

Dealing and exhibiting in original works by Australia's most collectable young, mid-career and senior artists



Max Linegar, *Motor Inn*



Matthew Rogers, *Middy Walk*

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Peter Olive, *Bread and Milk*

## A breath of fresh air...

**SYDNEY:** Welcoming in the New Year was a collaborative new show between Dickerson Gallery Sydney and **Rex Irwin art dealer** of recent paintings and drawings by **Robert Dickerson**. Visitors to the exhibition recognised the uniqueness of the show in that this one of the rare times when two major Sydney galleries were able to display a full and true representation of a major body of work by such an eminent Australian artist. At 82, Dickerson shows no signs of slowing down, remarking that "Picasso painted into his 90s and produced some beautiful paintings. And Jimmy Gleeson is actually painting better paintings now than he ever has." (Sydney Morning Herald, January 31) It is also worth noting that at 82, Dickerson has taken up cricket again!

**John Witzig's** iconic 1960s and 70s surfing photographs featured in the **Australian Centre for Photography's (ACP)** summer exhibition - **Magicians of the Sea** (13 January - 25 February). The exhibition explored post-fifties Australian surf culture through a diversity of photomedia practices. In his review of the show Art critic Robert Macfarlane noted that; "The most visually accomplished photographer attempting to describe this way of life would have to be John Witzig. His image of the legendary surfer Bob McTavish standing next to the obligatory 1955 Holden with surfboard strapped to the roof, overlooking kilometres of empty beach, felt epochal." (Sydney Morning Herald January 25) 2006 is proving a successful

year for young Sydney based artist **Nicholas Blowers**. Blowers' enigmatic 'warts and all' portrait of **Charles Blackman**, was short-listed as one of thirty-six portraits from 425 entries by judges Andrew Sayers and Jenny Sages in the **Doug Moran Portrait Prize**. The Doug Moran Portrait Prize is the richest portrait prize in Australia and we congratulate Nicholas on this significant achievement. If you haven't already done so, there is still time to cast your vote for the best portrait - Sydney's Choice closes 1 pm 30 March.

**MELBOURNE:** 2006 has started with a bang in the Melbourne Gallery. After a well received stock show over the January period, **Samantha Everton** and **Steve Harris** were the first artists to exhibit solo shows. Everton's great success of her **Catharsis** series at **Gasworks** late last year flowed into her inaugural Dickerson Gallery Melbourne exhibition. Everton, also included in an international Photography Art Dealers exhibition in New York, was recently awarded a **Victorian Arts Council** grant for an artist-in-residence position at Killara Primary School.

**Steve Harris's** exquisite 'super' realist paintings proved to be a hit with our clients. **Shoalhaven City Arts Centre** opens a retrospective exhibition of Harris's work in Nowra on 1 April.

Following on from his prize success in 2006, **Nicholas Blowers** has taken the Melbourne public by storm, enjoying a triumphant inaugural Melbourne exhibition, showcasing his



Magicians of the Sea, ACP

powerful landscapes. Queensland artist **Dave Groom** has shown remarkable talent in his sometimes abstract and surreal depictions of his local hinterland in **Along the Ridge**. These vibrant pastel and acrylic works have been likened to the works of William Robinson.

**Celia Beeton & Irene Falkenstein-Labeille** literally filled the gallery on opening night of their collaborative exhibition entitled **Melbourne-Paris - Paris-Melbourne**. This near sell out exhibition quaintly depicted the Melbourne and Paris café and restaurant culture in unique, double-sided gilded box frames.

Finally, in yet another collaboration, this time between Dickerson Gallery and **Nata** (native Australian timber art), **Dawn Csutoros** and **Ian Bracegirdle** exhibited an exclusive selection of paintings alongside some of Australia's notable timber sculptors and jewelers in a private gallery space situated in the heart of Melbourne city over the duration of the Commonwealth Games. Tourists and local art aficionados cherished the rare opportunity to view the 180 plus works on show.



on Steve Harris;

"Harris is a master of

understated realism

which in turn evokes its

own sense of

'atmosphere' and

contemplative mood... a

type of reflective silence"

Nevill Drury



Robert Dickerson, *The Offering*



## Looking forward in Sydney

**John Witzig's** upcoming (9 April - 7 May) show **Fresh Mullet and other Fantasies** features superb vintage photographs from the artist's collection of work, including several larger sized collector limited edition prints. Witzig captures some of the best breaks in the world from Noosa to Guethary France, with surfing legends Mark Campbell, Mark Richards, Bob McTavish and Nat Young. We are delighted that the exhibition is to be opened by acclaimed film producer and director David Elfick.

