

# The Substation

newsletter: February 2009



The  
Substation  
is  
OPEN

## The Opening

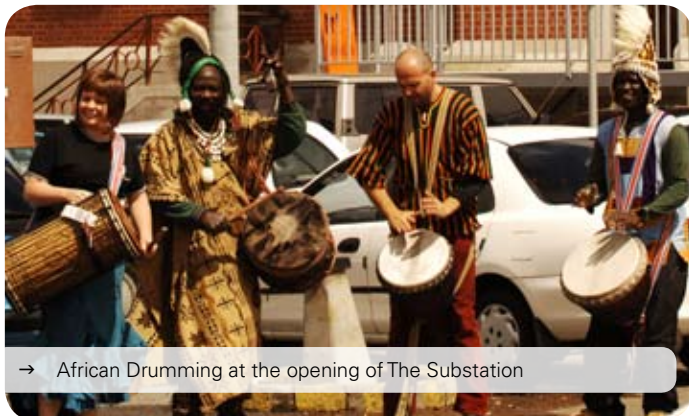
After 12 years of hard work by a dedicated team of local volunteers - The Substation officially opened its doors to the public, artists, musicians, performers and community groups on Saturday 22 November 2008.

The Hon Lynne Kosky, MP - Minister for Public Transport and The Arts officially opened the building.

Other Guest Speakers were Darren Williams - President of the Hobsons Bay Community Arts Centre and Cr Bill Baarini - Mayor of Hobson's Bay City Council.

Entertainment was provided by Newport Lakes Primary School (under the direction of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra), Willin Wimmin, Newport Swing Band, Multicultural Choir, and the Newport Fiddle and Folk Club, as well as performances by African Drumming and the Fireworks Dance Company.

We would like to thank all volunteers and businesses who donated valuable time and resources to help make the day a memorable event.



→ African Drumming at the opening of The Substation



→ Newport Lakes Primary School under the direction of the MSO

## Upcoming Exhibitions

### Williamstown Festival Contemporary Arts Prize - 21 Mar - 5 Apr

The Williamstown Festival Contemporary Art Prize attracts entries from all over Australia annually. Artists are short listed to exhibit in this nationally renowned award by a judging panel consisting of some of Australia's leading art professionals. The exhibition showcases excellence in the visual arts to a local and broader audience.

### Flybys - 17-18 Apr

'Flybys' by Giovanna Insera, a temporary work of light projection art, will be shown on the eastern side of The Substation on 17 and 18 April, 8:00pm - 9:30pm.

Part of Hobsons Bay City Council's Art in Public Places program - 'Flybys' will be shown at selected locations around Hobsons Bay.

### ArtCraft 2009 - 2-10 May

The third ArtCraft - "ArtCraft 2009" will be held over two weekends: 2-10 May.

Now in its third year - this exhibition invites all community members to display their art and craft skills in a professional and friendly environment.

Find an entry form on The Substation website. For enquiries about ArtCraft contact Margaret Trousdale E: [magsmt@hotmail.com](mailto:magsmt@hotmail.com)

### SUB12 - 9 July - 27 Sept

SUB12 is a new exhibition program that will provide an opportunity for visual artists working across a diverse platform to exhibit in The Substation - one of Melbourne's most inspiring new art spaces. The SUB12 exhibition program will run for a 12 week period from 9 July to 27 September 2009.

For more details contact Tania Blackwell (Hobsons Bay City Council) on E: [tblackwell@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au](mailto:tblackwell@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au)

## Artists' Market

### 4 April - an indoors market at The Substation

Showcasing works of art which are both unique and of the highest quality, the emerging Substation Artists' Market is about to explode onto the local art scene. With the potential to host up to 120 stalls in this iconic local building, the Substation is ideally situated to become the home of the next big artists market in the west.

Held on the first Saturday of each month from 10am-4pm, artworks will include textiles, print, painting photography, jewellery, sculpture and more. Exhibiting, demonstrating and discussing their work with the visiting public, will be many local artists as well as those from further afield, both emerging and well established. The truly eclectic collection of art and artists, have been sourced from established artists markets and through extensive networking of the Artists' Market committee.

The first market will be held on 4 April, to coincide with the final weekend of the Williamstown Festival Art Prize exhibition.

Mark this date in your diary and support us in our endeavour to bring a splash of colour to our local art scene. Interested stall holders can obtain the application form and information from The Substation website.

## Classes at The Substation

### African Drumming

Learn the infectious rhythms of West African djembe drumming. Beginners classes (for those with no or limited experience) are now available at The Substation on Monday evenings at 6.30pm. Open classes (for beginners and intermediates) to begin 2 March and Kid's Drum Club is coming soon. Classes run in 6 week courses and are taught by Boubou Gaye and Ben Coleman, both very experienced musicians in African percussion.

For further information contact T: 9525 3073 or go to [www.africandrumming.com.au](http://www.africandrumming.com.au)

### Lifestyle for Kids

Gym, dance and tap classes for toddlers through to adolescents are now available at The Substation from Monday - Thursday in the main performance space and the multi-purpose room.

