



SWELL

SCULPTURE FESTIVAL

"Getting art out there"

Composition

Issue Three May 2008

Welcome to the May edition of *Composition*.

After promoting the Call for Entries for 2008 we were inundated with entries!

The curatorial panel, Fran Cummings, Natasha Edwards, Dev Lengjel and John Walsh met in early April and deliberated for more than six hours. After many cups of tea and coffee the panel selected a broad and creative range of artworks that will culminate in a quality exhibition in September.

Thank you to all the artists who applied, we look forward to seeing your sculpture at the beach and working with you at the exhibition.

Thank you to committee member Anna Itkonen for her helpful administrative work leading up to and during the meeting and to Natasha Edwards for her valuable experience in organising a streamlined process for the applications and for the swanky presentation at the meeting. A big thanks to the entire curatorial panel for their time, careful thoughts, insight and expertise in choosing wonderful artworks for Swell Sculpture 2008.

News of interest is the \$2,000 GCD Alliance Environmental Awareness Award. Swell Sculpture Directors met CEO Allan Davies, Danielle Thompson and Carla Carroll from GCD Alliance and were presented with a cheque to support the award. Swell Sculpture looks forward to this new relationship with GCD Alliance and acknowledges the support of an award that artists strive for and value. More news on the award inside this issue.

The exhibition is expanding and 2008 will bring you more - a public art symposium and an interactive sculpture installation. As we grow we incur more costs. If you love Swell, why not show your support through our Swell Friends program. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible and you will get a groovy little bumper sticker to flash about town!

'getting art out there'
The Swell Team

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

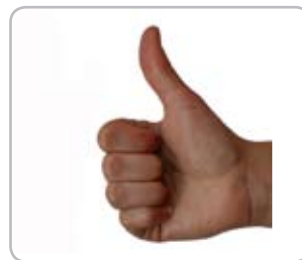
SWELL NEWS!



ARTIST PROFILE



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS



SITE SPONSORS



a quarterly newsletter focused on getting art out there

A SWELL NOMINATION

Swell Sculpture Festival has been selected as a finalist in the Yellow™ Local Business Champions Program.

The Yellow™ Local Business Champions program is designed to honour outstanding small businesses in local communities.

A big thanks to our nominator, Cardo S.P.L.A.T

Wish us luck!

Janet Holmes à Court Artists' Grant

The Janet Holmes à Court Artists' Grant is designed to provide financial assistance to professional artists for the public presentation of their work. This funding is made possible through a generous donation from Mrs Janet Holmes à Court and the support of the Visual Arts Board of the Australia Council.

Closing dates: 15 May & 15 August

For more information go to:
www.visualarts.net.au

THE CURATORIAL MEETING



From left to right:
John Walsh, Fran Cummings,
Natasha Edwards and Dev Lengjel.



Swell NEWS

GCD Alliance Environmental Awareness Award

As society becomes more aware of its impact on our surroundings, the environmental award has become an important element of the exhibition. As a result, the award will be officially termed as the Environmental Awareness Award. Site Curator Dev Lengjel was instrumental in this change and has clarified its criteria as sculptures that must raise coast awareness for environmental issues facing the world today.

For sculptural works

- that use recycled materials, found objects and/or natural objects.
- takes a definitive stand for the environment through interpreting nature by creating works that inform us about nature and its processes and the environmental issues we face.
- that are concerned with environmental forces and materials creating works that are affected by wind or water.

It should most importantly be motivated by a drive to change social attitudes and inspire environmental improvement.



Danielle Thompson, Natasha Edwards, Jason Allen and Allan Davie at the presentation of the GCD Alliance Environmental Awareness Award cheque.



Profile 02: Frank Miles

When did you realize that you wanted to be a sculptor?

Sculpting and the love of art and beautiful shapes chose me not the other way round. I have been a professional sculptor for the past 30 years.

What prompts your thoughts when considering concepts?

The love of life, the natural world, beautiful women and any subject that moves me. There is not enough time to turn all my ideas into bronzes.

What is your main medium when sculpting and how does this medium better convey your concepts than another?

I only use silicone bronze. It is the medium of choice for sculpting and has been for millennia.

What do you feel is the major difference between exhibiting at an outdoor exhibition like Swell Sculpture and an indoor space?

It is the wonderful environment, open air, sea and the people are so relaxed more so than in an indoor gallery.

What is the most challenging artwork you have worked on and why was it so?

Every piece has its own challenges and that is one of the cocktail of reasons why art is so exciting

What is the funniest incident that has occurred while either sculpting or installing artwork?

Installing a life size Leopard in a client's garden and his dogs went mad, hackles raised and barking and generally regarding the sculpture as a real threat. Even to this day, the client informs me his dogs give the piece a wide wary berth.

What is your favourite piece that you have worked on?

The piece I am working on at present. All my sculptures are like my children. I love them all.

What is your opinion of the value of public art in today's society?

Public art is vital. Without it our society would be sterile and our planet would be a sad place. It uplifts the spirit often without the viewer realizing it and the more people whose spirits are enriched the better.

What is your opinion of the importance of art and culture in a school curriculum?

Vital and I feel sadly lacking. Art teaches children self expression and discipline.

Which artists have influenced you over time?

Every piece of art I view influences me one way or the other, some to a far greater extent than others. The art that has had the greatest influence on me is the beauty of the natural world that is all around us; I need no more.

