

Paper

the 2011 group exhibition of the Contemporary photographers of APS.

The exhibition was held this year in the upstairs gallery of the Glasshouse Regional Gallery in Port Macquarie, NSW.
It ran from 02 September to 02 October, 2011.

The APS National Exhibition was exhibited in the same gallery.







The installation photographs of the exhibition were taken by Kay Mack & Anne O'Connor.

The following pages contain a copy of the catalogue.

Paper

**a group exhibition
by the contemporary photographers
of the Australian Photographic Society**

**Glasshouse Regional Gallery
Port Macquarie**

September 2011

Paper

Welcome to the eleventh group exhibition held by APS Contemporary Division members. Eleven of our members have worked this year on the theme "Paper", each approaching and representing the theme in his or her own way. Seven of the exhibitors have shown work with us before, the others are joining us for the first time.

These exhibitions are organised by email as the exhibitors are widely scattered throughout the country, coming this year from all the eastern states and South Australia.

This year the exhibition is being shown in the Glasshouse Regional Gallery. The showing concludes at the time of APSCON, the annual convention of the Australian Photographic Society. My thanks go to all the exhibitors and also to the APSCON committee in Port Macquarie, and the staff of the gallery. All these people have made their contribution to the success of this year's exhibition.

Kay Mack

Chair, APS Contemporary Division.

Previous exhibitions held by our members are: *Decadence* (1995); *Transformations: Edges & Balances* (1997); *Mirage & Metaphor* (2000); *Pictorialism – A Contemporary View* (2001); *Childhood* (2004); *Ubiquitous Symbols of Modern Life* (2005); *Remnants* (2006); *Steps* (2007); *Blue* (2008); and *Fluid* (2010).

Marie Tresidder

The theme is paper. I thought, rather than depicting objects that were made of, or utilised, paper, I would look for expressions that incorporated the word “paper” to put across some other meaning. After a check of both the dictionary and the Internet I decided on the following three, and created images to put each of these ideas across.

“Paper Tiger” n: *A nation, institution etc that appears powerful but is in fact weak or insignificant.*

Paper Tiger is a literal English translation of a Chinese phrase and is similar to the English phrase “its bark is worse than its bite”.

“Paper the House” Theatre Slang: *To fill (a performance etc) by giving away free tickets.*

The idea was to fill the theatre for early performances by giving away free tickets, and then hopefully later performances would be well attended through “word of mouth”.

“Paper Over” vb (tr vb): *To conceal something controversial or unpleasant.*

The allegory is to covering cracked plaster with wallpaper, thereby improving its appearance but not the underlying defect.



Anne O'Connor

The theme of paper as a subject is large. Initial thoughts related to the amount and usage of paper that we handle every day, especially as a photographer.

Over years, many images have been printed, had their day and end up where dead paper goes, sometimes re-cycled, sometimes burnt and sometimes just garbage. An idea came to resurrect some of these discarded images and transform them to live another day. So, many cut-ups and sticky bits later, my contemporary creativity using original defunct paper images through collage and imagination was done.

Two triptychs were born, one based on industry and the other forestry. They address the production of paper. (1) With references to carbon emissions produced with electricity and (2) out of balance ecological footprints through the destruction of forests.

So from paper, comes paper with a new look as an artwork; my attempt to create awareness about the negatives of its production. Yet here is a dichotomy, as a photographer who relies on paper to voice opinions through images, perhaps my protest is best managed by planting a tree and turning off the lights.



Kay Mack
Paper Dolls

I grew up, the eldest of four children, in the 40's and 50's – in the days before television and computer games.

I remember that much of our indoor entertainment depended on a supply of paper. We wrote letters and did drawings to send in to the Argonauts Club; played Noughts and Crosses, Hangman, Squares, and Battleships and Cruisers; folded paper Fortune Tellers; made silhouettes at night by the light of a lantern or torch; and designed and cut out our own paper dolls.

I've made these dolls in the style I remember making back then, and photographed them for printing on canvas.



Gavin Barrett
Care Factor



What is the value of paper? What are we willing to destroy, to satisfy our growing appetite? Paper is one of very few archival mediums proven to last many hundreds of years. A store of knowledge that can still be read when the batteries go flat! Learning and literacy are intertwined with the use and demand for paper, but should this require the destruction of our environment? *It's time to rethink the paper trail.*

This work explores some common paths travelled in of the life of paper, from forest to mill, to printed books, and emerging future directions. Unintended collateral damage along the way goes largely hidden and unnoticed.

My local environment, the Canberra region provided inspiration and images from forests and roadsides, books to hand and speciality papers, each of which has its own story.

Our relationship with paper is special. As tactile, physical beings, paper interacts with us through multiple senses. From appearance, texture and smell, to the subtle noises of opening books, and turning pages. Personal interpretation of the content combines with our senses to create unique experience.

