



2009 Annual Report



Supported by the ACT and Commonwealth Governments



PhotoAccess 2009 Annual Report

Our purpose is to enrich the arts and provide creative opportunities to challenge and inspire the ACT community by continuing to be the principal destination for people to see and appreciate, learn about, make and show contemporary photomedia work.

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PhotoAccess is in the Manuka Arts Centre, corner Manuka Circle
and New South Wales Crescent, Griffith, ACT

PO Box 4059, Manuka, ACT, 2603

Tel: 02 6295 7810 email: contact.us@photoaccess.org.au

www.photoaccess.org.au



In for life exhibition opening, 15 October 2009; clockwise from top left: Barb Smith and Iain Dawson (Life Member); Denise Ferris and Joy Burch, MLA opening the exhibition and launching the 25th Anniversary Print Portfolio; Bob Burne and Andrée Lawrey; Barbie Robinson and Sonia Turner

These and cover photos Gilbert Herrada

1. Chair's report: Tony Stewart

2009 was a milestone year for PhotoAccess. In October we celebrated our 25th Anniversary with a program of exhibitions, a dinner and a limited edition print portfolio. In all of our work we maintained the same strong commitment to community access and involvement as the people who converted a derelict Kingsley Street building into the PhotoAccess Community Photographic Centre in 1984. It was very pleasing that many members from the early years joined us to celebrate the 25th Anniversary.

Like all community organisations we have lived through good times and difficult times. The place PhotoAccess occupies in the Canberra community is unique because it straddles the contradictory divide between access and excellence, as it has done consistently for the past 25 years. In that time the environment PhotoAccess operates in has changed dramatically and the organisation has had to change with it. Yet, somehow, we have never strayed much from the vision of the founders.

The distinguishing characteristic of PhotoAccess is the 'access'. It is what makes us unique. As a core objective, we provide access to everyone, including the young, the aged, Indigenous groups and disadvantaged groups and individuals. What I like most is that we provide opportunities in the continuum from the individual holding his or her first camera to the emerging artist holding his or her first solo exhibition. We provide many other opportunities—including helping raw beginners and young graduates from tertiary institutions to present their work to the wider community—but the basic idea that people can learn how to use a camera and at some time exhibit their work, in group or solo shows, is at the heart of our organisation. We help to build creative lives.

Our courses program continued to play a strong role assisting more than 360 people to develop their photography skills. Many of them showed with us in our two members shows in 2009. A particularly pleasing learning project was the Strategic Indigenous Arts Initiative courses we presented with the Billabong Aboriginal Corporation, leading to a HUW DAVIES GALLERY exhibition in 2010 NAIDOC Week.

The HUW DAVIES GALLERY exhibition program continues to grow in diversity and strength, providing opportunities for new and established artists to show their work. *In for life* was a unique exhibition by PhotoAccess life members; it was the second exhibition presented as part of the 25th Anniversary program. The first, *HIY (Hang it yourself) 2009*, gave today's PhotoAccess members an opportunity to participate in the anniversary celebration. And they did so with great enthusiasm: 60 members entered 170 works in what was our largest ever exhibition.

The 25th Anniversary Print Portfolio, made with generous support from the artists and sponsors, was acquired for the Canberra Museum and Gallery (CMAG) and private collections, and sales contributed to our good financial result in 2009. We hope it will provide further income in future years.

Support from the ACT Government through artsACT and the ACT Cultural Council was critical to our continuing work.

In 2010 we have to prepare a new business plan and begin negotiations for a five-year funding agreement. We have begun this process with some navel-gazing and discussion about where we should be going. I'd like to thank members and board members who have participated in this process to date.

While I have been a member of PhotoAccess and the board for several years, this first year as Chairperson has given me a different perspective on our organisation and a stronger belief in its importance to the community of the ACT. The work of my predecessors, my colleagues on the board and our staff has helped PhotoAccess to a relevant and sustainable position in the fabric of Canberra and the region's cultural life and I look forward to helping it continue to develop into the future.

2. Treasurer's report: Lisa Holmes

2009 was a good year for PhotoAccess in many ways. From a financial management point of view the surplus of \$27 085 represented some success in finding new income streams, one of the objectives we have pursued over several years. Earned income was just under half our total income in 2009.

