

**Toyota
Community
Spirit Gallery**
presents

small world

an exhibition by Melbourne based
Toyota employees

Toyota Australia, 155 Bertie St, Port Melbourne, Victoria
6 December to February 2007
Inquiries phone Ken Wong 03 9690 0902
Gallery Hours Thu & Fri 1pm to 6pm or by appointment



Toyota Community Spirit Gallery

The Toyota Community Spirit Gallery is an initiative of Toyota Community Spirit, Toyota Australia's corporate citizenship program.

Toyota Community Spirit develops partnerships that share Toyota's skills, networks, expertise and other resources with the community.

The Toyota Community Spirit Gallery aims to provide space for artists, especially emerging artists to show their work. The space is provided free of charge to exhibiting artists, no commission is charged on sales and Toyota provides an exhibition launch and develops a catalogue for each exhibition.

The Gallery has now shown works by over 200 artists. Toyota has worked with the Hobsons Bay City Council and the City of Port Phillip on this project.



Hobsons Bay
CITY COUNCIL



small world

an exhibition by Melbourne based Toyota employees

exhibiting artists

Belinda Blackmore

Jo Burt

Mary-Anne Doyle

Margaret Fenech

Nicolas Hogios

James Holgate

Paul Hunt

Dama Kumarasingham

Darron Maller

Gail McDaniel

Gary Robinson

Qui Thang Truong

Richard Vonja

Meredith Zimmerman

curator

Ken Wong

thanks to

Tania Blackwell, Hobsons Bay City Council

Sharyn Dawson, City of Port Phillip

Katarina Persic, Toyota Australia

invitation, catalogue design & editing

watch arts

Images front cover - main image Dama Kumarasingham (detail) and from top; details of images from James Holgate, Paul Hunt, Mary-Anne Doyle & Darron Maller. Inside cover - Paul Hunt (detail). Image this page - Gary Robinson (detail)



kenwong

curator

“This is the third exhibition in the Toyota Community Spirit Gallery dedicated to the art and craft of Melbourne based Toyota employees.

Small World provides an example of the broad diversity of cultures, talents and interests that go together to make Toyota such a strong organization. By examining a cross section of the creative outputs and recreational activities of the diverse group of individuals represented here, it is quite apparent that the collective points of view of Toyota employees in some way provides an insight or represents a microcosm of the broader global community. This is reflected in the common themes that have emerged from this exhibition.

For some this is explored through overseas travels while there are others who have originated from foreign lands, bringing their particular perspectives to Australia. Still others have found sources of contemplation, wonder and inspiration much closer to home. Through it all though, is a consistent sense of our common humanity and interdependence on each other, coupled with a great love and appreciation for the beauty of nature and the need to care for and nurture the fragile environment that sustains us.

With the ever increasing flow of information and communication technologies, population and demands on global resources, the world we live in is swiftly becoming a smaller and smaller place. In such times, it is encouraging indeed that this cross section of exhibits by Toyota employee’s displays such a diverse and thoughtful perspective on the realities and responsibilities of living in our modern global society.

Welcome to a *Small World*.”

Ken Wong is the Director of Watch Arts, a Melbourne based contemporary arts consultancy. He has worked in the fine arts industry since 1997 in both commercial and community arts, curating and managing a host of projects including gallery and outdoor sculpture exhibitions.



artistsandworks

belinda blackmore

Time Out 1	photograph	60 x 65.5cm	2004	NFS	page 06
Time Out 2	photograph	60 x 65.5cm	2004	NFS	

jo burt

Jenny	porcelain	50 x 20 x 15cm	2006	NFS	07
Silver	porcelain	20 x 10 x 10cm	2006	NFS	
Arielle	porcelain	20 x 10 x 10cm	2006	NFS	

mary-anne doyle

Siwa Smiles	photograph	42 x 30cm	2002	NFS	08
Beehive Bedouin	photograph	42 x 30cm	2002	NFS	

margaret fenech

Welcome Princess	photograph	43 x 50cm	c. 1985	NFS	09
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nicolas hogios

The Falling Shadows	mixed media	102 x 72cm	2006	NFS	10
Genetic Junk	mixed media	75 x 55cm	2006	\$200	

james holgate

Beech Forest	photograph	38 x 47cm	2006	\$250	11
Gisborne Dawn	photograph	38 x 47cm	2006	\$250	
River Spean	photograph	38 x 47cm	2006	\$250	

