

Toyota Community Spirit  
Gallery presents

# submerge

*an exploration of artworks connecting Toyota Employees  
from Altona and Port Melbourne*



**December 15 2004 to February 2005**

**155 Bertie Street Port Melbourne**

**Gallery Hours** Thu & Fri 1pm to 6pm or by appointment  
**Inquiries** phone Ken Wong 03 9690 0902





# Toyota Community Spirit Gallery



The Toyota Community Spirit Gallery is an initiative of the Toyota Community Spirit program.

The Toyota Community Spirit Gallery aims to provide space for artists from the City of Port Phillip and City of Hobsons Bay to exhibit their work.

Toyota is pleased to present **submerge** curated by Ken Wong. Toyota is working with the Hobsons Bay City Council and the City of Port Phillip on this project.



# submerge

*an exploration of artworks connecting Toyota Employees  
from Altona and Port Melbourne*

## **Artists**

**Serge Beani**  
**Mary-Anne Doyle**  
**Margaret Fenech**  
**Gail McDaniel**  
**Gerhard Metz**  
**John Orchard**  
**Gary Robinson**  
**Lyn Rumble**  
**James Scott**  
**Selvan Selvanathan**

## **Curator**

**Ken Wong**

## **Thanks to**

**Katarina Persic, Hobsons Bay City Council**  
**Sharyn Dawson, City of Port Phillip**  
**Cath Templeton, Toyota Community Spirit**  
**Eliza Swinton, DAS Management**

## **Invitation & catalogue design**

**Watch Tower Studio**

# Ken Wong

## curator

Welcome to Submerge, the first exhibition for the Toyota Community Spirit Gallery dedicated to the works of Toyota employees.

This exhibition has come about in response to a steady stream of enquiry from employees regarding opportunities to exhibit their works and highlights the creativity and dedication of a broad cross-section of employees based in Altona or Port Melbourne. The title 'submerge' seemed appropriate to this exhibition for a couple of reasons.

Firstly, it provides a window "beneath the surface", showing a side of the participants that many workmates and associates may be unaware of, showcasing the hidden talents that express the soul of the artist; a quality that I believe exists in all people on one level or another. The standard of works submitted for this exhibition has been surprisingly high, especially considering that much of the practice is purely a pastime for the exhibiting artists. For this reason, it has been a personal thrill to assist in providing many of the participants their first opportunity to exhibit works in public.

Secondly, the title alludes to the idea of "merging" or bringing people together, in that the exhibition creates a link or connection between employees that transcends the normal relationships between departments or work locations, encouraging the viewer to see the participants as artists and not merely co-workers. It is my belief that the act of creating art always reveals and communicates something unique about the individual creating it. By supporting and encouraging the unique creativity of individual employees through this exhibition, Toyota is creating a forum for exchange of ideas and perspectives, thereby fostering a greater level of understanding that must inevitably make for a stronger and healthier organisation.

I hope you enjoy the works on display in Submerge. Even more importantly I hope they provide you with some insight and a broader perspective on the employees who have created them.

### **Biography**

Ken Wong has been working in the fine arts industry since 1997, as the Director of Watch Tower Studio. Over the past four years he has worked in community arts in the City of Port Phillip and has curated and managed a host of projects including gallery and outdoor sculpture exhibitions. He is a founding member of Southside Arts and curated the inaugural exhibition at Treasury Place and the launch of the Southside Arts Precinct Map at Linden Gallery. He has recently returned to private arts consultancy with Watch Tower Studio. Submerge is his third exhibition for the Toyota Community Spirit Gallery.

# Catalogue of works

Artist & Title	Medium	Size	Year	Price
<b>Serge Beani</b>				
Three Way Photo Finish	Photograph	35x50cm	2004	\$150
Evening Light the Marsh	Photograph	35x50cm	2004	\$150
Evening in Athens	Photograph	35x50cm	2004	\$150
<b>Mary-Anne Doyle</b>				
Midday in Mykonos	Digital photograph	42x30cm	2003	NFS
Spiritual Encounter	Digital photograph	42x30cm	2003	NFS
Italian Icons	Digital photograph	42x30cm	2003	NFS
<b>Margaret Fenech</b>				
Williamstown	Photograph	35x45cm	1993	NFS
Days Gone By	Photograph	35x45cm	1995	NFS
Stormy Sky	Photograph	35x45cm	1997	NFS
<b>Gail McDaniel</b>				
Primordial Ooze	Mixed media	30x48cm	2004	NFS
Midsummers Night Fairy	Cross stitch	70x55cm	1998	NFS
Sorceress	Cross stitch	56x46cm	1999	NFS
<b>Gerhard Metz</b>				
Fruit & Bread	Oil on canvas	60x90cm	1990	NFS
Flower	Oil on canvas	50x30cm	1990	NFS
Port with fruit	Oil on canvas	35x20cm	1990	NFS
<b>John Orchard</b>				
No Escape	Oil on canvas	55x69cm	2000	\$150
Finke	Oil on canvas	40x76cm	2000	NFS
<b>Gary Robinson</b>				
Bay of Fires	Photograph	61x49cm	2004	\$350
Strahan	Photograph	57x46cm	2004	\$250
Calla Lily	Photograph	52x40cm	2003	\$250
<b>Lyn Rumble</b>				
Eyes of Faith	Acrylic on board	35x29cm	2004	NFS
<b>James Scott</b>				
Untouched	Digital photograph	20x25cm	2003	POA
Catch of the Day	Digital photograph	20x25cm	2003	POA
<b>Selvan Selvanathan</b>				
Love of Music	Acrylic on board	125x95cm	1995	NFS

