



CHAN DISSANAYAKE

COOL WATERS

Watercolours capturing the essence and intricacy of nature

OCTOBER 2 – NOVEMBER 15, 2010

Opening 11am Saturday 2nd October

By Master Cellist, Teacher, Composer and Writer
David Pereira, *DSCM (NSW Con), MMus (Indiana)*

Chan Dissanayake was born in Sri Lanka to an artistic family, his father an internationally acclaimed film director and his mother an art teacher. He migrated with his family to Australia in 1986.


A talent for drawing was recognised in pre-school days and a passion for art, especially for watercolours, kept him actively involved in it. He studied watercolour painting with renowned Australian artists embarking on a journey of self-discovery.

Achieving rapid success, he was a guest artist at this year's Canberra Times Outdoor Art Show, was awarded first prize at the 2010 Royal Canberra Show in the portrait and figure section and has been invited as a tutor for the 2011 Summer Art Experience by the Artists Society of Canberra.

Since living in Canberra, Chan has taken a keen interest in depicting its visually rich regional environments, from rural and alpine landscapes, to South Coast seascapes and urban streetscapes. He uses the native qualities of watercolour to create atmospheric effects indebted to the intense, and at times, subtle Australian light.

Chan's images of dappled shadows across a landscape, ripples in the sand, sparkling crystals of a fresh snowfall, ephemeral mists on a rugged mountain side or dancing reflections on a shimmering marine surface, are products of his ethnicity blended with the Australian landscape. They display an inherent beauty tinged with nostalgia that imparts a sense of calm softness to the eye.

Chan portrays the intricacies of nature in its purest forms, not seeking detail, but capturing the essence of his subject. Watercolour provides him with the creative spirit. As the washes mingle he senses its force, and the act of creation becomes a joy.





Above (left to right)

Approaching Storm watercolour 34 x 54cm

After Snow Dump watercolour 24 x 34cm

Inside (top to bottom)

Boat Yard Eden watercolour 54 x 34cm

Rainy Day watercolour 34 x 24cm

Front cover

Rock Fishing watercolour 24 x 34cm

wood | works gallery BUNGENDORE

Kings Highway Bungendore NSW 2621

Phone +61 2 6238 1682

Fax +61 2 6238 1817

Email gallery@bwoodworks.com.au

Web bwoodworks.com.au



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