



CURATORS' COMMENTS

Before joining the Visual Arts Faculty at Overnewton, I had worked in museums and art galleries managing collections of objects and images. When Principal Jim Laussen approached our department to hold a retrospective exhibition event of our Permanent Visual Arts collection to celebrate the 25th year of the College's foundation, I was excited and delighted to coordinate the project.

My role was primarily to oversee the exhibition and also a catalogue to accompany the event. However, I also immediately saw a need to establish a database documenting details of the twenty four artists and the works they created.

The project began by contacting the artists to gather information confirming artist statement details and discovering what students were currently doing with their lives. Concurrently, all artworks were being expertly photographed ensuring the availability of high quality images

A database will be developed with the intention of making the collection more accessible. Fields of documented information and images would now be available to students via the intranet which may be used as research or to enhance learning. A Permanent Collection intranet folder of images providing public access and also publicity for our 25th birthday celebration event has also been launched.

The central event of this year's project is the exhibition which accompanies this catalogue. For the first time in the College's history the entire collection will be exhibited as part of the annual Visual Arts department art show held during the College fair weekend in November. Each artist has been invited to join the other twenty three artists to view their place in this significant collection.

Throughout the planning for these projects, an exceptional catalogue design team, made up of Visual Arts teachers Mike Harrison and Kristy Soos, directed the layout design for this catalogue. Their combined professional design expertise allowed them to take raw material and transform it into a beautifully presented, stylish publication honouring the student artists it represents.

My thanks go to all the college staff members who have participated in the Permanent Collection tasks and in particular the Visual Arts department for the support they gave to guarantee the success of this project.

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