Proceeds from the sale of these works will be donated to Greening Australia

paul hunt

Friends in Lang Con Ca	photograph	20 x 30cm	2006	NFS	12
Lang Con Ca Child	photograph	20 x 30cm	2006	NFS	
Ho Cho Minh Tank	photograph	20 x 30cm	2006	NFS	



artistsandworks

dama kumarasingham

					page
The Desert Ships of Thar	photograph	21 x 30cm	2003	\$350	13
Junagarh Tales of 24					
Virtuous Women	photograph	30 x 42cm	2003	\$450	
First Expression of Love	photograph	42 x 30cm	2003	\$450	

darron maller

Melbourne CBD at Dusk	photograph	31 x 38.5cm	2004	POA	14
Sunset: Cable Beach - Broome	photograph	31 x 38.5cm	2005	POA	
Incoming Storm: Cable Beach - Broome	photograph	31 x 38.5cm	2005	POA	

gail mcdaniel

Drago	mixed media	30 x 70 x 70cm	2006	NFS	15
Microbes	mixed media	45 x 45cm	2006	\$150	
Feed Me	photograph	30 x 40cm	2006	\$150	

gary robinson

Boat Owners at Dawn	photograph	66 x 51cm	2006	\$250	16
Another Days Business	photograph	51 x 66cm	2006	\$250	
Anticipation	photograph	38 x 66cm	2006	\$200	

qui thang truong

Red Tail Catfish		55 x 90 x 44cm	2006	POA	17
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richard vonja

Tiger	enamel on canvas	73 x 115cm	2003	\$500	18
Chimp	enamel on canvas	57 x 48.5cm	2003	NFS	

meredith zimmerman

Soir D'Automne	tapestry	57 x 68cm	2005	NFS	19
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● belinda blackmore

“I became interested in photography when I borrowed an old Olympus camera from my grandfather. Since then I have completed short courses in photography and in 2003 I brought my first Nikon 35mm analogue camera in New York. I am inspired and motivated by people, travel, and architecture. This picture was taken with the Nikon while travelling in Thailand in 2004. In the thick humidity of Chiang Mai, these rickshaw drivers take a moment out from work, oblivious to the humdrum of the city around them.”



Time Out 2
Photograph, 2004
60 x 65.5cm

Belinda joined Corporate Services in April 2005, bringing with her over seven years of practical knowledge management experience. Knowledge Management involves identifying what Toyota needs to know to support business strategy and working at the grass roots level to align people, process and technology to achieve this. Her interest in photography is a creative outlet and a new challenge that helps provide a balance between her work and personal life. This is the first public exhibition of her photography.

“When I was quite young I saw a magazine about creating porcelain dolls and from that moment I was hooked. Creating dolls is a hobby that I will never tire of. Originally I was motivated to recreate the look of an antique doll, but now I am fascinated by all facets of the hobby. There’s always something new to learn, be it the history of the original doll-makers, or new painting techniques to try and eventually (after much effort) master. *Jenny* is a modern doll created from a non-original design, while *Silver* and *Arielle* are reproductions of French antique dolls originally produced in France in the mid to late 1800’s.”



Jenny
Porcelain, 2006
50 x 20 x 15cm

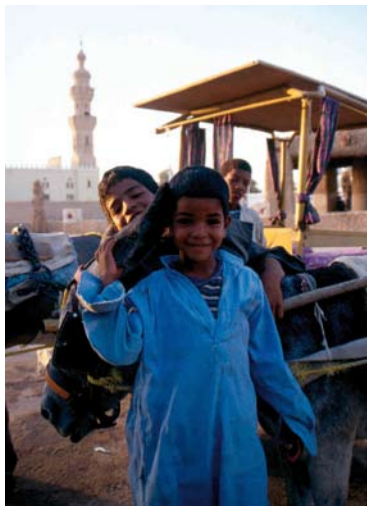


Above - Silver, Below - Arielle
Both porcelain, 2006
20 x 10 x 10cm

Jo originally joined Toyota in 2001 with the OH&S Department before moving to Purchasing in the later part of 2004. She has been interested in doll making for much of her life and after mastering the basics with the help of books and magazines, began attending classes that she says “with the input and guidance from a true artist have really allowed me to stretch my imagination and improve my technique”.

● mary-annedoyle

“I am motivated by the creative expression that photography affords me and the never-ending pursuit of that ‘perfect image’. My extensive travels have provided a myriad of opportunities for me to refine my craft and experiment with various photographic techniques. I enjoy trying to capture the everyday lives of people going about their daily business. The first of these photos shows two young boys heading home for the day with their donkey - one of the main modes of transport in Siwa, Egypt. The second photo shows a young bedouin girl who lives in the dome-shaped mud beehive homes in Syria.”



