ARTISTS:
Simon Cuthbert / Lisa Garland /
Junko Go / Julie Gough / Helga Groves /
Neil Haddon / David Hawley / Jay Hirst /
Megan Keating / Dave Kelly /
Pura-ila Meenamatta (Jim Everett) /
Jonathan Kimberley / Cassandra Laing /
Vera Möller / Michael Muruste /
James Newitt / Farrell / Parkin /
Christopher Pyett / Michael Schlitz /
Valerie Sparks / David Warren
Devonport is the first port of call for most visitors travelling to Tasmania by sea. This coastal region is bordered by walking tracks, roads and railways; east and west are traversed by bridge and ferry. At the head of the Mersey River Mersey Bluff looms large and is home to a vast number of Aboriginal rock engravings. The Roaring Forties - the circumpolar westerly winds - push waves against the coastline, slowly sculpting the land over time but at low tide, the waters of Bass Strait subside to expose rocks and sea life.

My first recollection of the North West region was when my father spent three years as the terminal superintendent for the Australian National Line in Devonport before returning to the sea as a ship captain. In the latter years of his working life he was one of the captains who brought the passenger ship, Empress of Australia, into Devonport from Melbourne on a regular basis.

His stories of sea travel both in Australia and overseas are fused with memories of our family holidays sailing around the south coast of Tasmania in a small King Billy pine yacht. In those times we witnessed some of the many faces of the sea: the gentle sound of water lapping against the hull when moored in a quiet bay, schools of porpoise swimming alongside the yacht when under full sail; yet when sailing at night there were times we experienced strong winds that pushed forth enormous sets of dark waves that appeared capable of swallowing us up.

While coastal regions are shaped by the rhythms of the sea, the sea in turn is shaped by the movement of the wind and the tractive pull of the earth, moon and sun. The geographical and astronomical factors that produce tides and tidal currents are various, and the effects on individuals, communities and regions around the globe are multifaceted. The very nature of tidal movement determines the many activities that take place in coastal regions - the building of bridges, effluent management, navigation, fishing and water sports to name a few. Yet this continual exploration and intervention with the sea has also caused devastation to marine life and our shores. While the sea and the movement of tides have provided artists with endless analogies for the human condition, it also reflects our oscillating cultural and political perspectives.

The biennial Tidal: City of Devonport Art Award was launched at the Devonport Regional Gallery in 2004, and is fully funded by the Devonport City Council. The Award aims to showcase the work of contemporary Australian artists whose work addresses political, social or environmental issues surrounding our seas and coastal regions. Twenty artists from Tasmania and interstate have been preselected for the 2006 Award by judges Dr Gerard Vaughan, Daniel Thomas and Bea Maddock. The visual interpretations created by the selected artists traverse a range of issues that influence our relationship to the sea and tidal regions. It is anticipated that these Award entries will continue to incite reflection and debate upon natural, cultural and political concerns both on a global and on a personal level.

ELLIE RAY
ACTING DIRECTOR
DEVONPORT REGIONAL GALLERY
LISA GARLAND
Peter and Roger 2005
Silver Gelatin print
1 x 1 metre
JUNKO GO
Wave, Tide and Beach 2006
Acrylic, pastel and charcoal on canvas
121 x 121 cm
JULIE GOUGH

Disturbed Site: Promissory note - opposite Swan Island 6 August 1831 2006
Beach found ground: graphite, cuttlefish bones, charcoal, 3 oxides, shells, on canvas
108 x 153 x 1.2 cm (each panel 48 x 43 x 1.2 cm)
Image reproduction: Bottlebrush Studio
HELGA GROVES
Undersea 2006
Oil paint, medium and pigment on linen
150 x 200 cm (two panels)
NEIL HADDON
Survivor (Graft) 2005
Partially abraded high gloss household enamel paint on aluminium
130 x 120 cm
DAVID HAWLEY
Timing 2006
Acrylic screen-print on plywood
160 x 120 cm (approx)
JOY HIRST
here and there 2005
digital image
40 x 30 cm
MEGAN KEATING

