



Bendigo Regional Arts Centre

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Media Release

AROUND THE WORLD AT THE ARTS CENTRE

By Judy MacDonald

Katherine E. Seppings, an Australian freelance artist, writer and photographer, will take you all around the world at the Bendigo Regional Arts Centre with her superb photographs now on exhibition in the Lanyon Room and the foyer.

The photographs shown here depict many of Katherine's interests. Music, dance, travel, literature, decoration, food, gardens, creative and spiritual development. The photographs in the foyer show some of the places she has visited and, one suspects from looking at these warm, thoughtful and affectionate images, places that she loves.

Katherine's attraction to landscape probably matured when, as a young woman, she travelled extensively throughout Australia. This led on to India, Thailand, England, and then Spain, Portugal, Morocco, Holland, Germany, Denmark, Scotland, Wales, and Kashmir.

She worked as an artist, photographer and writer in all these locations and then went on to the United States, Canada and Mexico before undertaking a more structured approach to the land and people of Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia and Puerto Rico.

Now established near Castlemaine, Katherine is preparing photographs for future exhibitions and consolidating her writing from the past six years. She is currently working on a novel, a series of short stories and poetry.

The basis for the exhibition at Bendigo Regional Arts Centre is two separate strands of Katherine's interests and obsessions. The first is work undertaken when she lived in Chinatown in New York City. Living in this environment for three years made her familiar with the style of graffiti from the Lower East Side of Manhattan.

For further information or to arrange interviews and photographs, please contact
Barbara Lomas at Bendigo Regional Arts Centre on 03 5441 5344.

It is very interesting to see the variations in the types of graffiti that Katherine found so riveting. This material also forms a valuable photographic study of graffiti that is in the process of being 'cleaned up'. The day is not far off when people in New York will ask, 'what ever happened to that Coke sign on the wall by the bakery?' No one will know, but, photographs like those of Katherine Seppings will record this curious expression of late twentieth century megalopolis art.

The photographs in the foyer of the Arts Centre show landscape, figures and architecture from Australia, Turkey, Mexico, France and Nepal. One of the most beautiful images is a sea of grass in St. Andre de Najac in France. It is worthwhile visiting the Arts Centre just to see this one photograph. It is a powerful work that captures the essence of nature and has an amazing relevance to people who do not even know this area at all.

There is a particularly lovely photo of Barkers Creek, Australia also that creates a commanding empathy within the viewer. Children absolutely love Katherine's work because of its immediacy and the way in which it cuts out all extraneous matter.

Katherine's writing and photography has been published and exhibited in New York, London and Australia over the past twenty years. 'Characters of Castlemaine' was her first solo photographic exhibition in 1986 and last year, 'Nepal '98' was shown at 'The Art Exchange Show', New York.

All the photographs currently on show at the Arts Centre can be purchased. Katherine's photographs form part of many private collections and the Castlemaine Regional Art Gallery. Many of the visitors who have already seen this exhibition have been students studying photography at tertiary institutions in this area.

The universal view of all of them has been that these photographs are among the most important they have ever seen.

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