

Pleasing Poets

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 What was great about the Cup this year? I'll tell you. The 'youngens'. The exploration of hip-hop rap rhythms, and taking it, exposing it, rediscovering the wonder of language through the rediscovery of poetry through music that has cycled back through sound and rhythm to another generation of meaning. It was great to hear the judges agreeing with me.



Gina LaCosta

they got it right again. From the eight highly polished finals performances, they awarded Benny Zennabomb the \$2,000 first prize with his stylistically diverse explorations of identity, and Ruthie Shinn with her hard-headed appeal to the heart, won the \$500 People's Choice Award.

To tell you the truth ... I don't care who won. There is a sea change swirling in the uncanny brew of the Nimbin Cup. It is changing the way we hear and respond to performance poetry. Bring it on!



Benna Zennabomb

Some judge on the message, others judge on the beauty and the expertise of crafted word. We all 'judge' on how we dance with language, with the synergy of word, meaning, heart, companionship, and pleasure, and the underlying passion of the presentation.

So, if judges can get it right,



Ruthie Shinn



Jelly Duffa



Cabaret 360 goes off!

by Natascha Wernick, Ukitopia Arts Collective

Uki locals were astounded to see people lining up down the street last Friday night in a desperate effort to get tickets and seats to see the amazing Cabaret 360. With the Uki hall full to capacity some punters had to be turned away.

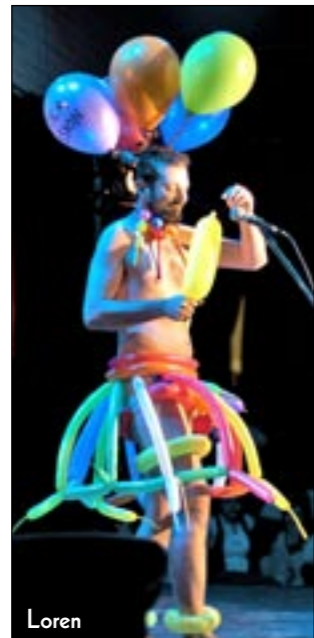
The audience was not disappointed. With no less than 23 performances gathered from the Tweed Shire area, organiser Natascha Wernick said "people were expressing so much gratitude and awe as they left. Many of the audience left saying how inspire d they were and how they would like audition for

the next Cabaret". She said she received a phone call from one audience member who had come down from Brisbane for the event stating as a result was now going to move to Uki!

Performance artists included Kalyani, 12 years old, who played and sang a touching song she had written about the Silver Brumby; local folk singer Loren dressed in nothing but balloons performing an hilarious looping sound act; a larger-than-human praying mantis strutting through the audience to interact with a shadow puppet garden and munching on a stolen spider; a green Elvis reborn, reformed and recycled; and a naked granny getting intimate with a mop and bucket.

The event was organized by Ukitopia Arts Collective, a dynamic membership based non-profit organization dedicated to supporting arts and community in the region. This will be an annual event, next year occurring in May.

Memberships (\$10) are now up for renewal and are available at the members-only costume party and feast on 12th September at Uki Hall, 7pm. All welcome. For more information email ukitopia@gmail.com or go to www.myspace.com/ukitopiaartscollective.



Loren

Fashion Focus



by Christina Chester

CC-Design, my studio and shop, opened for the first time on Friday 31st July with a well-attended, colourful opening party.

I felt very welcomed into the Nimbin Business Community, and fully appreciated all the warm support I received. I want to thank my sons Zeppi and Nemo for the delicious catering, and the friends who helped out where needed; also Thorsten Jones for the fantastic photography.

I really love being creative in that beautiful building, thanks to Mal and Leslie. Unfortunately the view of the Nimbin Rocks from the shop's veranda is now obscured by the rudest and most visually unattractive, uncommunicated communications tower. That THING has to go.

Recycled Creations

HoneyCut, one of our superb designers, made me aware of the National Recycling Week 8-15th November. We thought to embrace the idea and incorporate the theme into our next Show. I encourage all designers to utilise secondhand materials to create one or two or even a whole collection of re-designed, remodelled, re-constituted, resurrected... Fashion!

Honey became a student finalist in the Australian Fashion Awards in Brisbane in 2003, while completing her Diploma in Textiles, Clothing and Footwear at Wollongbar

TAFE, by creating a garment from recycled Glomesh handbags.

She went on to organise the student section of the Northern Rivers Lifeline Retro Fashion Show at Lismore Workers Club, showcasing local designers and TAFE students creating recycled clothing from Lifeline op shops.

Over the past couple of years, HoneyCut has worked as a volunteer at St Vincent de Paul, and more recently as a cutter/sorter at the Matthew Talbot Clothing Recycling Centre, where she is in a unique position to source clothing, remnant fabric pieces and haberdashery items such as buttons and zips, at a nominal price that she is willing to pass on to other designers interested in a recycled fashion show.