Siwa Smiles
Photograph, 2002
42 x 30cm



Beehive Bedouin
Photograph, 2002
42 x 30cm

Mary-Anne has worked with Toyota for many years in Public Affairs and Human Resources but last year transferred to the Strategy and Knowledge Management Department to take up the role of Intranet Manager. Her interest in photography began when she joined Toyota in 1991 as editor of the employee magazine Toyota Today. She has always had a keen interest in diverse countries and cultures as evidenced by her travels through the Middle East, Africa, Europe and Antarctica. She is primarily self-taught but has acquired a great deal of knowledge and skill from professional photographers she has worked alongside and also from photographic magazines. Her works were first exhibited at Toyota Community Spirit Gallery in 2004.

margaretfenech ●

“I first started taking family shots and I loved being able to captivate a moment. I really enjoy the feeling when you develop the photos and find you have captured something wonderful. I was particularly lucky to get this shot of Princess Dianna several years ago when she attended the then Southern Cross Hotel. There were fans everywhere and I just happened to be in the right place at the right time when she stopped to accept a rose. I guess this photo has now taken on a different historical significance. I have recently turned to digital photography, which I thought I never would but I have found that I enjoy it even more and take a lot more photos!”



Welcome Princess
Photograph
43 x 50cm

Margaret began working with Toyota in 1982 as a clerk/typist and is currently the Site Co-ordinator for Employee Parts with Human Resources based in Altona. She has always been interested in photography and bought her first camera at age sixteen. Margaret enjoys both landscape and portrait photography which has provided a hobby and enjoyable pastime for her over many years.

● nicolashogios

“Expressing myself in any visual art medium is a joy. I am fortunate enough to be able to have a career (as an automotive stylist for Toyota) and a hobby that allows me this expression. To describe something without words allows the viewer a certain level of interpretation – this is rewarding for both artist and viewer alike. The Falling Shadows: In a future, vertical world the falling shadows undertake mass information gathering. This piece can be described as dark futurism. It is sketched initially with biro on bleed-proof paper, and rendered digitally using Photoshop.”



Nicolas began work at Toyota in 2003 as a senior designer at Toyota Style Australia (TMCA's styling design studio). He was soon promoted to Design Manager before a ten month secondment to Design Headquarters in Nagoya, Japan. Cars that he has designed include the exterior design of Sportivo Coupe Concept Car and the Toyota Aurion. He has a Bachelor of Industrial Design from University of NSW (Class 1 Hons – Dux) but his visual art practice is mostly self-taught. This exhibition has provided his first opportunity to show his artworks in public.

The Falling Shadows
Hand sketch & digital render, 2006
102 x 72cm

jamesholgate ●

“One of my first employers had a darkroom for their technical photos and this presented the opportunity to start understanding the techniques of photography – this teaming of optics and chemistry with the art of composition appealed to my scientific background. I enjoy the fact that photography demands that you look and see rather than just let scenes drift past. There is great satisfaction in capturing a special moment and presenting it in a way that can be enjoyed not just for the memory it brings but also for the intrinsic aesthetics of the image. In my photographs, I seek to capture patterns that exist in nature for a moment in time. Some, such as the light at dawn, frost on a flower, an approaching storm front or the swirl of river foam are fleeting moments. Others, such as the trees in a forest are perhaps less fleeting but they too are moments that will pass. Regardless of how quickly these moments come and go, they remain forever as images but there will never be a second chance to revisit that same pattern or, increasingly, to revisit even that same element of nature – we will have changed it.”



River Spean
Photograph, 2006
38 x 47cm

James joined Toyota in 2002 and initially worked in the Product Development Division, responsible for ensuring all local and imported Toyota and Lexus models were certified to Australian safety and environmental standards. He then moved to the Environmental Policy Department which assists all areas of the business to meet their environmental obligations and works to continually reduce environmental impact. He has been interested in photography since his teens but has begun to concentrate on it as a hobby over the past five years. This is the first public exhibition of his works.

“My month long trip to Vietnam in January 2006 was exciting, challenging, frustrating and still too short. I enjoy the challenge of trying to capture such an amazing trip in still photographs. Of course it can't really be achieved, but these three photographs capture the essence of Vietnam for me beautifully.”



