

MEDIA RELEASE 10 July 2008



Swell Sculpture Festival 2008

The Lure of Beach Culture and Outdoor Sculpture.

From 12th to 21st September, Queensland's Currumbin Beach transforms from a quiet seaside setting of sun, sand and surfers to a **massive swell of sculpture** as artists from around Australia and the world install 50 sculptures for this free to the public open-air exhibition.

Sculptures of a monumental, imaginative and curious nature meet viewers as they amble along the 1 km coastal walkway. With the Pacific Ocean and iconic Elephant Rock as an ever-changing backdrop, over 10 days, there is much to experience.

The exhibition will feature a range of sculptures. **Col Henry**, who has "pioneered a ground breaking technique which marries the resilience of steel to the fragility of glass", will challenge visitors with the contradiction of delicacy and form. **Anna Louise Parson's** wonderfully kitsch tyre swans and **Frederic Berjot's** pensive bronze self portrait show the diversity of the exhibition. Iranian artist **Azari ghale jogh Mansour** will capture a sense of static movement with a wheelchair made from iron sheet and **Christopher Trotter** has assembled a collection of found objects for his living truck that will interest the kids, little and big!

Swell Sculpture Festival attracts 200,000 visitors each year and on the weekends, they can enjoy the live music stage and gourmet barbeques. Sunday and Wednesday evenings there are **Guided Twilight Walks** that give visitors an insight and understanding into the works and **Meet the Artist Talks** are held throughout the exhibition.

The **Swell Kids** program for 2008 will be a series of kite making workshops during the weekends of the exhibition or during the week for school groups. Following these workshops, all the children will be invited to fly their kites together along Currumbin as a **major community installation** to close the event on **Swell Sunday**. Victorian artist Ruth James who is facilitating this project is excited to be involved in a program, "that provides a supportive platform for children to explore, learn and discover; creating a shared intercultural experience through direct participation with installation work".

A new addition to the program is the **Public Art Symposium** on Tuesday 16th September. It will explore the topic, **Public Art – an Object or an Experience?** So, what is public art? Is it an object or does it energise public spaces and transform our everyday life? Keynote speakers include Associate Professor Pat Wise, Arts Queensland's Yenda Carson and Gold Coast Cultural Development Officer, Andrew Trump. Artist Antone Bruisma and Austrade's Ian Brazier will join the panel discussion. The audience is encouraged to engage in the discussion. Ticket information is available at www.swellsculpture.com.au.

Swell Sculpture Festival 2008 promises an impressive array of sculpture capturing hearts and minds, so mark the dates!

WHAT.

Swell Sculpture Festival

WHEN.

Friday 12th – Sunday 21st
September 2008

WHERE.

Pacific Parade
Currumbin Beach
Queensland

FREE PUBLIC EXHIBITION

phone.

61 7 5598 6004

email.

info@swellsculpture.com.au

website.

www.swellsculpture.com.au

mail.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, IMAGES OR TO ARRANGE INTERVIEWS CONTACT

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ONLINE FROM 21 JULY 2008

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