Acrylic, hand cut paper on aluminum
145 x 111 cm
DAVE KELLY

Winter Storm, Don Heads 2005
Epson Inkjet Print on Innova paper
83 x 60 cm
PURA-LIA MEENAMATTA (JIM EVERETT) + JONATHAN KIMBERLEY

drukurringer legana tagarilja : breathe my family water 2006
Synthetic polymer, charcoal & text on linen
182 x 182 cm (four panels)
CASSANDRA LAING
Anniversary Whale 2006
Graphite on Paper
120 x 120 cm
VERA MÖLLER
Lewinett 2006
Oil on canvas
180 x 180 cm
MICHAEL MURUSTE
Breath, Moon and Mouth 2006
Oil on linen
2 x 2 metres
JAMES NEWITT
Arberg Bay 2006
DVD loop
Aprox 8.3 minutes
CHRISTOPHER PYETT
Surf Beach, Flinders Island, after Peter Grimes 2006
Gouache on 300gm Arches Medium
100 x 136 cm
MICHAEL SCHLITZ
Drifting Explorer 2006
Woodcut on kozo paper
1800 x 1800 cm
DAVID WARREN
Sea 2004
Pencil on Fabriano paper
69 x 112 cm
LIST OF WORKS

SIMON CUTHBERT  
Peter and Roger 2005  
Silver Gelatin print  
1 x 1 metre

LISA GARLAND  
Peter and Roger 2005  
Silver Gelatin print  
1 x 1 metre

JUNKO GO  
Wave, Tide and Beach 2006  
Acrylic, pastel and charcoal on canvas  
121 x 121 cm

JULIE GOUGH  
Disturbed Site: Promissory note - opposite  
Swan Island 6 August 1831 2006  
Beach found ground: graphite, cuttlefish bones, charcoal, 3 oxides, shells, on canvas  
168 x 152 x 1.2 cm (each panel 48 x 43 x 1.2 cm)  
Image reproduction: Bottletbrush Studio

HELSA GROVES  
Undersea  2006  
Oil paint, medium and pigment on linen  
150 x 200 cm (two panels)

HELEN HOLLWAY  
Survivor (Graft) 2005  
Partially abraded high gloss household enamel paint on aluminium  
130 x 120 cm

DAVID HAWLEY  
Timing 2006  
Acrylic screen-print on plywood  
160 x 120 cm (approx)

JOY HIGHT  
here and there 2005  
digital image  
40 x 30 cm

MEGAN HEATING  
Acrylic, hand cut paper on aluminum  
145 x 111 cm

DAVE KELLY  
Winter Storm, Don Heads 2005  
Epson Inkjet Print on Innova paper  
83 x 60 cm

PURA-LIA MEENAMATTA (JIM EVERETT)  
+ JONATHAN KIMBERLEY  
drakurringer legana tagarilia : breathe my family water 2006  
Synthetic polymer, charcoal & text on linen  
182 x 182 cm (four panels)

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120 x 120 cm

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Oil on canvas  
180 x 180 cm

MICHAEL MURJSTE  
Breath, Moon and Mouth 2006  
Oil on linen  
2 x 2 metres

JAMES NEWITT  
Arberg Bay 2006  
DVD loop  
Aprox 8.3 minutes

FARRELL + PARKIN  
Darkening Fields Act Three 2004/05  
C type photograph  
100 x 146 cm

CHRISTOPHER EVETT  
Surf Beach, Flinders Island, after Peter Grimes 2006  
Gouache on 300gm Arches Medium  
100 x 136 cm

MICHAEL SCHULTZ  
Drifting Explorer 2006  
Woodcut on kozo paper  
1800 x 1800 cm

VALERIE SPARKS  
Avant la tempêt 2006  
Lightjet print  
200 x 42 cm

DAVID WARREN  
Sea 2004  
Pencil on Fabriano paper  
69 x 112 cm
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
The Devonport Regional Gallery would like to acknowledge the Devonport City Council for fully supporting the Tidal Award; the Gallery’s Special Advisory Committee who initiated and assisted in the development of the project, and the Friends Committee for generously providing the Peoples Choice Award. Our sincere gratitude is extended to Dr Gerard Vaughan, Daniel Thomas and Bea Maddock for their careful consideration and selection of works for the 2006 Award.

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