Income from courses continued to make a major contribution to our work. Courses income improved by 13 per cent, from \$66 616 in 2008 to \$75 329. Gallery income improved by 66 per cent, from \$15 532 in 2008 to \$25 798 in 2009. The main component of this increase was \$10 520 from sales of the 25th Anniversary Print Portfolio mentioned elsewhere in this report. Donations income was also up on last year, \$10 170 from \$1621 in 2008.

Copies of the audited financial statements were provided to members at the 2010 Annual General Meeting and are available to members on request.

In 2010 we will adopt a new business plan and negotiate an agreement with the ACT Government for five years ACT Arts Fund support beginning in 2011. Continuing efforts to build income will be one of our ongoing objectives.

3. Management report: David Chalker

Our goals for 2009, the second year of our 2008 to 2010 business plan and multiyear funding agreement with the ACT Government, were to:

- develop the exhibitions program and audience to make the HUW DAVIES GALLERY a priority destination for people interested in contemporary photo based arts
- assist artists to develop and show engaging and challenging work and provide skills development opportunities
- grow community involvement and promote access through projects, courses, workshops and other activities
- diversify and strengthen our financial base
- manage and promote the Manuka Arts Centre as a vital arts resource.

2009 in summary

We more than met our goals for 2009 in most areas, in particular through the gallery program. Developing audiences and growing income are continuing challenges. In summary:

- the HUW DAVIES GALLERY program included 19 exhibitions of still images by a mix of established and emerging artists, an exhibition of holograms and four exhibitions in the Multimedia Room of individual multimedia works or moving images associated with main gallery exhibitions
- we assisted with a short tour of Jessie Boylan and Emma King's *AUtonomies* exhibition
- participation in member activities, providing a window on the way members value our work, was unprecedentedly high this year: we had a record 120 works by 58 members in *Access all areas 2009: The PhotoAccess Members Show*, and more than 170 images from 60 participants in *HIY (Hang it yourself) 2009*, making it our largest ever exhibition
- we assisted Blaide Lallemand and Hilary Cuerden-Clifford with promotion of their *Journey to morning* exhibition at CMAG; early work from this project was first shown in the HUW DAVIES GALLERY in 2004
- we presented an exhibition by PhotoAccess life members and a produced a commemorative print portfolio—16 images donated by artists associated with PhotoAccess as board members, board advisors, staff, course tutors and exhibiting members—to commemorate our 25th Anniversary in September 2009; the portfolio was acquired for the CMAG and two private collections and has potential to provide further income into the future
- the Sundays in the Gallery program—14 events in 2009 including exhibition based workshops and artist talks, demonstrations and Shared Image events—received mixed audience support in 2009
- we provided technical and creative support to five artists in residence, including our second Emerging Indigenous photographer, Lyndy Delian
- we reviewed the PhotoAccess Collection Policy and works were added to the collection during the year, including the 16 works in the PhotoAccess 25th Anniversary Print Portfolio
- we introduced a Facebook group to help promote PhotoAccess events and discussion on issues, and a monthly DVD showing of work by photo artists at Assembly nights at Knightsbridge Penthouse
- a July group visit to Bundanon, including workshops in panoramas and lighting, and a HUW DAVIES GALLERY exhibition by the group, were very successful, leading to a planned Thredbo visit in 2010
- we worked with several organisations, artists and Queanbeyan City Council to provide training and creative support for access based community projects
- we responded to strategic funding initiatives, for example the ACT Strategic Indigenous Arts Initiative (a project in partnership with the Billabong Aboriginal Corporation)
- more than 360 people were introduced to or developed their skills in photomedia through our courses program, including new and better targeted workshops
- our kids holiday programs encouraged and helped develop the skills of 70 young people in digital capture and digital imaging
- we upgraded the website
- we made a submission to the ACT Government's *Review of the Arts in Canberra*

- we recruited a number of new board members and advisers
- we reviewed and adopted new job statements and priorities for all staff
- we provided work experience opportunities for three young people.

Many people and organisations made notable contributions in 2009, including:

- Ed Whalan, in particular for his outstanding work on the website, teaching—including the new comprehensive digital photography course 'The Works', lighting and colour management courses—and as Manuka Arts Centre Manager
- Barbie Robinson, who did remarkable work on the gallery program and general marketing, including our relationship with ArtSound FM
- Danny Flynn, who devoted many volunteer hours to painting and refurbishing gallery and other spaces, and the many other volunteers whose contribution allows us to open on Sundays
- Denise Ferris as Chair to March 2009, Tony Stewart as Chair from March 2009 and the other board members and advisers who gave us time, expertise and support
- Ted's Camera Stores, through Greg Masakers, for donations and assistance with equipment purchases
- the ACT Government through artsACT for continuing grants and other support, including a \$300 000 commitment announced in February 2009 to implement a landscaping and development plan for the Manuka Arts Centre
- Stephen Best of Macquarie Editions, Lorna Sim and Abell Ong of Abell's Kopi Tiam restaurant and Barbie Robinson who supported the 25th Anniversary Print Portfolio.