# Serge Beani



Evening in Athens  
photograph 2004, 35cm x 50cm

Serge began working for Toyota in 1985 on the shop floor and is currently a Senior Manager with Unit Assembly 2 based in Port Melbourne.

He is a self taught photographer who has been developing his practice over the past ten years. His interest lies in capturing the mood of the moment, particularly in regard to nature and the environment.

# Mary-Anne Doyle



**Italian Icons**  
digital photograph 2003  
42cm x 30cm



**Spiritual Encounter**  
digital photograph 2003  
42cm x 30cm



**Middy in Mykonos**  
digital photograph 2003  
42cm x 30cm

Mary-Anne is currently a Communications Manager with Public Affairs based in Port Melbourne. Her interest in photography began when she joined Toyota in 1991 as editor of the employee magazine Toyota Today. She has always had a keen interest in diverse countries and cultures and her travels through the Middle East, Africa and Europe have enabled her to use photography as a means of capturing the true essence of the people and places she visits. She has completed a basic photography course but much of her knowledge and skill has been picked up from professional photographers she has worked alongside and also from photographic magazines.

## Artist Statement

**Italian Icons** - This Fiat parked outside a historic stone villa in a cobble street on the charming Italian island of Lipari, is reminiscent of a set from a high class Italian movie.

**Spiritual Encounter** - Taken inside St Peter's Basilica in the late afternoon. The rays of sunlight streaming through the dome added a sense of spirituality to the moment, as though they were heaven sent.

**Middy in Mykonos** - Taken while walking through the narrow whitewashed alleyways of Mykonos, shows a scooter parked casually outside a doorway. To me it sums up the laid back nature synonymous with the Greek Islands.

# Margaret Fenech



Williamstown  
photograph 1993, 35cm x 45cm

Margaret began working with Toyota in 1981 as a clerk/typist and is currently an Employee Parts Co-ordinator with Human Resources based in Altona.

She has always been interested in photography and bought her first camera at age sixteen. Margaret just loves taking photos and it has provided a hobby and enjoyable pastime for her for many years.

# Gail McDaniel



Primordial Ooze  
mixed media 2004, 30cm x 48cm

Gail began working for Toyota in 1996 on the assembly line and is currently a fitter and turner with Press Shop Maintenance in Altona. Her interest in art and craft began at age fourteen when she took up cross stitch and over the years she has done tapestry, knitting, crochet and carpentry. She also does all her own matt boarding and framing.

She creates these works to have something beautiful and interesting to hang on her walls and occasionally gives them as gifts to very special people in her life. Her cross stitch pieces require a great deal of patience and dedication with some taking up to six months to complete.

## Artist Statement

**Primordial Ooze** - The materials for this piece were collected from my time on the factory floor. Silicon used as sound deadener is squirted on the floor pans of the shells of the car; then when the car goes through the paint shop the silicon gets sprayed with the colour the car is given. I collected the excess coloured silicon and created this abstract art work.

# Gerhard Metz



Fruit and bread  
oil on canvas 1990, 60cm x 90cm

Gerhard began his employment with Toyota in 1985 as a tooling and unit cost estimator and currently works in Purchasing as a Production Preparation Co-ordinator based in Port Melbourne.

Art was always one of his best and favorite subjects at school and he has maintained an interest in drawing all his life. In the mid 1970's he met an artist who inspired him to pursue an interest in oil painting and he took some classes, eventually studying H.S.C. art at night school.

He exhibited works in school exhibitions and has sold paintings privately, but Submerge has provided him his first opportunity for public display of his works in many years.