Images from left to right: Sun Spirit | Swell 06; Melody; No More Harpoons | Swell 07; Frank Miles

Feeling friendly?



Carla Van Laar Spiral for Peace Swell 2006

By financially supporting Swell Sculpture Festival and its vision of 'getting art out there' you will directly strengthen and sustain its core and expand the realm of this highly popular visual arts exhibition that everyone can experience as a free event.

BECOME A SWELL FRIEND!

DONATIONS over \$2 ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

HOW WILL MY SUPPORT HELP SWELL... your support will help employ industry professionals who will run programs that will ensure exceptional opportunities for artists, visitors, the community and the business sector.

YOUR SUPPORT WILL HELP WITH PROGRAMS SUCH AS...

The Swell Education Program where funding is needed to develop an education kit for schools .

The Swell Symposium which will provide an opportunity to discuss and engage with topics on public art and the sustainability of the arts sector.

The Swell Artist Program where donations can provide a structure of support for artists such as logistical assistance.

The Swell Volunteer Program where donations will provide for the development, training and purchase of resources for our valuable Volunteer Team.

by **BECOMING A SWELL FRIEND...** you will receive a bumper sticker to proudly display as acknowledgement of your contribution.

For more information or to download a form go to:

www.swellsculpture.com.au



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

WE ARE CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS FOR THE LEAD UP TO SWELL AND FOR DURING THE EXHIBITION.

You can volunteer as much or as little time as you like. It is a great opportunity to engage with people in the community and to get into the creative and energetic atmosphere of Swell!

We are supported by our volunteers through all stages of exhibition, these include:

- Administrative support throughout the year and during the exhibition.
- Support with installation and de-installation of sculptures.
- Assistance during the exhibition: information tent, roaming catalogue sales, survey collection, merchandise sales to name a few.
- Working within the education program to help facilitate workshops.
- Maintenance and security patrols of the site during the exhibition.

What you get out of it!

- An official exhibition catalogue
- A Swell T-shirt & cap
- Complimentary coupons from nearby retailers
- An invitation to the *Volunteer Party* in July to meet up with new and old friends.
- An invitation to the *Volunteer After Party*
- All volunteers are acknowledged with a Certificate of Appreciation.
- plus more.....

This is a great opportunity to contribute back to your community.

Volunteers will meet for a full brief in late August so please register your interest NOW!

Please contact Anna Itkonen at anna@swellsculpture.com.au

SPONSOR A SCULPTURE SITE!

'getting your name out there'

Swell has introduced an opportunity for individuals, groups, organisations and companies to sponsor sculpture sites at the 2008 exhibition.

SITE SPONSOR BENEFITS

- Your name or logo engraved on a brushed aluminium plate and attached to the numbered site identifying you as a site sponsor seen by around 200,000 visitors.
- A listing on the Swell Sculpture Festival website with a link to your website.
- Receive a certificate with your allocated site number to display during the exhibition as acknowledgment of your support and to keep as a memento.
- Sponsorship may be tax deductible – please see your accountant for specific tax advice.

For \$1000 + gst, this is an opportunity to show your support for Swell and get your name out there!




The site and sponsor will be selected randomly and all funds will go towards Swell Sculpture Festival and subsidising artist expenses.

Swell maintains its focus on providing the community with a free exhibition and providing an open avenue of artistic expression for artists.

REGISTRATION FORMS AVAILABLE ONLINE
www.swellsculpture.com.au

If you do not wish to receive *Composition* please email composition@swellsculpture.com.au

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 Design www.verycreative.com.au

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Ray Cavill Neo Stoneage Towers | Swell 2007

We gratefully acknowledge the essential support of our Partners.

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Elephant Rock Cafe
 Deck Cafe
 The Beach Shack
 Ozeclik Websites
 Platypus Graphics

The Swell Team

The Committee
 Natasha Edwards
 Jason Allen
 Ruth Della
 Lee Edwards
 Anna Itoken
 Iain Johnson
 Aub Kelly
 Dev Lenjil
 Kate McDonald
 Around 50 dedicated volunteers

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

The Way of Design Gallery
 In the Bin Film Festival
 Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary

SCRAP WOOD SCULPTURE

Grade: 2+
Age: 6+

Need to keep the kids occupied on the weekends?
Here's a project!

IDENTIFICATION:

Students will see that there are many shapes and objects that can be created from other shapes and objects.

APPRECIATION:

Students will learn to appreciate the art created not only by them, but by others as well.

WHAT YOU NEED:

Scrap pieces of wood
Wood Glue
Nails and a hammer for older artists
Screws and a screwdriver
Water-based paint
Paintbrushes and sponges
Water and water containers
Empty yogurt or margarine containers
A covered work area
Paint smocks or old shirts
Found objects (buttons, beads, bits of colorful wire etc.)

WHAT YOU DO:

Lay out a pile of wood scraps on the floor and encourage your little artist to pick and choose a number of pieces. As they move the wood pieces around, your little artists will begin to see shapes and creatures appearing. The object here is not to create a sculpture of anything in particular, but rather to explore and investigate shapes interacting with one another.

Once there are some ideas floating around, the pieces of wood can be attached to one another to make wonderful sculpture.

Younger artists should be encouraged to work with glue and with adult help. Older artists can use nails and hammers to build up their sculptures.

Using paintbrushes and sponges, your little artist can color their sculpture by applying paint.

Finally, found object embellishments can be added to complete the picture.

Reference: <http://www.kinderart.com/sculpture/scrapwood.shtml>



Supported by

