



tidal

ARTISTS:

Simon Cuthbert / Lisa Garland /
Junko Go / Julie Gough / Helga Groves /
Neil Haddon / David Hawley / Joy Hirst /
Megan Keating / Dave Kelly /
Pura-lia Meenamatta (Jim Everett) +
Jonathan Kimberley / Cassandra Laing /
Vera Möller / Michael Muruste /
James Newitt / Farrell + Parkin /
Christopher Pyett / Michael Schlitz /
Valerie Sparks / David Warren

1 December 2006 - 28 January 2007
DEVONPORT REGIONAL GALLERY

Devonport is the first port of call for most visitors travelling to Tasmania by sea. This coastal region is bordered by walking tracks, roads and railways; east and west are traversed by bridge and ferry. At the head of the Mersey River Mersey Bluff looms large and is home to a vast number of Aboriginal rock engravings. The Roaring Forties – the circumpolar westerly winds – push waves against the coastline, slowly sculpting the land over time but at low tide, the waters of Bass Strait subside to expose rocks and sea life.

My first recollection of the North West region was when my father spent three years as the terminal superintendent for the Australian National Line in Devonport before returning to the sea as a ships captain. In the latter years of his working life he was one of the captains who brought the passenger ship, *Empress of Australia*, into Devonport from Melbourne on a regular basis.

His stories of sea travel both in Australia and overseas are fused with memories of our family holidays sailing around the south coast of Tasmania in a small King Billy pine yacht. In those times we witnessed some of the many faces of the sea: the gentle sound of water lapping

against the hull when moored in a quiet bay, schools of porpoise swimming alongside the yacht when under full sail; yet when sailing at night there were times we experienced strong winds that pushed forth enormous sets of dark waves that appeared capable of swallowing us up.

While coastal regions are shaped by the rhythms of the sea, the sea in turn is shaped by the movement of the wind and the tractive pull of the earth, moon and sun. The geographical and astronomical factors that produce tides and tidal currents are various, and the effects on individuals, communities and regions around the globe are multifaceted. The very nature of tidal movement determines the many activities that take place in coastal regions – the building of bridges, effluent management, navigation, fishing and water sports to name a few. Yet this continual exploration and intervention with the sea has also caused devastation to marine life and our shores. While the sea and the movement of tides have provided artists with endless analogies for the human condition, it also reflects our oscillating cultural and political perspectives.

The biennial *Tidal: City of Devonport Art Award* was launched at the Devonport Regional Gallery in

2004, and is fully funded by the Devonport City Council. The Award aims to showcase the work of contemporary Australian artists whose work addresses political, social or environmental issues surrounding our seas and coastal regions. Twenty artists from Tasmania and interstate have been preselected for the 2006 Award by judges Dr Gerard Vaughan, Daniel Thomas and Bea Maddock. The visual interpretations created by the selected artists traverse a range of issues that influence our relationship to the sea and tidal regions. It is anticipated that these Award entries will continue to incite reflection and debate upon natural, cultural and political concerns both on a global and on a personal level.

ELLIE RAY
ACTING DIRECTOR
DEVONPORT REGIONAL GALLERY



SIMON CUTHBERT
something soon 2006
print
measurement

LISA GARLAND
Peter and Roger 2005
Silver Gelatin print
1 x 1 metre



JUNKO GO

Wave, Tide and Beach 2006

Acrylic, pastel and charcoal on canvas

121 x 121 cm



JULIE GOUGH

Disturbed Site: Promissory note ~ opposite Swan Island 6 August 1831 2006

Beach found ground: graphite, cuttlefish bones, charcoal, 3 oxides, shells, on canvas

108 x 153 x 1.2 cm (each panel 48 x 43 x 1.2 cm)