Friends in Lang Con Ca
Photograph, 2006
30 x 20cm



Lang Con Ca Child, Photograph, 2006, 20 x 30cm



Ho Cho Minh Tank
Photograph, 2006
20 x 30cm

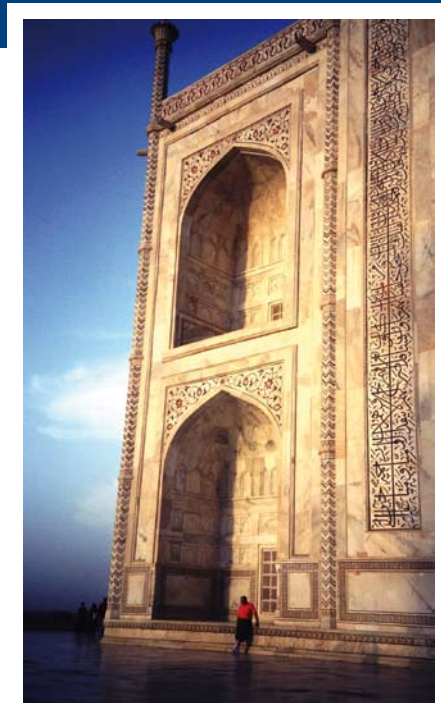
Paul has worked with Toyota since 1999 and currently works in Export and Distribution as Logistics Coordinator for the Southern Region. He has followed his interest in photography as a hobby for the past fifteen years. Paul's practice is self-taught and his strong interest in bushwalking has fired a desire to capture the beauty of the natural and man-made environment. His works were first shown in the 2005 Toyota employee exhibition.

damakumarasingham ●

“One of my uncles in Sri Lanka was a professional photographer and he used to show me some of the photos he had taken and explain why he considered them to be interesting. Unfortunately, he died in car accident when I was seven, just before we left Sri Lanka. Since we travelled a lot when I was young, I’ve gotten into the habit of taking photos of places I’ve visited so I can remember them later on as well as the feelings experienced. The works in this exhibition were photographed in April 2003 in the State of Rajasthan, North India. The Taj Mahal is the most famous monument built during Mughal rule. It symbolises both artistic achievement and excessive financial expenditures. It was built from white marble by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan (1628–58) on the bank of the Yamuna River (in Agra) as a mausoleum for his second wife, Mumtaz Mahal, who died in childbirth in 1631. The photograph was taken at sunset when it is the most impressive time to see the Taj - the white marble first takes on a rich golden sheen, then slowly turns pink, red and finally blue with the changing light.”

Dama has worked with Toyota for five years in Corporate Planning and is currently Corporate Strategy Systems Development Manager. She has responsibility for the redesign and re-engineering of the current corporate strategy management tools and processes which aims to simplify the existing processes and support the company-wide deployment of Hoshin Kanri within Toyota Australia. While she has been interested in photography and photographs for over twenty years, her practice is largely self-taught and this is the first time her work has been exhibited in public.

First Expression of Love
Photograph, 2003
42 x 30cm



● darronmaller

“I have always had an interest in photography, mainly for landscapes. I enjoy experimenting with the different camera settings to see what effects can be achieved and exploring various angles that can create a variety of images from the one scene. This image captures a balmy night in Melbourne from a St Kilda Road apartment block.”



Melbourne CBD at Dusk
Photograph, 2004
31 x 38.5cm

Darron has worked with Toyota since 1998. He has had various roles in Purchasing and now works in Operations Purchasing as a Senior Buyer. He has had an interest in photography and played around with cameras since he was a child but is now mainly motivated to capture memories while on vacation. Darron is a self-taught photographer and this is the first time he has submitted any of his images for public display.

“I have been creative for as long as I remember. I enjoy painting, drawing, photography and a variety of textile based crafts including tapestry and cross-stitch. I also enjoy woodwork, making bookcases and simple furniture and my own frames for my artworks, also teaching myself to mount those projects as well. I think I inherited the creative gene from my parents, especially my mother who was always making something. Inspiration usually comes to me out of the blue - I would like to make art my life! This year beads seem to be the inspiration for my artwork. I got interested in beadwork when sewing beads on the wings of cross-stitch fairies. I have also recently spoilt myself by purchasing a high quality camera for my fiftieth birthday. I took a shot of this little bird, then thought I'll just take another to be sure I got it ok. At that very moment the mother flew in and fed him.”