Timetables are available from The Substation (upstairs at reception desk) or contact T: 9399 1136 [www.lifestyleforkids.websyte.com.au](http://www.lifestyleforkids.websyte.com.au)

### Upcoming classes

Mosaics (dates tbc) and Life Drawing (dates tbc).

## Organisational Issues

### Building works update

All those fortunate enough to have attended The Substation opening or exhibitions held late last year, will have seen the tremendous progress achieved by builder Sandy Richardson over the last few months.

The major achievements have been the installation of the main performance floor, the new corridor floor outside the café, and the multipurpose room above the performance floor. With the stairs to all these areas now complete and fitted with glazed balustrades, the exciting potential of The Substation is fully revealed. With the multipurpose room glass curtain wall completed, the view down into the performance floor is breathtaking!

The other significant step forward is the lift, which is now nearing completion. With its glazed side wall, it not only fulfils an important function, but also adds to the aesthetic experience of a Substation visit.

Other items completed include:

- Fire hose services installed
- Glazed doors to the performance floor installed
- Toilets on Level 3 complete and functioning
- Performance floor change rooms constructed
- Cleaners cupboard, disabled toilet and kitchenette on Level 2
- Emergency and exit lighting in foyer and on Level 3

Now that a lot of the major construction work is nearing completion, we are focussing on the design of some of the important services, including: architectural and exhibition lighting; heating, cooling and ventilation; and stage lighting system design.

Come along to an upcoming event to see the results of a dedicated builder and a tremendous team effort!

### The Substation Café

The Substation is fast becoming the social hub of the area with the forthcoming installation of a café restaurant on the fourth floor.

Several experienced people have expressed interest in the extending their own creative vision into The Substation.

The fourth floor site is a spectacular location, with some of the best city views in Melbourne adding to the building's natural charms. Visitors to the Café will be able to sit and watch activities on the performance space below while dining or sipping a latte.

It's also hoped that the venue will become an arts hub in its own right through the hosting of evening and weekend jazz sessions.

There's still time for interested parties to join the application process. Contact Simon Burrett on M: 0407 712 048 or E: [simonb@thefoundry.net.au](mailto:simonb@thefoundry.net.au)

### Membership

Membership is now to be taken out on an annual basis.

The membership rates on the enclosed form are current for all membership forms submitted prior to 1 July 2009, at which time membership rates will increase slightly.

Your membership fees assist The Substation to operate on a financially sustainable basis as a not-for-profit organisation.

### Call for volunteer positions

Now that The Substation is operational we need the assistance of our members and the wider community to help with running the centre. We are currently looking for people to assist with reception duties - a smiling face welcoming visitors to The Substation.

We also need volunteers to help with the grounds and maintenance. If you are able to assist for even a few hours each week, your contribution will help move the project forward.

For details please call Kate Steele on M: 0402 410 473.

### Sponsorship

The Substation is inviting local people and businesses to sponsor prizes for upcoming art exhibitions including the annual Williamstown Festival Contemporary Art Prize and VCE Art Exhibition. This is an opportunity to both support your local community art centre and to promote your business. All contributions will be acknowledged in some of our publications which are widely distributed within the Hobsons Bay community and on The Substation website.

We would also be interested in speaking with you if you can assist us with sound and lighting equipment for performance and art exhibition spaces, a PA system and seating.

Please contact Nancy Belyea for more information on M: 0411 350 435 or E: [nan1cyan@optusnet.com.au](mailto:nan1cyan@optusnet.com.au).

## Recent Events - VCE 2008

Another very successful year 12 student exhibition was held at The Substation from 20-23 November. Amongst the 8 schools participating were 2 newcomers, Brimbank and Kuranjang Secondary Colleges.

Opening night was well attended and buzzing with excitement. Anuradha Patel, public artist and sculptor, opened the exhibition with an encouraging and inspirational speech, in which she told of her journey in becoming an artist, and of the opportunities that lie ahead for the young artists represented. Anuradha's most recent work is the "Whirl Pool" - a steel sculpture situated at The Warmies in Newport.

Bayside Sec Coll generously catered for the opening night and Laverton Secondary Coll music teacher, Steve Colbrook and two VCE students provided pleasant background music with saxophone, keyboard and vocals.

Attendances during the exhibition weekend were our largest yet. With the official opening of The Substation on that weekend, the VCE exhibition provided a wonderful backdrop to the celebrations of the day, and provided enormous exposure to the talents of our local VCE students.

The organising committee would like to sincerely thank all who participated and worked so hard to ensure the success of this annual event. We particularly appreciate the hard work put in by the teachers in hanging and making the exhibition as always, looking its best.

## Further Information

The Substation 1 Market Street, Newport VIC 3015  
Postal Address PO Box 57, Williamstown VIC 3016  
E: [substation@vic.chariot.net.au](mailto:substation@vic.chariot.net.au)

[www.thesubstation.org.au](http://www.thesubstation.org.au)