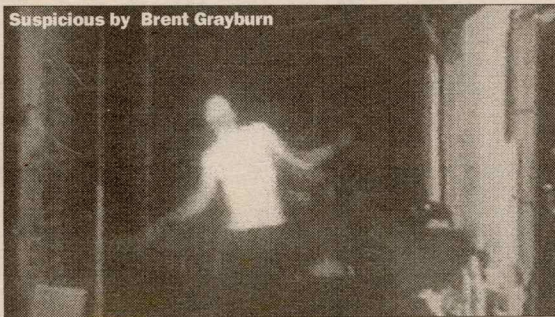


Hub recommends

Emergency Rescue

By J Anderson/Anne Raven

Suspicious by Brent Grayburn



On entering the Rubyre Gallery, one amost trips over a piece of trash placed there by **Anne Kaye**; a comment on Sydney's brash new materialism and drive to look like every other city in the West. Six months ago Kaye walked into an old toilet block on the corner of Hyde Park. She was impressed that the caretaker had the grace to allow a homeless woman the comfort of an old armchair which sat in the restroom. Weeks later the block was demolished and the ultimate homage to sanitation ... a Decaux street furniture toilet, with its perfectly controlled environment, stood in its place. In the artist's work two cardboard boxes sit desolate on the floor, 20th century icons of disposable homes for disposable people in cities across the world. Nestled inside a box a projector beams out the image of the Dr Who like Decaux toilet which now squats on Hyde Park corner. Its image floats inside a second empty box. The title of the work is *Vacant*.

Koji, a Japanese artist resident in Sydney, playfully explores the everyday environs of his adopted city through the medium of the postcard. Familiar images take on cosmic

proportions. Aerial shots of Manly disappear into a bi-scopic swirl. Bondi Beach and Skippy take on vigorous paisley patterns reminiscent of Islamic mosaics. His title *Some Lunch at Midnight 2000* is a zany Zen comment on infinity. Around the corner in a darkened room a video plays: Brent Grayburn's *Suspicious* shows a jerking figure, head vibrating frantically; body a ballet of spasms. The figure which drills slowly into the ground is isolated in a back alley piled with junk somewhere in Sydney's China Town. In the four minute black and white video piece Grayburn questions the symbiotic relationship between ourselves and our landscape, which he sees as fugitives estranged from each other. The work is accompanied by a tense soundscape which the artist calls "psycho acoustics".

Outside in the garage-cum-gallery Nell's *Sub Atomic Particles 2000* is a joyful, humorous meditation on the transcendence of all things. It is a trippy, optical explosion of colour, as 2,668 painstakingly hand-cut felt circles set in a vast, pink sea vibrate, rise and fade into one another. Shapes and meanings rise and disappear under the gaze. The work explores with child-like wisdom, how big things are made of little things. Jason Markou's work, *Scenic 2000* nearby and purposefully hidden in the shadows is by contrast an ethereal work, almost a mirage. He has achieved his intention to push the painting to the far periphery, almost retreating into the architecture. A subtle mountain landscape in pale greens is given the illusion of depth using ordinary matt and gloss paint. The light playing on the painted walls gives the fleeting illusion of a negative.

Emergency Rescue sought in its manifesto to "stretch the edges of environment" the works of these five artists are at once thematic yet visually at war. It is an exhibition that rescues art from what is frequently banal and polite presentation. *Rubyre is situated on the corner of Riley and Reservoir Streets Surry Hills and is open to the public Thurs to Sat 12-6pm. Emergency Rescue runs till the 10th June*