



The Eloquence of Absence

an exhibition of paintings, drawings & ceramic sculptures exploring the multicultural nature of Australians by **Bill Cook**



This is a much anticipated whole gallery exhibition, featuring the artwork of highly regarded Adelaide Hills artist Bill Cook.

His monumental paintings, drawings and ceramic sculptures relate to the migrant experience, specifically of the Greek community who have left their homeland to settle in Australia. The imposing works are figurative, realistic and multi-layered with meanings.

characters he has depicted to their past, present and future.

These paintings demand attention. The dramatic colouring and extreme contrasts reinforce the epic adventures being played out on Bill's canvases.

"My artwork deals with the multicultural nature of Australians and the rich mix this infusion has brought to our nation and its developing culture." Bill says. "It deals in



In 2008 he had a very successful Arts Residency and exhibition at the Skopelos Art Foundation, Greece.

His work is represented in Australia and overseas, and in State and Federal collections including The National Gallery of Victoria, Adelaide & Flinders Universities, local government and corporate organisations, plus private collections in the USA and Greece

Bill Cook will be in Gallery M for an informal 'Meet the Artist' session from 2pm, Sunday 12 September. This is a great opportunity to meet Bill and discuss his artwork, in a relaxed environment.



Bill's wife's parents migrated to Australia in 1938 from the Greek island of Ikaria. For many Greeks travelling to Athens seemed like going to the other side of the world. Travelling to Australia must have been for many, beyond comprehension.

Bill has captured the passion and emotion of such journeys; cleverly linking the

an artistic and imaginative manner using ideas and visual metaphors to address the dilemmas and positive culture cross fertilizations that take place, when people move from one country to another."

Bill specifically deals with the Greek experience because it is still fresh in his own family's oral history. It is also easily translated and overlaps the family histories of every Australian whose ancestors migrated to these shores.

Complementing the paintings are figurative ceramic sculptures, also inspired by the migrant experience. Many of the ceramics are hand painted, capturing classical elements of the culture of ancient Greece and merging it with contemporary images that evoke separation and impermanence.

Bill was a High School Art Teacher for many years, after graduating from The SA School of Art in the mid 1970's. In 2001 he retired to work full time as a professional artist, but returned to teaching in 2009, as a part time lecturer at Mt Barker TAFE.



Special Saturday Opening
 'The Eloquence of Absence' will be officially launched by Dr Noris Ioannou, Executive Director, Nexus Multicultural Arts at 1pm on Saturday 4 September. Entry is free - all welcome.



29 August

CLOSE OF CURRENT EXHIBITION

4 - 26 September

WHOLE GALLERY EXHIBITION

- ▶ *'The Eloquence of Absence'*
Paintings, drawings and ceramic sculptures exploring the multicultural nature of Australians by **Bill Cook**.

MEET THE ARTIST

2pm, Sunday 12 September.

A chance to talk to Bill Cook in a relaxed and informal atmosphere. Free entry.

1 - 24 October

WHOLE GALLERY EXHIBITION

- ▶ *'Four Birds and a Bloke'*
Traditional and contemporary artwork in various media by **Brian Garner, Diana Mitchell, Mandy Foot, Pauline Miller & Petronella Cavallaro**.

29 October - 19 November

TWO EXHIBITIONS

- ▶ *'The Art of Giving'*
Artwork in various media by **members of the Red House Group Inc**
- ▶ *'A Body of Knowledge'*
Developed by Positive Women Victoria. A compilation of photographic images and text created by award winning photographer Michael Coyne.

28 November - 7 January

WHOLE GALLERY EXHIBITION

- ▶ *'9th Annual City of Marion Community Art Exhibition'*
All residents of the City of Marion area are invited to exhibit their artwork. No fee to enter. Download an entry form at www.gallerym.net.au or call on 8377 2904

Exhibition Proposals are welcome for 2011. Enquire at Gallery M or go to www.gallerym.net.au

talking shop



The Ochre Warriors - Peramangk culture and rock art in the Mount Lofty Ranges by **Robin B Coles**

\$39.95

Taking Possession
A Saga of the Great Southern Land
written by **Elynor Frances Olijnyk**
\$65

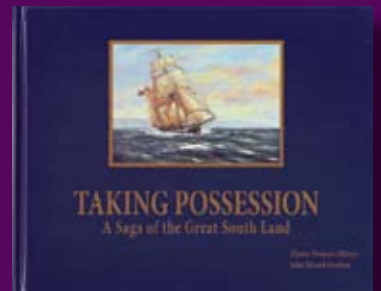
don't forget

**Fathers Day
Sept 5th**



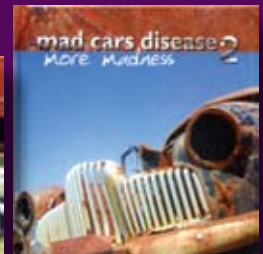
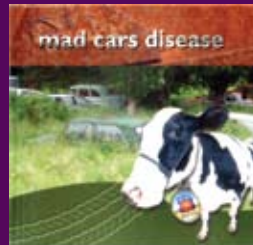
Boy Phoenix - C. James Melrose by **Helen Blake**

\$25



Mad Car Disease books written by **Steph McCarthy**

\$19.50 each



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