

Watson Arts Centre

MEDIA RELEASE

17th April 2008

What I See

Patricia Van Den Nieuwenhuijzen

8th to 18th May

10am - 4pm Thursday to Sunday

**Opening by the distinguished J. Fulton Muir AO HonDUniv (ANU) at 7pm on
Wednesday 7th May**

Watson Arts Centre, 1 Aspinall Street, Watson, Canberra

An emerging artist who paints with her heart and deep passion, Patricia Van Den Nieuwenhuijzen presents in *What I See* a new collection of work consisting of landscapes and abstracts.

Patricia Van Den Nieuwenhuijzen has been an artist since a young child of 18 months. A mathematician, she has successfully combined her work as a professional academic at the Australian National University with her work as a professional artist.

Working with oil paints and acrylics, she creates artworks of vibrant colour. Her strong mathematical mind sees each part of a painting flowing into the next; repeated patterns and themes provide continuity and depict how she sees the Australian landscape and the native flora, themes that lend themselves to movement and imagination building. Whether a painting is of the Australian bush or a natural waterfall, it is based on colour, form and pattern.

In contrast to the landscapes, the abstracts are, she says, "how I feel as well as my own way of explaining certain themes that I see and perceive". A cascading wave is falling water but what Patricia Van Den Nieuwenhuijzen is particularly interested in is the how fast the water crashes at the bottom of the fall and comes towards you. In paintings of night lilies repeating forms allow for bending, twisting and distortion and yet the plants are there and not lost in the abstract.

Patricia Van Den Nieuwenhuijzen's art has risen in visibility since 2003 with three solo shows and numerous group shows. She also exhibits selected artworks through the ArtMine website of Agora Gallery: Soho & Chelsea Galleries, New York City, USA.

What I See is on display at Watson Arts Centre from the 8th to 18th May, 10am – 4pm Thursday to Sunday.

Further information (not for publication):

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