Joy Burch, MLA and Denise Ferris viewing the 25th Anniversary Print Portfolio; photo Gilbert Herrada

Financial management

The financial outcome for 2009 was a surplus of \$27 085 compared to last year's deficit of \$5251. The Treasurer has reported on the broad aspects of our financial performance.

We use MYOB and a monthly reporting system against both budget and previous year figures to manage performance. The board receives financial reports at each meeting.

Courses and workshops provide PhotoAccess with the major share of its non-grants income. As the following table shows, courses income improved in 2009. Contract courses and projects made a significant contribution to the total income figure, but at around the same level as in 2008.

Course income summary

	2003 \$	2004 \$	2005 \$	2006 \$	2007 \$	2008 \$	2009 \$
Course income	65 113	96 553	72 324	73 669	70 020	66 616	75 329

PhotoAccess relies on support from the ACT Government to provide the community with affordable access to the photo based arts. As the financial performance summary shows, the percentage contribution made by the ACT Arts Funding Program operating grant was unchanged from 2008. An important movement was in income from sources other than grants and courses, which improved by 8 per cent over 2008. Earned income made up 49 percent of total income. Significant contributions to earned income were gallery receipts (including sales of the 25th Anniversary Print Portfolio) and donations. ACT Arts Fund (other grants) income was down because of grants received in 2008 from the Regional Arts Fund (RAF). Expenditure was down 9 per cent, principally because of 2008 expenditure on RAF projects.

Financial performance summary

	2009 \$	% of total income	Last year \$	% of total income	% change total income
Total expenditure	258 898		284 922		
Income from all sources	285 983		279 672		
Year outcome	27 085		(5251)		
ACT Arts Funding Program (operating grant)	129 500	45	127 000	45	0
ACT Arts Funding Program (other grants)	16 579	6	44 382	16	(10)
Courses	75 329	26	66 616	24	2
Other income	64 579	23	41 674	15	8

Staff and their work

We have four staff members with complementary responsibilities.

Name	Responsibilities	Hours weekly
David Chalker	Director: develop and implement business plans and strategies; manage human and financial resources; governance and board support; compliance with reporting and legal obligations; oversight programs; represent PhotoAccess to funding authorities, other partners and the media; author/edit written material	35
Ed Whalan	General Manager: courses and workshop programs, projects, accounts and bookkeeping, exhibitions and artists in residence programs, designer, webmaster, administrative systems, technical and creative advice for artists and projects, property manager for the Manuka Arts Centre	32
Kerry Baylor	Administration Officer: represent PhotoAccess as the first point of contact with visitors, members and people making enquiries about courses, exhibitions and photography generally; courses bookings and payments, liaise with students, tutors and volunteers; manage the 'appearance' of PhotoAccess public areas	20
Barbie Robinson	Gallery Coordinator: gallery activities, including Sunday in the Gallery, artist talks, lectures, events; supports administration of the program and implementation of the Marketing Plan	10

Other activities involving PhotoAccess staff include opening exhibitions, advising on and being involved in community projects, judging competitions presented by other organisations, and assisting artists—particularly emerging artists—with grant applications and technical and creative advice about their work or planned projects. David Chalker is Secretary of VIVID: The National Photography Festival Incorporated.

Our present staffing level has allowed us to make good gains in the past three years, in terms of both the scope and quality of the artistic program we offer. Further development is likely to be constrained without some growth in resources.

Tutors

Our tutors during 2009 were Ed Whalan, Joseph Cali, Edwin Daughtry, Kim Hopper, Richard Scherer, Barbie Robinson, Jocelyn Rosen and James Shapowloff. Their expertise and the number of people who benefited from the sharing of that expertise is immense.