From 17<sup>th</sup> May - 11<sup>th</sup> June the gallery will showcase a selection of works by gallery artists in the exhibition **Black and White**. Black and White is arguably the most powerful technique at an artists' disposal for evoking mood within a composition. Included in the show will be misty and poetic landscapes by **Max Linegar**, captured in the transitional and contemplative light of dusk; moody and filmic female nudes by **Jane Burton**, and dramatic coastal landscapes by **Nicholas Blowers**.

Following the success of his 2005 solo exhibition, **National Art School** graduate **Matthew Rogers** will exhibit in his 3<sup>rd</sup> show with Dickerson Gallery Sydney from 8 June - 3 July. Rogers' examines "the sublime anonymity of the urban condition" through semi abstract paintings of crowd scenes in various spatial relationships. Rogers uses a process of subtraction in creating the works, painting the figures and then sanding them back creating textural contrasts between the distressed figures and glossy finish of the spaces between. Please register with the gallery to preview these works.

## Looking forward in Melbourne

Sydney was privileged enough to host the much sought after Geisha images of **Robert Dickerson** early in 2005. This year however, the Melbourne public will get their first chance to view a full exhibition of the artist's coveted Oriental inspired works. **Geisha** will run throughout April (4 April - 7 May) and has already proved to be a runaway success. Keep your eye out for one of the 50 or so trams moving around the city with **Art Melbourne 06** advertisements, you will see an image of Dickerson's **The Offering** alongside the work of another Dickerson Gallery artist, **Peter Olive**, titled **Bread and Milk**.

**Murray Birds'** subjects of the ever changing dream realise the influence of artists such as Rene, Magritte, Yves Tanguy, & Max Ernst. Like Magritte's picture puzzles, Bird builds tension & riddles out of the unusual arrangement of ordinary things such as fruit and vegetables. His success at the **Julian Ashton Art School** in Sydney is evident from his technique & competency in his favourite medium of oil on linen. **Bound and Spiked**, Bird's second Melbourne exhibition (10 May - 4 June), should not be missed as his previous show in Melbourne was a near sell out.

Also exhibiting in May will be **Alison Langley** with her inaugural Dickerson Gallery show titled **Through the Illusion**. Following on from her exhibition at **Red Gallery** last year, and more recently a group exhibition at **Bus Gallery** - a well respected artist run initiative that supports interesting local, national and international artists, Langley will showcase a series of light-boxed photographs depicting miniature botanical environments and a full projection screen installation in the rear gallery space - a first for Dickerson Gallery Melbourne.

## Art Melbourne 06

The Melbourne Gallery is gearing up for the imminent **Art Melbourne 06** (20 - 23 April) at the Royal Exhibition Building in Carlton. Preparations are underway to ensure that we offer the best works of over ten of our represented artists. We will be located right near the entrance (stall M202) and look forward to the great numbers of people coming through the gates. This is a fantastic opportunity for all manner of art lovers to experience the wealth of local talent that Australian artists have to offer. **Filomena Coppola**, refreshed after her recent art related travels to the USA, will be exhibiting her latest work for the first time - a sneak preview to her now confirmed November exhibition. In addition, Melbourne Gallery manager David Hagger has been asked to host an 'artist walk', guiding patrons through his 10 best picks of the show. Please register interest at our stall. We look forward to seeing you all there.