Feed Me
Photograph, 2006
30 x 40cm

Gail began working for Toyota in 1996 on the assembly line and after six months started an adult apprenticeship as a Maintenance Fitter. She currently works with Press Shop Maintenance in Altona. Her interest in art and craft began at an early age. Over the years she has done a variety of textile and wood craftwork as well as photography. More recently she has been creating more sculptural art pieces from a variety of mixed media and found objects. She has been greatly inspired and encouraged by her participation in the Toyota Community Spirit Gallery employee exhibitions over the past two years and was thrilled to have sold one of her works from the 2005 show.

● garyrobinson

“I am mostly self-taught but more recently I have successfully completed the first semester of part time studies in photography. I am now exploring some of the more varied aspects of the craft such as colour and light, although I still have a strong interest in landscapes like those exhibited here. I hope one day to present a solo exhibition of my works. *Boat Owners at Dawn*: Are you asleep, are you dreaming? You float on water with your head in the clouds. You are still. It is silent. Nothing to disturb the boat owners at dawn.”



Boat Owners at Dawn
Photograph, 2006
66 x 51cm

Gary commenced employment with Toyota in 1998 working in Material Control in steel order planning and is currently a Project Coordinator with the Project Control department based in Altona. He originally became interested in photography while studying art and design at Deakin University. In more recent years he has taken up bush walking which has increased his appreciation for the outdoors and the natural forms and shapes that occur in nature, which has in turn rekindled his interest in photography. His works were first exhibited at the Toyota Community Spirit Gallery in 2004 and that experience encouraged him to enter the 2005 Qenos Art Show in Altona where he won a first prize in the photography section. Earlier this year his works were also featured in the Toyota Community Spirit Galleries' open program.

qui thangtruong ●

“I am devoted to my tropical fish and I raise them from babies and nurture and care for them over many years. Some of them live for up to ten years or more. When they die I am unable to part with them, so I have them preserved by a taxidermist. To me they are a work of art created by nature and my care and attention over the years, preserved now for maybe the next one hundred years.”



Red Tail Catfish
55 x 90 x 44cm

Truong migrated to Australia from Vietnam and has worked with Toyota in the welding shop at Altona for nineteen years. For many, many years he has kept tropical fish and it has become a passionate and absorbing pastime for him. The practice of taxidermy has long been considered an art form. While Truong has had this work carried out by a professional craftsman, he regards the result as a work of art that he has had a significant role in creating. It is interesting that the use of animal remains is becoming increasingly a part of certain branches of contemporary art practice as it was in ancient indigenous cultures.

● richardvonja

“As a child I was fascinated by cartoons and comic books and felt compelled to draw and paint my favourite characters. This began a lifelong love affair with art that has become my passion. Over the years I have experimented with a variety of mediums, taking up airbrushing in 2000. Since then I have completed several large scale murals. I particularly enjoy portraiture and have painted many famous people from photographs. I also continue to explore pen and ink, creating characters for a graphic novel I would like to have published one day, but I continue to be interested in expanding my skills with all sorts of mediums and subjects. Tiger is an experiment in furthering my naturalistic airbrush techniques.”



Tiger
Enamel on canvas, 2003
73 x 115cm

Richard has just commenced work with Toyota on the assembly line at Altona. He has been interested in painting and drawing for as long as he can remember. His art has turned into a more serious pursuit over the years and he has completed a variety of commissions including a mural for the Sunshine Hospital Emergency Ward in 2005, displays for the local Village Cinemas, car and panel van murals and paintings on canvas. In 2004 he was invited to exhibit a solo exhibition of works featuring Grand Prix drivers and their cars at the Deutsche Bank suite at the Australian Grand Prix.

meredithzimmerman ●

“My mother taught me needlework at a very early age and this carried through to my secondary education that covered a variety of arts and crafts. I have always had a love of arts and crafts as hobbies and in particular tapestries, although never creating my own designs. Each tapestry I work on is different and this one particularly interested me as it gives the impression of an oil painting in textile. The design was created by Royal Paris – France and is based on a painting by A. G. Rigolot titled *Soir D’Automne*. I am generally inspired by the design and the type of yarn it is worked with. I enjoyed working with the silky cotton and colours used in this tapestry and seeing the scene come to life as I worked. I enjoy applying what I have learnt and often pick up new techniques from the instructions provided with the tapestries.”



Soir D’Automne
Tapestry, 2005
57 x 68cm

Meredith began working with Toyota in 2004 completing various temporary positions at Altona with the Plant Administration Office, Executive Office and PNE. She commenced as Secretary/ Administration Assistant with Purchasing Division, Corporate Purchasing Department in March 2005 and became a permanent employee in February 2006. She has been creating these kinds of artworks for ten years but this is the first time she has exhibited her work in public.