Audience development

Our audience development work focused on promoting services in the following ways:

- our website www.photoaccess.org.au is the main vehicle for promoting programs; the website provides comprehensive information on programs, including current and past exhibitions (and exhibition catalogues), upcoming courses and events
- we have a subscription list of around 700 individuals and organisations who received weekly email updates on events and matters of interest
- we mail around 150 invitations to exhibition openings and artists distribute around another 100 invitations themselves
- we invite HUW DAVIES GALLERY Facebook friends to exhibition openings and other events
- we advertised in the gallery pages of 'Panorama', a Saturday magazine in *The Canberra Times*, in *Canberra Times* and other media listings, in *Art Guide Australia* and, for our holiday programs, the *Holiday Happenings* magazine
- regular interviews by staff and artists on ArtSound FM and, when possible, ABC local radio
- we present artists work at monthly Assembly nights at Knightsbridge Penthouse Bar
- we place course promotional material with camera retailers who regularly recommended new camera buyers to us
- word of mouth is particularly significant in promoting courses.

While there was a correlation between our local print media advertising and attendances, the audience for contemporary photomedia work remains small. Funding under the ACT component of the Visual Arts and Crafts Strategy (VACS) has been the key to our media promotion for several years and we were encouraged to see that some of the audience gain from our participation in VIVID: The National Photography Festival in 2008 appeared to be sustained in 2009. But without significant additional resources to promote our activities, in particular the HUW DAVIES GALLERY program, it is unlikely significant growth in audience can be achieved, particularly at our present location.

Manuka Arts Centre

The Manuka Arts Centre accommodates PhotoAccess and ArtSound FM. In 2009 we made our Building A teaching room available to ArtSound for board and other meetings, and activities associated with the November Radiothon and Open Day, ArtSound's major annual fundraising activity.

There were two fire safety exercises during the year.

Location was an issue we raised in our submission to the ACT Government's Review of the Arts in Canberra. Our present location has many advantages but is remote from public transport and we do not benefit from passing traffic. Because there are few operational synergies between PhotoAccess and ArtSound we suggested accommodation near public transport, other like organisations and businesses would be ideal for a number of reasons, including cooperative marketing and resource sharing.

\$300 000 funding for redevelopment of the Manuka Arts Centre grounds as part of the *Local Initiatives Package* was announced by the ACT Government on 26 February 2009. The redevelopment work, to be undertaken in the first half of 2010, will improve the amenity of the centre and help make it more attractive to visitors. We will continue to work with artsACT and ArtSound to implement the redevelopment plan.

4. Governance

The mix of skills and interests represented on the board has given PhotoAccess continuing strong and progressive governance. The board met six times in 2009, and conducted the 2009 Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 26 March.

Board member's terms end at each AGM and board members are eligible for re-election. A number of new people joined the board at our AGM in March, bringing business and other fresh perspectives to the organisation. One board member resigned in October to accept a teaching opportunity conforming with the ACT Arts Fund's conflict of interest guidelines.

The board members for 2009–10 are shown in the following table.

Name	Special responsibilities, qualifications and experience	Years on board
Dr Tony Stewart	Chair, expertise in business analysis and marketing, artist	9
Dr Denise Ferris	Deputy Chair, Convenor Gallery Committee, university lecturer and Associate Dean (ANU), artist	8
Lauren Hewitt	Secretary, artist and public servant (AIATSIS)	1
Lisa Holmes	Treasurer, public servant (ACT) (Certified Public Accountant)	5
Dr Tim Brook	Lecturer photomedia, Visiting Fellow (ANU), artist	6
Dr Bob Burne	Scientist, Visiting Fellow (ANU), artist	5
Greg Masakers	National Manager, Ted's Camera Stores	2
Maxeme Tall	Small business owner (Paperchain Bookstore Manuka)	1
Sonia Turner	Artist	3
Anthony Wyatt	Small business owner (specialising in IT security)	1

In addition to the 10 board members, PhotoAccess has the benefit of advice and support from a number of board advisers who attend meetings and contribute their skills and expertise to our work. The board advisers in 2009–10 were Lauren Hewitt, Kate Luke, Belinda Pratten, Barbie Robinson and Jocelyn Rosen.



Past Chairs of PhotoAccess, L to R: Bronwyn Jewell, Denise Ferris, Julia Mulligan at the 25th Anniversary Dinner; photo Lorna Sim



Ed Whalan (staff and Life Member), Danny Flynn (Life Member and volunteer), and Barbie Robinson (staff and past Board Member) at the *In for life* exhibition opening; photo Gilbert Herrada

5. Artistic report

2009 was another very full year for PhotoAccess. Our artistic program was diverse and well supported, with new activities and new exhibition opportunities as proposed in our 2008 to 2010 Business Plan. In 2009 we continued to serve the ACT community by providing access, development and learning opportunities in the photo based arts. PhotoAccess members and people from the wider community visited us to see and present exhibitions and receive advice, practical help and encouragement through courses and special projects.

