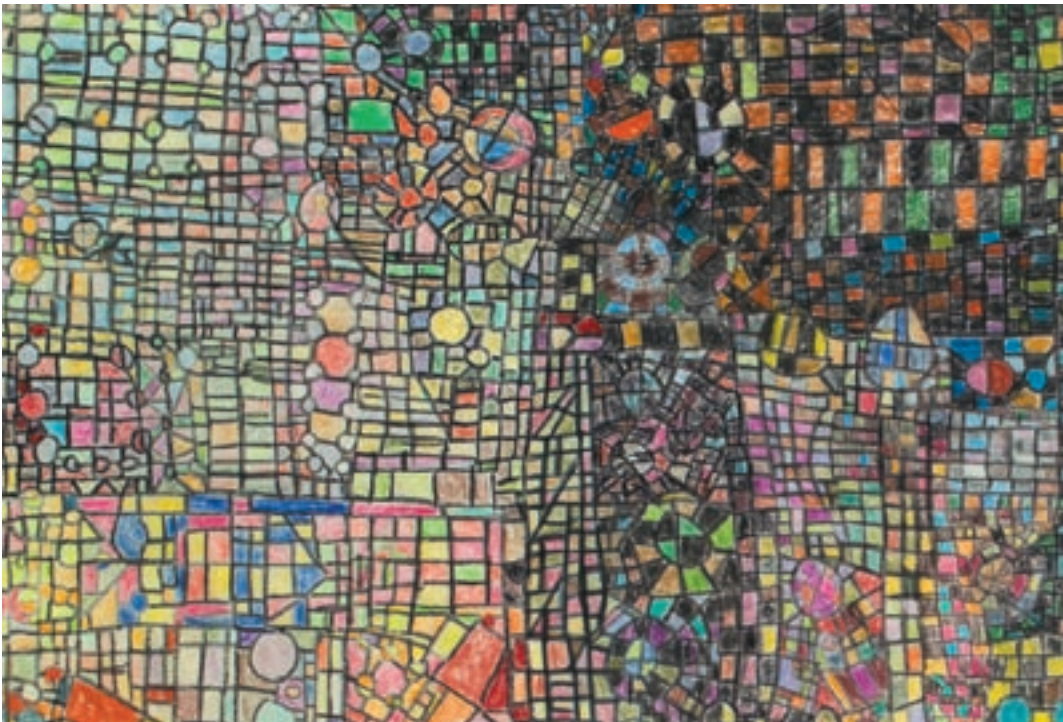


## Pearls of Arts Project Australia Stuart Purves Collection

17 April - 24 May 2008 | Opens 16 April, 5:30 - 7:30pm



Bruce Morrison, *Untitled (Black Outline Shapes)*, 2002, 50 x 65 cm.

In 1998, **Stuart Purves**, who already had more than three decades of experience in the art scene as director of Australian Galleries, discovered something new, fresh and exciting.

It was at the Melbourne Art Fair that Purves happened upon **Arts Project Australia** and was instantly drawn to the bold, dynamic and expressive work of artists with intellectual disabilities.

From an initial purchase of three works for his grandchildren, Purves began a collection which grew over ten years to include 180 paintings, drawings and sculptures.

**Pearls of Arts Project Australia** highlights works by 43 artists from this remarkable collection.

Arts Project Australia was founded in Melbourne in 1974 with the express purpose of exhibiting artwork in a manner that accords artists with an intellectual disability the same dignity and respect as other artists.

Curated by Stuart Purves. The show will be opened on April 16 by **John McDonald**, art critic for the Sydney Morning Herald

**Free** exhibition talk: 9 May at 3:00pm

**For more information, interviews or images please contact**

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Wayne Marnell, *Untitled (Figure)*, 2006, gouache and pen on paper, 18.5x38 cm.



Leo Cussen, *Untitled (Dr Who's Tardis)*, 2005, pastel on paper, 56x38 cm.



Alan Constable, *Untitled (Polar Bear)*, 1994, pastel on paper, 50x65 cm.

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