the separated occupants shout news to each other across

the divide each Friday with the aid of megaphones. In this compelling alternately despairing and joyful work Tutti brings together singers from the Tutti and the Adelaide Harmony Chorus with refugee singers from many African countries and the Big Country Choir to highlight our human needs for communication and mutual love.  
There are only eight performances so book early.

Tutti gratefully acknowledges the following sponsors:



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Please support the Australian Premiere of 'The Shouting Fence' with a donation:

We are working hard in South Australia to support young people with disabilities to discover their creativity, unlock their potential and develop skills which benefit themselves, their families, and their communities.

With your help, we need to raise an additional \$19,000 to ensure all access and production needs are met to stage *The Shouting Fence*.

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