The HUW DAVIES GALLERY continued to build its preeminent place supporting and encouraging the development of photo media artists at all levels—emerging and established professionals and serious amateurs—and in generating interest in contemporary photo media practice.

In summary:

- the HUW DAVIES GALLERY program included 19 exhibitions of still images by a mix of established and emerging artists, an exhibition of holograms and four exhibitions in the Multimedia Room of individual multimedia works or moving images associated with main gallery exhibitions
- we assisted with a short tour of Jessie Boylan and Emma King's *AUtonomies* exhibition
- participation in member activities, providing a window on the way members value our work, was unprecedentedly high this year: we had a record 120 works by 58 members in *Access all areas 2009: The PhotoAccess Members Show*, and more than 170 images from 60 participants in *HIY (Hang it yourself) 2009*, making it our largest ever exhibition
- we assisted Blaide Lallemand and Hilary Cuerden-Clifford with promotion of their *Journey to morning* exhibition at CMAG; early work from this project was first shown in the HUW DAVIES GALLERY in 2004
- we presented an exhibition by PhotoAccess life members and a produced a commemorative print portfolio—16 images donated by artists associated with PhotoAccess as board members, board advisors, staff, course tutors and exhibiting members—to commemorate our 25th Anniversary in September 2009; the portfolio was acquired for the CMAG and two private collections and has potential to provide further income into the future
- the Sundays in the Gallery program—14 events in 2009 including exhibition based workshops and artist talks, demonstrations and Shared Image events—received mixed audience support in 2009
- we provided technical and creative support to five artists in residence, including our second Emerging Indigenous photographer, Lyndy Delian
- we reviewed the PhotoAccess Collection Policy and works were added to the collection during the year, including the 16 works in the PhotoAccess 25th Anniversary Print Portfolio
- we introduced a Facebook group to help promote PhotoAccess events and discussion on issues, and a monthly DVD showing of work by artists at Assembly nights at Knightsbridge Penthouse
- a July group visit to Bundanon, including workshops in panoramas and lighting, and a HUW DAVIES GALLERY exhibition by the group, were very successful, leading to a planned Thredbo visit in 2010
- we worked with several organisations, artists and Queanbeyan City Council to provide training and creative support for access based community projects
- we responded to strategic funding initiatives, for example the ACT Strategic Indigenous Arts Initiative (a project in partnership with the Billabong Aboriginal Corporation)
- we introduced new skills development opportunities through new and better targeted workshops
- our kids holiday programs encouraged and helped develop the skills of 70 young people in digital capture and digital imaging.

Exhibitions

2009 was another satisfying and demanding year in the gallery. The 21 exhibitions in the main gallery and Multimedia Room spaces represented a great diversity of work, interests and artists—meeting our aims to present a mix of shows by emerging and established artists and promote PhotoAccess as a vital, distinctive organisation concerned with contemporary arts and cultural development. The 2009 exhibitions summary is at Attachment A.

As mentioned earlier, the gallery program included 19 exhibitions of still images. Our multimedia exhibitions stream included four exhibitions of individual multimedia works or moving images associated with main gallery exhibitions in the Multimedia Room. Talbet Fulthorpe's outstanding short film *Jangil (Homesick)*, took us to the creeks, mangroves, lagoons and islands called up from his childhood on Queensland's Gold Coast by the artist's grandfather. In 2009 we showed holography for the first time, David Warren's exhibition *MYWORLD.com.au*. The Multimedia Room exhibitions have helped to satisfy our aim to present photomedia work based on new ideas or new ways of working, or by artists or in media not otherwise seen in Canberra.

Solo exhibitions were presented by 16 artists, including four who had shown with us previously. Ruth Maddison's *There is a time* exhibition concluded her residency supported by grants from the 2008 ACT Regional Arts Fund and Australia Council for the Arts. Andrew Mayo's very popular *Guys, Girls, Guitars* exhibition was assisted by a grant from the 2009 ACT Arts Fund. Frank Plicka's black and white exhibition *Streets of Sydney* was a highlight of the year. Ian Copland's *Garema* reflected the character and the characters who inhabit an iconic Canberra place.

