

A Constructed World



Haters of the traditional, the minimalist, the elite and general snobbish art wankery will find comrades in art dissenters A Constructed World.

Jacqueline Riva and Geoff Lowe
22 April – 24 May
The Physics Room

Australian artists Jacqueline Riva and Geoff Lowe use the name A Constructed World (ACW) for their collaborative projects. Part of their philosophy is that traditional hierarchies and 'rules' of the art world are to be circumvented at all costs. They also feel their exhibitions are incomplete until the audience has participated in some way. Their translation of this in Christchurch was to put out an open invite to the Christchurch public to exhibit their artwork at The Physics Room alongside A Constructed World's own (the selection process being non-existent). The result has been a right old knees-up in art world terms. The gallery is submersed in a curious selection of submissions which, surprisingly, all seem to interact and co-exist happily alongside each other. Screenprints from the students at 'Te Kaupapa Kiri Kairangi' have created a neon monument to rap artists such as Eminem and Ludacrus.

Zane Smith's collections of shopping lists rescued from grocery store floors are displayed in crinkled formation next to picturesque oil paintings of the Canterbury landscape. 10 yr old Tessa Cave contributed her 'stream and hut' countryside paintings (nicely done!) and Sue Ellen's quilt made from an old man's dressing gown would hang nicely in the most contemporary of cutting-edge London art galleries. My personal favourites are the small leather worked, handpainted Star Trek scenes contributed by a member of Floyd's Creative Arts Centre. Definitely a novel and revitalising exhibition which has been like a blast of V added to Christchurchian art-waters.

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