# John Orchard



Finke  
oil on canvas 2000  
40cm x 76cm

John started with Toyota in 1998 on the finishing line as is currently a fork lift operator with the Materials Handling Body Shop based in Altona.

He has always been interested in drawing and has been pursuing painting over the past four years. He has attended art classes locally and generally his works are created from photographs he collects from magazines.

John has exhibited works in the Bacchus Marsh Art Show in 2001 and 2002.

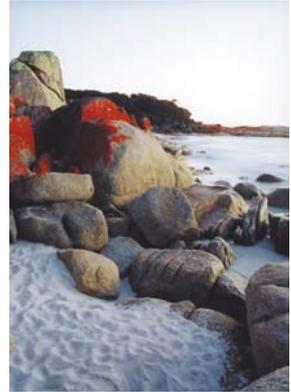
# Gary Robinson



Strahan  
photographic print 2004  
57cm x 46cm



Calla Lily  
photographic print 2003  
52cm x 40cm



Bay of Fires  
photographic print 2004  
61cm x 49cm

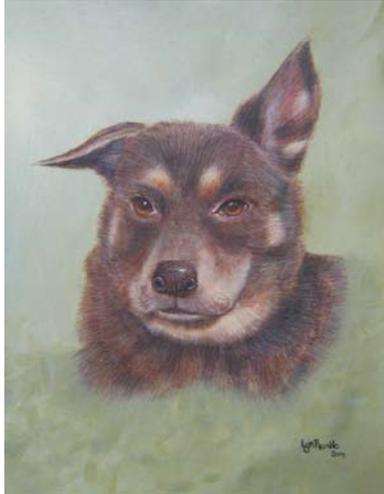
Gary commenced employment with Toyota in 1998 working in Material Control in steel order and planning and is currently a Project Coordinator with the Project Control department based in Altona.

He originally became interested in photography while studying art and design in Geelong. In more recent years he has taken up bush walking which has increased his appreciation for the outdoors and the natural forms and shapes that occur in nature, which has in turn rekindled his interest in photography.

## Artist Statement

On my travels I am always fascinated with the newness of my surroundings when first visited. I think the first time experience gives you a brief window of opportunity to try to capture some of the emotion that you feel at the time before the fog of familiarity creeps in and the innocence disappears. I am never sure if others see in my images what I see but for me they will always take me back to that moment in time, the image links me with the emotion.

# Lyn Rumble



Eyes of Faith  
acrylic on canvas 2004, 35cm x 29cm

Lyn began working with Toyota in 1984 as a clerical typist and is currently a C.A.D. Administrator with the Product Development division based in Port Melbourne. She has had an interest in craft work and embroidery from a very early age but three years ago decided to try something different and began taking lessons with a folk art teacher. She has taken to painting with great enthusiasm and enjoys realism and is currently studying trompe l'oeil (trick of the eye painting). She attends weekly painting sessions with a small group of other painters from her area and is a member of the Society of Folk and Decorative Artists of Victoria Inc. She also attends lectures and workshops from visiting international artists whenever possible.

## Artist Statement

I have had many dogs during my years – but never one such as ‘BT’ He has fascinated me virtually from the day I brought him home from the Pet Shop, scruffy, scrawny, bug-ridden and bleeding. His personality has always shone through – with his limp ear and tilted head – always persevering with everything he attempts. He tries so hard to express things with his ‘barking’ - he has always shown complete and unconditional love. He is highly intelligent, and extremely perceptive concerning moods , and knows - amongst many other things – when to keep out of sight when I’m moody! He is truly a friend that only happens ‘once-in-a-lifetime’. I think I have captured that love and faithfulness in his eyes

# James Scott



Untouched  
digital photograph 2003, 20cm x 25cm

James began employment with Toyota in 1987 as a trainee buyer in the Purchasing Division and is currently a Manager in IT Infrastructure with KISD based in Port Melbourne.

He has taken up photography over the last twelve months, due largely to the advent of digital cameras which allow great flexibility to experiment without the expense of photo processing.

James is fascinated by sunsets and enjoys capturing the fleeting moments of majesty that occur during the transition between day and night.

# Selvan Selvanathan



Love of Music  
acrylic on board 1995, 125cm x 95cm

Selvan has worked with Toyota since 1993. He began as a team member and is currently an Environment Co-ordinator with Unit Assembly 2 based in Port Melbourne. He began painting in watercolour at the age of twelve and graduated to larger paintings in his early twenties.

His work has been exhibited at the Ramakrishna Mission in Sri Lanka in 1988 and was also part of the Hanuman exhibition at BMICH Conference Hall in 1989.

The piece exhibited here was painted from an Indian Art book and demonstrates his growing interest in traditional based arts.