Elizabeth Slezak

Paper

Paper may be used for many purposes. While the most common is for writing or printing on, it is also used for packaging, cleaning, construction and industrial processes.

Attempting to interpret the notion of paper, I focused my camera lens on paper used in advertising, particularly posters, pieces of printed paper designed to be posted in a public place to convey information. In this work, I explored posters attached to walls and poster poles. Shooting at close range, I examined their graphic and textural elements, details as well as the coming events, they advertised.

My photographs capture an allegory of transience. The peeled off layers of poster signs exhibit their impermanence and the ripped off paper can be an example of people taking direct action against the advertiser.



Anthony Mancuso

An old book, a camera, some macro filters, natural light through a window, a rainy afternoon and some imagination. That's what went into creating this paper series.

What intrigued me most was the way the light created shadows and reflected colour in the curves of the loose pages. I was also captured by the blurring and depth created by using macro filters.

A layer of texture was included during processing to give an aged feel to the images.

Enjoy.

Anthony Mancuso

www.galleriamancuso.com



Leonie Parker-Lee

Paper Patterns

Paper captures our imagination, it is there to be used, recycled for other uses, or to be kept and cherished.

Even in this digital age the tourist information industry is reliant not only on technology but also on paper to sell its message of attractions on offer in our country. Paper brochures and flyers together with face to face contact with staff is a convenient way to showcase otherwise unknown wonders. These brochures, stacked on stands and behind counters, are just waiting to be read. Their coloured covers are inviting and arouse interest in what might be waiting to be discovered within their pages.



Paper Patterns is a play on colour, lines, and shapes. The spines of stacked brochures reveal colours and patterns which form images in their own right. These patterns show colours and lines merging to form contours of landscapes, patchwork patterns, and shapes that are pure abstraction.

Jill Turnbull

Paper Gardens



One day not so long ago, I was about to pick up the local newspaper from the ground at the bottom of my driveway, when I was struck by the beauty and complexity of the scene before me. The newspaper, wrapped in gladwrap, was nestling into a patch of green grass and was dotted with glistening droplets of water from the recent rain. Completing the picture were decomposed leaves and fallen petals from a nearby Lasiandra tree. This scene was the inspiration for my series of “Paper Gardens” images.

As well as attempting to convey an inherent beauty within such “Paper Garden” scenes, my aim is to give a strong impression of the newspaper being a natural addition to the garden, and at the same time having an interesting life of its own.

Michelle Thompson

Cut Out Paper Dolls

Every so often, my Mum would buy me a colouring book and if I was lucky there would be dolls to be cut out. Dresses were diligently cut out and coloured in before gently bending the clothes around the paper doll.

I spent hours happily dressing and undressing my paper dolls as a child. Tears were spilt when I tore the clothes or ripped the head off the doll. Mum would gently tape the pieces back together to bring a smile back to my face.

In the accompanying images, I have recreated the Cut Out Paper Doll concept using a real doll and her clothing.



Undressed Doll



The Clothes



Dressed Doll

Sandra Neill

Paperbark



Paperbark has intrigued me for as long as I can remember. My childhood home had a group of wonderful paper barked Melaleucas growing close to the house. These were well branched & easily climbed so my sisters & I spent many a happy hour perched in these trees, peeling the most delicate sheets of gossamer-like paper from the branches, or large thick pieces which could be used for imaginary plates. We held competitions to see who could peel away the largest tissue like piece without breakage or the greatest variety of pattern & colour in a given area!

I still love the delicacy of hue & fascinating construction of layers of 'paper' which clothe some of our native Australian flora.

Phillipa Frederiksen

I have taken my interpretation of our topic "Paper" from the much used Trees from which it mostly comes. The artist's paintbox allows easy transportation for the exhibition. In another form the paint box also comes from trees and is protecting the display.



1. The background photo was taken down an avenue of trees on Kangaroo island, South Australia. I do love taking photos of trees. They are so strong, they give us shade and protection. Some are orderly, some are all over the place, some are small, some are tall....all a bit like us humans. We come in an assortment of shapes and sizes.

....and yet we chop down trees all over our country. Sometimes we grow trees to be used and then replant. Sometimes we just chop down the virgin forests without any thought of replacing them....and how can we replace these forests that have taken hundreds of years to grow?

2. On the second back layer 2 "beings" look in awe at the trees.
3. Behind their backs chopped logs sit waiting to be burnt to keep people warm.
4. The three token trees in the next layer represent trees ready to be chopped down.
5. In the front we see torn paper ready for the pulping mills to be made into the paper for this display.

We still need paper in our civilization though the computer was supposed to save trees.

We still need paper to communicate, to show our art work and to burn.

Do YOU think that perhaps one day we will do without paper and save the world's forests?