Honey would like to showcase recycling businesses at a Recycling Expo during National Recycling Week. Anyone interested, please ring Honey after hours on 6688-6312.



Print!

An exhibition of print-works by local artists will be on show at Blue Knob Hall Gallery (Blue Knob Rd., Lillian Rock) from August 13 - September 27, Thursday - Sunday 10am - 4pm.

All of the work on show - etchings, lino prints, lithographs, screenprints etc. are original handmade artworks (like paintings or drawings) except they are created in multiples. They are not printed commercially by machine or desk top printer, eg, giclee printing, or other photographic or digital processes.

Images are:- hand carved in lino or wood (lino or wood block print); scratched into plastic, cardboard or copper (engraving or drypoint); chemically etched by acid into a metal plate (etching); drawn with greasy pencil or paint on stone (lithograph); painted on a taut silk screen (screenprint) - inked by hand, then printed onto paper using pressure. The process of inking and printing is repeated for each individual print.

There are many technical variations. Each process results in a different sort of mark. Artists will often have a favourite and will sometimes use several different techniques to create the result they are after. Present day printmaking can mimic any form of painted or



drawn mark. A group of prints, printed from the same block, stone, plate or screen is called an edition. Each individual piece is signed by the artist, often with a title, and a number that indicates how many prints in the edition.

Some of the most striking works of art known have been prints - think Toulouse-Lautrec posters. The wonderful works in this exhibition are no less striking, though markedly cheaper than those of Lautrec, AND we offer a 15% discount on all works purchased at the Official Opening!

So come along on Friday August 14th at 6:30 pm to enjoy the prints and learn about print-work and perhaps also partake of a scrumptious dinner at the veranda café if booked (telephone, 0266 897449; Dinner \$15/ dessert \$4).



Nimbin Art Collective

The formal opening of the recently formed Nimbin Art Collective will be held at the Regional Gallery (the rainbow building) in Cullen Street, with an auction of particular works before the opening.

This will begin at 4pm leading into the Grand Opening and Exhibition at 6pm on Friday 21st August. This is an auspicious event for the Nimbin community. This artistic enterprise affords an opportunity for potential sponsors to invest

in indigenous art as well as established local artists.

The gallery is currently a working space for the artists preparing their works for the opening. Your patronage is welcome and you are invited to view the process in action, specifically.

Artists include Rodney Sharpe, Elspeth Jones, Gilbert Lawrie, Burri Jerome and Roslyn Parry.

Please contact Inez at 0427-409-626 or email inez.price@bigpond.com.au for further information.



Workshop takes shape

by Jeni Kendall

As we buzz around building, sanding and painting our new workshop space, many people have looked in with a smile. "When will it be ready?" "We will have the opening in September - ready for Spring" we reply. "So get your ideas together for classes to teach, cinema nights, yoga, life drawing, felt making... whatever".

The workshop is being built at the back of the Blue Knob Hall Gallery and Café and already looks like it has always been there. It is a light and bright room about 9 x 4.2 metres inside with a fantastic wooden floor and a little verandah out the front. It will be wheelchair friendly and available for hire. We are really hoping that it will bring lots more people to enjoy the Gallery and Café and the beautiful view of Blue Knob.

Jon Bell and Nathan Carthew have been the builders and have done a wonderful job even though it rained for much of the time. We would like to thank them for their skill and generosity as they threw in some of their wages to help us get finished. Barry Harding did the excavation work as a community service. Many others helped in all kinds of ways with Heather Kimber providing daily cooking meals for the workers. Thanks to everyone to date who has helped build this much needed community space.

Arts NSW kindly gave us a "Capital Infrastructure Grant" of \$33,000 and the Lismore City Council a grant of \$7,000. The remaining money coming from concerts, artwork raffles, "Cinema at the Gallery" nights and donations. As ever in our wonderful community, many people have made this happen and we know our new workshop will be well used and a welcome addition to the cultural life of the area.



Bentley Art Prize

The 25th annual Bentley Art Prize again attracted hundreds of entries, competing for the \$9,000 prize pool in 14 Sections.

Joanna Burgler (above) won the \$1000 Tursa Open Painting Prize, while the \$1000 Casino RSM Acquisition Prize was taken out by Barb Suttie.

A new category for Indigenous Art, with a \$500

prize donated by the Koori Mail, was won by Jai Walker.

Organiser Helen Trustrum told the large crowd at the official opening that the variety of high quality work showed that art was alive and well in the region.

Monies raised from this event is gifted to selected charities, as well as providing maintenance funding for the Bentley Public Hall.



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