



A R T S

## EDITORIAL

Who paints (or stitches) a portrait of his mother wearing a corset and emitting Munch's terrifying scream? Why **Robert Brain** of course! This is our Summer issue and marks two years of *Oz Arts* magazine back in publication which is an occasion to celebrate.

If the cover photo by **Bette Mifsud** reminds you of family summers at the beach house then you will be showing your age. When Bette exhibited these photographs adapted from slides first taken decades ago by a family member, viewers were entranced by the memories they evoked of holidays at the beach, camping under the gumtrees and the family cars we truly loved.

This issue contains a number of stories about recollecting the past, preserving the past and keeping a record, and re-imagining the past. Robert Brain has created a tapestry record illustrating decades of a very colourful and eccentric lifestyle and we are left to wonder whether he did give cause for his mother to let out such a scream.

Artist **Jeff Rigby** laments the passing of the wonderful sandstone buildings which once made up almost all the historic built fabric of the city of Sydney. He is the son of artists and environmentalists and takes enormous pleasure in recording the minute detail not only of our architecture and wharves but of ships and cranes and the evocative landscape of the beautiful harbour city of Sydney.

**Graham Lupp** trained as an architect and became an artist. He lives in Bathurst as have generations of his family. Lupp has taken on what most of us would find a far too formidable and overwhelming project, recording the built heritage of his region. Julian Leatherdale went to Bathurst to meet Graham Lupp and reports back to us in detail. *'Building Bathurst 1815-1915'* promises to be both a beautiful and creative work of art and a rigorous and wide-ranging work of research. The word count at present looks set to exceed 300,000, with probably 3-4,000 buildings. It covers most of the major buildings and a lot of the minor buildings. This magnificent publication is due out next year.



Mike Ripoll  
*Sometimes The Tree Wins*

In artist **Jody Graham's** buildings you can see, you can feel, emotion. In her drawing called *Locked In*, she tells a personal story of how she was working on the drawing of a building which she thought had a particular presence when the work began to take on a life of its own. She says, 'my mind started to wander and obsess while drawing' and she distractedly began to draw over and block in the entrance to the building. When finished, she says: 'I looked at my work and liked the direction it had taken. *Locked In* embodied a very deep and personal meaning for me.'

With the stories on Jody Graham, glass artist **Keith Rowe** and silversmith **Mike Ripoll** we are made aware of how deep are the emotions which find expression in our art. Mike Ripoll's elegant pieces of jewellery express a theme I frequently return to—the tiny living spaces we carve out for ourselves set against the city that goes on forever... some symbols I've made up and some I can't be sure of—they're just in my head, almost by serendipity, fragments or half remembered memories.'

We think this issue will inspire and charm our readers. A great publication to give as a gift to friends everywhere.

We wish all our readers a happy new year!

Carolynne Skinner