

HUW DAVIES GALLERY 21 February–9 March 2008

The Shorncliffe Line

Bronwyn Jewell

Although this is her first solo exhibition in the HUW DAVIES GALLERY, Bronwyn Jewell is a key figure in the history of PhotoAccess.

As Artistic Director through the 1990s Bronwyn helped consolidate the work of the first group of PhotoAccess members and workers. Bronwyn was committed to the strong community ethos established by the founding group (the 'Photoaccessories') in 1984, including projects for people denied creative opportunities for many different reasons.

After leaving her position as Artistic Director, Bronwyn returned to chair the PhotoAccess board, playing a pivotal role in guiding the association through a period of organisational and financial stress. Her energy and commitment gave PhotoAccess its base and raison d'être as a 21st century visual arts organisation with a strong and continuing community focus. Through all these years Bronwyn contributed to group exhibitions at PhotoAccess, Canberra Contemporary Art Space and elsewhere in Canberra, and had three solo exhibitions—at Tilley Divine's, and Kingston's former Jardine Street Gallery and E.J.'s restaurant and bar.

In late 2003 Bronwyn Jewell moved to Brisbane. *The Shorncliffe Line* marks a very welcome, albeit brief, return to PhotoAccess. It is a tribute to her new home town and a significant departure from her previous work, generally posed and costumed friends with unusual stories to tell.

The Shorncliffe Line is made up of abstract images full of colour and movement. Their uniform horizontal format contributes to the sense of travelling through a landscape. Rich blues and blacks are a perfect ground for the direct and reflected gold of the sun. Other images cover the spectrum of colour from deep olive and khaki to dusty pink and vivid orange. There are recognisable elements—fences, benches, tags, tickets—but they have no corporeal identity. Along with reflections, shadows, raindrops and the blur of movement they contribute to carefully developed abstract patterns. The images are unique but at the same time familiar—recognisably part of the visual and emotional experience of a train ride through the suburbs of a large city.

Bronwyn Jewell's *The Shorncliffe Line* is a beautiful, evocative exhibition. PhotoAccess is delighted to welcome Bronwyn back to Canberra to show *The Shorncliffe Line* in the HUW DAVIES GALLERY at the Manuka Arts Centre.

David Chalker



Two



Silver seat



Harlequin

Artist's statement

The suburban rail tracks provide a changing exhibition of moving and still pictures that we view from a train. There are different layers—glass of the train window with its marks and smudges; different focuses; and different viewpoints.

Everything on show is at the back of the proper view, the 'streetscape'. The buildings put their back to the track and at worst provide a billboard space or, at best, the ground for graffiti artists to display their work. On any rail journey we are taken through this moving or static gallery of imagery—I have chosen some of the frames.

These images are concoctions of time, movement, and reality. They have been made possible by the amazing ability of the instrument—the camera. I have explored the layering of surfaces, light and shadow, and the images that occur along the corridor between Brunswick Street and Sandgate Stations on the Shorncliffe line in Brisbane on my regular visits to see my Father.

Bronwyn Jewell

February 2008



Sunset window



Blue Buddha



Pink weed



Corner story



Morning moves



Industry paint

Curriculum Vitae

Solo exhibitions

- 2008 *The Shorncliffe Line*, HUW DAVIES GALLERY, Manuka
- 1995 *Egyptian Blue*, Tilley Divine's, Lyneham
Trinity, Jardine Street Gallery, Kingston
- 1990 *Exposure*, EJ's Kingston, Canberra

Group exhibitions

- 2003 PhotoAccess Members' Exhibition, HUW DAVIES GALLERY, Manuka
- 2000 *Hidden Talents*, FaCS, Tuggeranong
- 1998 *Tenth Anniversary Exhibition*, Canberra Theatre Centre, Canberra
PhotoAccess Members' Exhibition, Canberra Theatre Centre, Canberra
- 1996 PhotoAccess Members' Exhibition, ACT Legislative Assembly
- 1995 *Christmas Show*, Jardine Street Gallery, Kingston
PAM's Album, Jardine Street Gallery, Kingston
- 1993 *Embodied*, Canberra Contemporary Art Space, Braddon
- 1992 *Between the Covers*, Canberra Contemporary Art Space, Braddon
PhotoAccess Members' Exhibition
Photo Bizarre, Pavilion Hotel, Canberra
- 1991 *Social Images*, Gorman House, Canberra
- 1990 Members' Show, PhotoAccess, Acton, Canberra

The Shorncliffe Line

List of works

All images are archival pigment prints on Moab Entrada paper mounted on aluminium
Dimensions all images 390 x 593 mm
Artist's proofs from an edition of 5; \$390 each

- 1 ***Pink weed***
- 2 ***Wet tico***
- 3 ***Shadow inside***
- 4 ***Us***
- 5 ***Brass***
- 6 ***Two***
- 7 ***Silver seat***
- 8 ***Blue Buddha***
- 9 ***Purple shamrock***
- 10 ***Regency graffiti***
- 11 ***Corrugated***
- 12 ***Sunset window***
- 13 ***Harlequin***
- 14 ***Rail flag***
- 15 ***Afternoon green***
- 16 ***Morning moves***
- 17 ***Industry paint***
- 18 ***Back to the track***
- 19 ***Pink wall***
- 20 ***Corner story***
- 21 ***Rain melody***

HUW DAVIES GALLERY at PhotoAccess, Manuka Arts Centre, corner Manuka Circle and NSW
Crescent, Griffith ACT tel. 02 6295 7810

www.photoaccess.org.au