

PRESS RELEASE

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The
Royal
Photographic
Society

Victorian Chapter

MEMBERS' PRINTS 2006

The Victorian Chapter of the Royal Photographic Society is holding its 2006 Exhibition of Members' Prints at Lab X Gallery in St Kilda from Friday 1st September. This exhibition will illustrate the diversity of photographic interests of the Victorian members of this world-wide photographic body.

The beginnings of The Royal Photographic Society go back almost to the beginnings of photography itself. Formed in London in 1853, the Society has the same aim today as then – to promote the art and science of photography. It now has members around the world, reflecting the global character of the organization.

In 1986 the RPS members living in Victoria decided to form a local RPS Victorian Chapter which has since become one of the most active of the RPS overseas Chapters. In most of those twenty years the Chapter has held an Exhibition of Members' Prints, an occasion when members share their enjoyment in image-making with other photographers and the general public.

Members are encouraged to follow their own photographic interests and develop individual styles. Some are accomplished landscape photographers; others specialise in bird or native plant photography; there are travel photographers and photographic historians exploring early photographic processes. Some members produce abstract images, others aim for complete realism. But all have in common a love of photography. This exhibition reflects their diverse photographic interests and techniques.

A special feature of this year's exhibition is the inclusion of a tribute to the late Barrie Thomas FRPS. Barrie, a distinguished RPS member who moved to Queensland from the UK about three years ago, passed away in early July. His death is a great loss to the RPS and to photography everywhere. He was one of the foremost exponents of digital photography in the world, recognised for his deep understanding of the medium and his enormous ability as an inspiring educator. The exhibition will include several of his digital prints.

This RPS exhibition, *Members' Prints 2006*, will be on show at Lab X Gallery, 40 Pakington Street, St Kilda, from Friday the 1st September until Sunday the 17th September 2006. The exhibition will be opened on Sunday 3rd September from 2 to 4pm. Gallery hours are 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday, 1 to 7pm Sunday. (Closed Saturdays) Admission is free.

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