

Media release

14 March 2007

Structures
Memoirs of a share house

Ian Copland
Brad Ferguson

In two very different HUW DAVIES GALLERY exhibitions opening this week Ian Copland's semi-abstract images, representing the refined architectural detail and surface patterns of national institutions, provide a strong contrast to Brad Ferguson's fondly rendered images evoking the texture of suburban life.

Structures and *Memoirs of a share house* will be opened by Ed Whalan, PhotoAccess General Manager, at 6 pm on Thursday 15 March. The exhibitions show until 1 April 2007.

Structures is Ian Copland's first solo exhibition. He visited three sites—the National Museum of Australia, the new John Curtin School of Medical Research and the Advanced Instrumentation and Technology Centre on Mount Stromlo—to distil the essence of their design and physical presence in this series of remarkable images. Copland's exceptional compositional skills and strong feeling for colour are on show in *Structures*, an outstanding first exhibition.

Ian Copland has shown in recent Canberra Photographic Society exhibitions, including the 60th Anniversary Exhibition at Canberra Museum and Art Gallery in 2006, and he was awarded the Society's 2006 Hedda Morrison Trophy for print portfolios.

Memoirs of a Share House is Brad Ferguson's second solo exhibition in the HUW DAVIES GALLERY. It follows his thoughtful *Now Selling* exhibition in June last year.

Ferguson has a wonderfully fresh approach to image making and story telling.

Memoirs of a Share House draws on the ordinary bits and pieces of everyday life, but photographed with such fondness, sensitivity and technical skill that they take on unexpected gravity and beauty. Brad Ferguson is a masterful exploiter of natural light. He uses it to elicit subtle, quietly powerful and persuasive images from the most mundane situations to present an argument for the important place of rental housing in Canberra.

Ferguson was selected twice for EASS residencies at PhotoAccess. The first culminated in *Configuratively speaking*, his contribution to the *Space* group exhibition in late 2003. He was selected for his second residency in 2005 on completing the CIT Bachelor of Design (Photography) in 2004, and *Now Selling* was the end point of that residency. Brad Ferguson received a PhotoAccess emerging artist grant, made possible by the ACT Government's contribution to the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy, to assist with this current exhibition.

PhotoAccess and the HUW DAVIES GALLERY are open Tuesday to Sunday, 11–5 in the Manuka Arts Centre, corner Manuka Circle and NSW Crescent (near Manuka Oval), Griffith.

Further information: David Chalker 02 6295 7810

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