Image reproduction: Bottlebrush Studio

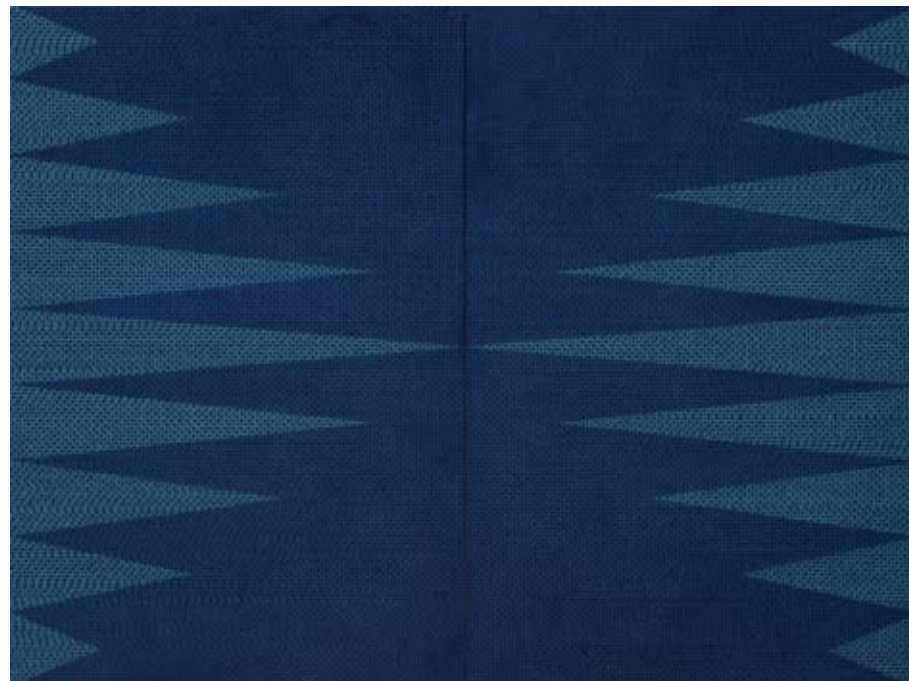


HELGA GROVES

Undersea 2006

Oil paint, medium and pigment on linen

150 x 200 cm (two panels)



NEIL HADDON

Survivor (Graft) 2005

Partially abraded high gloss household enamel paint on aluminium

130 x 120 cm



DAVID HAWLEY

Timing 2006

Acrylic screen-print on plywood

160 x 120 cm (approx)



JOY HIRST
here and there 2005
digital image
40 x 30 cm

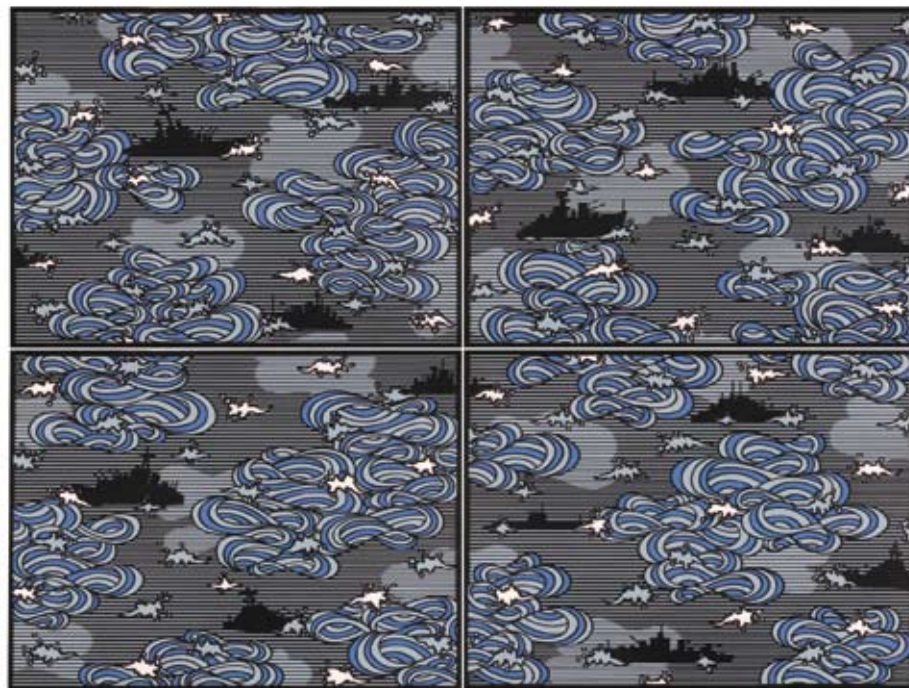


MEGAN KEATING

Night Operations and White Horses 2005/2006

Acrylic, hand cut paper on aluminum

145 x 111 cm



DAVE KELLY

Winter Storm, Don Heads 2005

Epson Inkjet Print on Innova paper

83 x 60 cm



PURA-LIA MEENAMATTA (JIM EVERETT) + JONATHAN KIMBERLEY
drakurringer legana tagarilia : breathe my family water 2006
Synthetic polymer, charcoal & text on linen
182 x 182 cm (four panels)