## Exhibition Schedule Sydney, 2006

March 15 – April 19	Robert Dickerson (works on paper)
April 12 – May 14	John Witzig
May 17 – June 11	Black & White (gallery artists)
June 14 – July 9	Matthew Rogers
July 12 – August 13	Derry Messum



Alison Langley, *Momentary*  
lightbox, 61 x 93 x 12cm

## Exhibition Schedule Melbourne, 2006

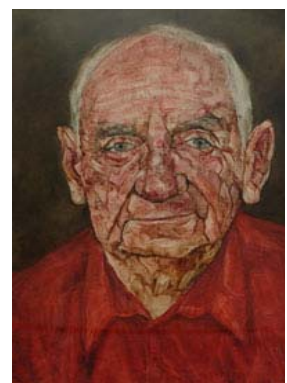
April 5 – May 7	Robert Dickerson, <i>Geisha</i>
May 10 – June 4	Murray Bird (gallery 1)
	Alison Langley (gallery 2)
June 7 – July 2	Ian Bracegirdle (gallery 1)
	Jamieson Miller (gallery 2)
	John Witzig (paper room)
July 5 – August 6	Stencil artists: Vexta, Ha-Ha & Psalm
August 9 – September 3	Robert Marchant (gallery 1)
	Zai Kuang (gallery 2)
June 7 – July 2	David Frazer



on Dave Groom;

*"...Groom takes more of an interest than most in the passing of time. He carefully studies the changing weather conditions at different times of the day and captures them in his bright, crisp portrayals..."*

Andrea Beattie, MX



Nicholas Blowers, *Charlie*

## DICKERSON GALLERY NEWSLETTER



**Dickerson Gallery Sydney**  
34 Queen Street  
Woollahra, NSW 2025

**Phone**  
(02) 9363-3358

**Fax**  
(02) 9362-9455

**E-mail**  
sydney@dickersongallery.com.au



**Dickerson Gallery Melbourne**  
2A Waltham Street  
Richmond, VIC 3121

**Phone**  
(03) 9429-1569

**Fax**  
(03) 9429-9415

**E-mail**  
melbourne@dickersongallery.com.au

**We're online**

[www.dickersongallery.com.au](http://www.dickersongallery.com.au)

**ACGA**

## Insight

On a more personal note, [Jennifer Dickerson](#) has recently been asked to act as an Advisor to the **Shoalhaven City Council Arts Board**. She is also organising a poetry reading in September, with special guest **Les Wicks**, to raise money for equipment for the **Shoalhaven Hospital**. Finally, we would like to wish Melbourne Gallery assistant [Miri Hirschfeld](#) all the best with her new position at the **National Gallery of Victoria (NGV)**. Miri has been an invaluable addition to Dickerson Gallery over the past 2 years and will be missed by all.

## About Dickerson Gallery

Dickerson Gallery's work ethic remains closely aligned with those maintained by the artists it represents. Over years of dedication to the arts industry and a commitment to promoting new artists in a profession that does not always warm well to new comers, the Gallery has sought to nurture and encourage today's emerging artists in the hope that they may well be amongst tomorrow's most recognised Australian painters and sculptors. The Gallery has solo and group exhibitions held monthly with a diverse stockroom selection including paintings, prints, assemblages, oils, and drawings. As well as exhibiting original works by Australia's most collectable young and mid-career artists, Dickerson Gallery also deals in work by recognised senior Australian artists.

The Melbourne gallery has an upstairs 'paper room' dedicated to displaying a comprehensive array of works on paper by notable Australian artists including, but not limited to, Dickerson Gallery represented artists. Works on paper include limited edition prints, drawings and photographs at affordable prices for first time buyers and experienced collectors alike.

Further Information including images and artist biographies can be found on the Dickerson Gallery website ([www.dickersongallery.com.au](http://www.dickersongallery.com.au)), or by contacting any of the gallery staff.

## BRACEGIRDLE GETS GOLD IN THE WATER AT COMMONWEALTH GAMES

Melbourne artist [Ian Bracegirdle](#) has propelled himself into the international spotlight with the success of his floating fish installations stretched along a kilometre of the Yarra River for the **Commonwealth Games**. Bracegirdle's **Mothers Art** production company was commissioned to build the 72 metal fish that represented each of the nations competing in the games by depicting an indigenous or key species of that country. Thousands of spectators lined the banks of the river to catch the numerous light and sound shows over the course of the Games. It took a team of over thirty staff to create these complex sculptures, which were assembled on site after floating down the river into position. The difficult decision now is how to decide on a fitting home for the fish. Bracegirdle, and Creative Producer Keith Tucker, have been inundated with interest from local and international sources. We congratulate Ian on his monumental success and eagerly await his new paintings which will be exhibited in the Melbourne Gallery throughout June.



Image: Ponch Hawkes