

## Laurie Collins Newsletter for 2011( written September)

Greetings and salutations!

**I am just putting together a new website**( well me and some professional people) and I noticed the lack of a recent newsletter so I thought I should just bring you up to date a bit for this year.

There will be a **new exhibition** at the **end of November** at Gary Miles Gallery Bradley Hall at Rokeby/Drouin west and this will be our **Canada Reflections**. I will send out invitations soon enough and I hope you can come and see the latest work. Also the **new website** ([www.lauriecollins.com.au](http://www.lauriecollins.com.au)) is up and running ( I hope) so have a look at the new layout . It should be easier to navigate and hopefully more informative.

### 2011 so far.

The year started well with work continuing to be displayed at **Mingara Gallery**( Phillip Island) in Exhibition shared with an American Abstract artist Gerry Lubensky. The exhibition sold about half of the pieces there and some are still part of the Gallery's continuing exhibition stock.

At the same time the **Sculpture in the Vineyard** exhibition Lyrebird Hill winery Koonwarra had two pieces as part of a mixed sculpture exhibition and both these also sold. *( spiral at Mingara gallery)*



As part of the **Ficifolia festival** in Drouin we had Open studios and over 150 people came through. As this was the first time we had taken out the fence to the agistment paddock and made it into a sculpture display area this was exciting. Most people wandered around the paddock and didn't come into the studio. Graham Duell also shared the site and he had some good sales from the day. I sold a couple of the big sculptures so that was pleasing.

I once again entered the Art Blitz show at Kingston Arts centre( this is where they give you a theme on Friday night and you submit your piece on Saturday afternoon) and I made a fun piece which became part of the show that went to Canada.



*Kangaroos on Toorak Rd*

I entered the **Toorak Sculpture Show** for the first time and it was quite a delight to have two of my works sitting on Toorak rd( well the pavement). They sold which was also helpful.

I put a similar pair in the **Banyule Outdoor sculpture show** and won peoples choice.

I had a few pieces in the **Trafalgar Art show** and this year won best 3-d work.

**Mirboo Nth Art Show** was on in May and I took some pieces up there. It is such an interesting show and well worth having a look every Mothers day weekend.

I put two pieces in the **Contemporary Sculptors society show Bonanza** at their Gallery in Collingwood and had some nice comments.

During this time we had prepared work for a show I had organised in **Canada** and this was shipped off .( about 30 pieces of my work and 30 pieces of other peoples work from around the area) There are articles in the media section of the website for more info.



It was also during May that the **Jindivick Sculpture Show** was held for the second year. I am part of the group running that for next year so it hopefully will be bigger and better. I did a number of pieces for this show and my delight was the flying Rock. Adam Price had a piece which featured Balloons with Led's inside and they glowed at night. Great idea!

As part of the chaos of May we had another Open studios and this time it was cold and rainy yet still 50 people wandered through the place.

In June I did a lot of work in preparation for our Canadian expedition. I nearly caught up on orders and

did two seats that had been waiting for a while to hold the mosaic panels the Baw Baw arts network had done.

We then went to Canada for the **Laurie Collins and Friends Exhibition in Quesnel Canada**. We made a blog for this time and it is on the website so I wont go over it all again. Quesnel is in about the center of BC and it is a mill town that is sort of isolated. We stayed there for about a week and a bit , did some travelling to Jasper, Edmonton, Calgary Vancouver and Prince Rupert. I did lots of watercolour sketches and some of these will be in the exhibition we are about to have at the end of November called” **Canada Reflections**”

While we were away I put work in the Blarney Books Biblio art exhibition and sold one piece there .  
*“He swept her off her feet but it still didn't work.”*



I also put work in the Fleetwood Primary school Exhibition( where I won the sculpture prize)



*"The dancing man"*

Warragul Regional College celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary and I was asked to make a sculpture to commemorate this. I used their symbol and made most of the bits out of bits of stuff that possibly had some link to school days, eg like old locker doors, locks compasses tools, and horse and bike bits. They also had an auction and one of my donated pieces raised over \$1000. There was also an art Exhibition and again one of the works I entered sold.

In recent times there has been the CAS collectors exhibition in Richmond and the Fairfield Primary school exhibition

The main work of late has been getting the sculpture garden ready for Open Studios and Gardivalia. At the start of the year it was just an agistment paddock beside the shed but we took out the fences, mowed it and have used it as a space to put sculptures. Of late we have put in paths and trees and it is starting to look quite interesting.



*Sculpture Garden and Barney!*