CASSANDRA LAING
Anniversary Whale 2006
Graphite on Paper
120 x 120 cm

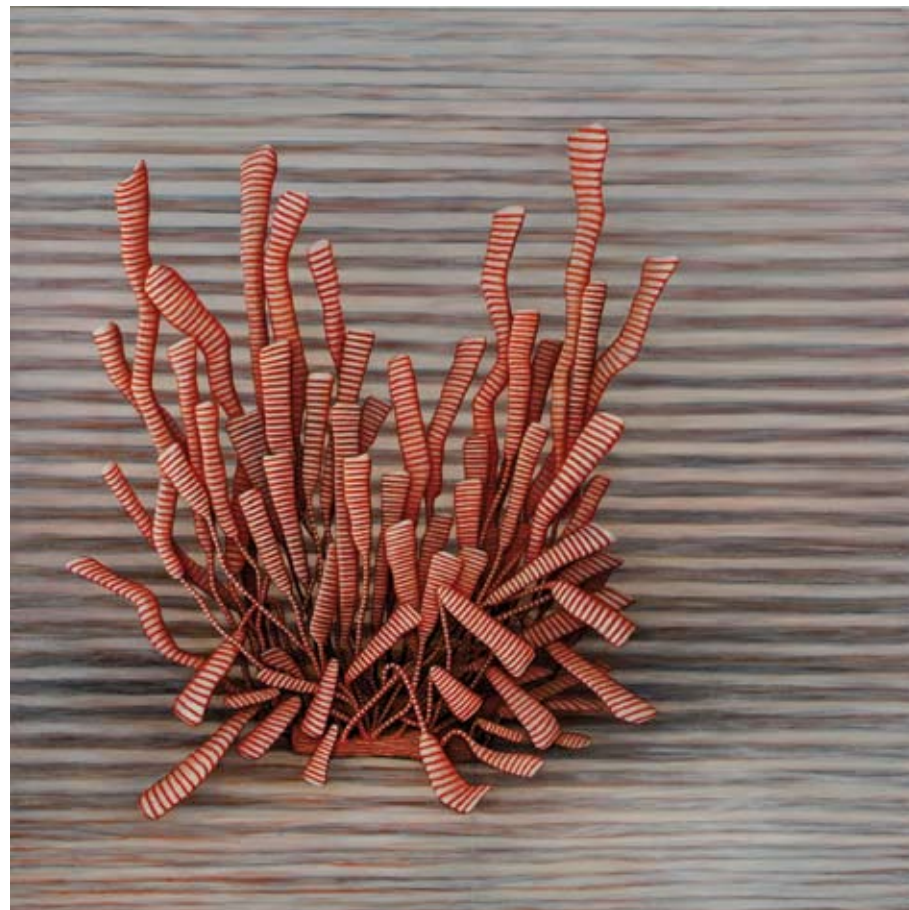


VERA MÖLLER

Lewinett 2006

Oil on canvas

180 x 180 cm



MICHAEL MURUSTE
Breath, Moon and Mouth 2006
Oil on linen
2 x 2 metres



JAMES NEWITT
Arberg Bay 2006
DVD loop
Aprox 8.3 minutes

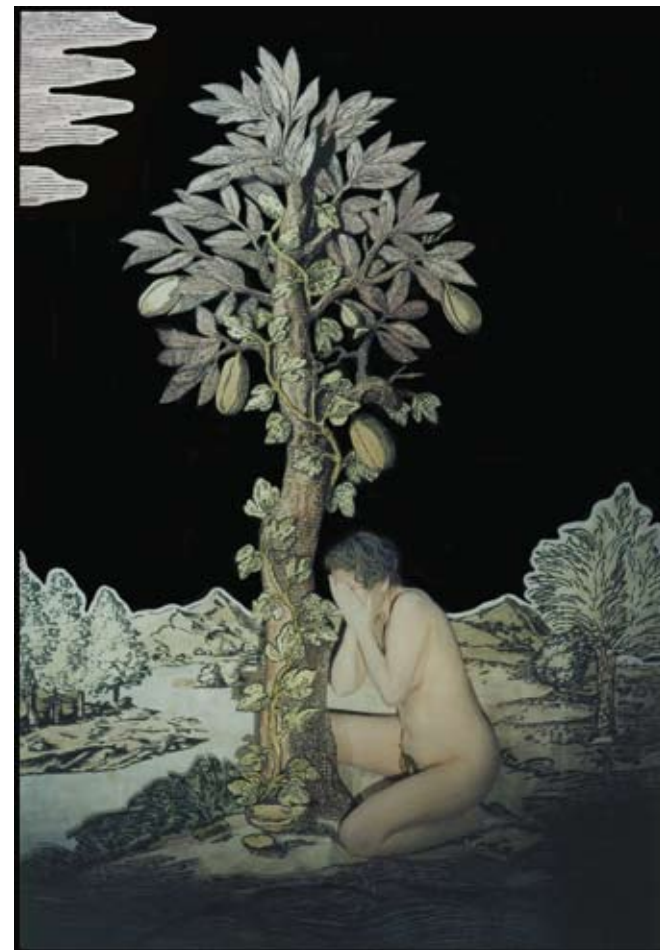


FARRELL + PARKIN

Darkening Fields Act Three 2004/05

C type photograph

100 x 146 cm



CHRISTOPHER PYETT

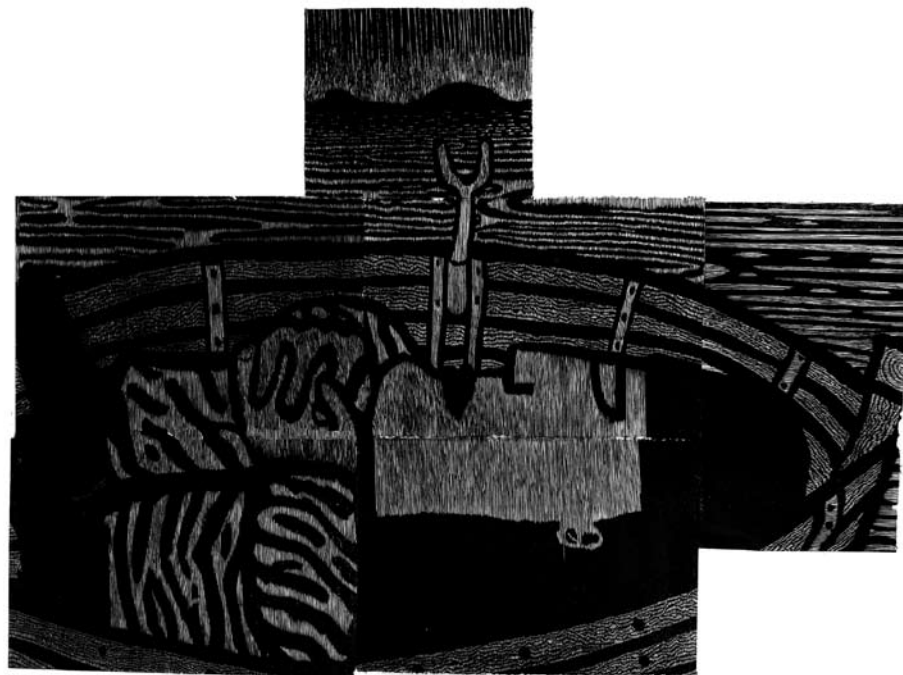
Surf Beach, Flinders Island, after Peter Grimes 2006

Gouache on 300gm Arches Medium

100 x 136 cm



MICHAEL SCHLITZ
Drifting Explorer 2006
Woodcut on kozo paper
1800 x 1800 cm



VALERIE SPARKS
Avant la tempêt 2006
Lightjet print
200 x 42 cm



DAVID WARREN
Sea 2004
Pencil on Fabriano paper
69 x 112 cm



LIST OF WORKS

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Devonport Regional Gallery would like to acknowledge the Devonport City Council for fully supporting the Tidal Award; the Gallery's Special Advisory Committee who initiated and assisted in the development of the project, and the Friends Committee for generously providing the Peoples Choice Award. Our sincere gratitude is extended to Dr Gerard Vaughan, Daniel Thomas and Bea Maddock for their careful consideration and selection of works for the 2006 Award.

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