As in past years, support for emerging artists, including our second Emerging Indigenous Photographer (Lyndy Delian) and artists supported under the ANU School of Art's Emerging Artists Support Scheme (EASS), was a strong feature of the program. For many artists, the HUW DAVIES GALLERY program provides a first exhibition opportunity bridging the gap between learning institutions and the wider arts community. Again this year, VACS funding was critical to our efforts to support emerging artists.

Our two general members exhibitions, *Access all areas* and *HIY 2009*, included an unprecedented 290 images by 118 PhotoAccess members. *Bundanon* was the first of what are likely to be a series of excursion based exhibitions. Members' exhibitions give people, many who have never shown before, an opportunity to see and assess their work in the context of other artists' work. Subject choices, capture techniques and printing standards are varied and provide participants and visitors with plenty of ideas to reflect on and learn from. While they present curatorial challenges, the members' shows are a vital part of the work we do. Many artists move from participation in these exhibitions to solo exhibitions. As in previous years, it was very pleasing to see the number of artists who had presented solo exhibitions making the commitment to participate in and support the members' shows.

Lauren Hewitt's beautiful, reflective *Familiar Fable* came out of a residency and was her second exhibition in the HUW DAVIES GALLERY. She is an example of an artist who has, as Tony Stewart says in his Chair's Report, benefited from '... opportunities in the continuum from the individual holding his or her first camera to the emerging artist holding his or her first solo exhibition.' Lauren's first courses were at PhotoAccess, followed by the ANU School of Art. As an EASS resident she had a first solo show with us, *Latent*, in 2005. Lauren's commitment moved to a new level in 2009 when she joined the board as Secretary of PhotoAccess.

The number and quality of exhibition proposals received is increasing each year. Proposals were considered by the Gallery Committee convened by Denise Ferris, with Bob Burne, Tony Stewart, Jocelyn Rosen, Sonia Turner, Barbie Robinson, Ed Whalan and David Chalker. Information concerning proposals and current and past exhibitions is presented on the PhotoAccess website.



Visitors to the opening of *In for life*, including Life Members Lesley Goldacre (red scarf), one of the founders of PhotoAccess, and Sharon Swincer (centre), past Director; photo Gilbert Herrada

Sundays in the gallery

2009 was the second year of the Sunday in the gallery program, introducing people to making, showing and talking about photography. We presented 14 Sunday in the gallery events over the year:

- 1 February, Anna Madeleine spoke about her exhibition *UNCHARTED* and multimedia work (stop frame animations) shown in the Multimedia Room
- 15 February, Emma King spoke about her project with Jessie Boylan based on the Australian Government's 'Intervention' in Northern Territory Indigenous communities and the *AUtonomies* exhibition
- 22 March, Andrew Mayo spoke about photographing live music performance and his exhibition *Guys, Girls, Guitars*
- 5 April, David Warren spoke about holography and his exhibition www.MYWORLD.com.au
- 3 May, Kathleen Fisher and David Bruce spoke about their exhibitions *Dumbfounded* and *First Impressions*
- 24 May, mass artists talk for *Access all areas 2009: The PhotoAccess Members Show*
- 21 June, Ian Copland spoke about his exhibition *Garema*
- 12 July, Lyndy Delian spoke about her work in *1200⁰*
- 26 July, Lauren Hewitt spoke about her exhibition *Familiar Fable* and Talbet Fulthorpe spoke about his multimedia work *Homesick*
- 23 August, Gilbert Herrada spoke about the life and work of Frank Plicka and Frank's *Streets of Sydney* exhibition
- 20 September, closing and mass artists talk for *Hang it yourself 2009*
- 27 September, Ruth Maddison spoke about her *There is a time* exhibition
- 8 November, Gene Bagdonas spoke about the Ziatype process
- 15 November, artists Gino Zardo and Gene Bagdonas spoke about their exhibitions *Walking East* and *Mist*, coinciding with the ArtSound FM open day.

Overall, the Sunday in the gallery program was reasonably well supported, bringing visitors into the gallery and developing a wider audience for our programs generally.

Artists in residence

We awarded residencies to a number of artists, including TJ Phillipson, an Emerging Artists Support Scheme residency, Lyndy Delian (2009 Emerging Indigenous Photographer, supported by VACS), Lauren Hewitt, Jon Lewis, and Ruth Maddison (supported by the 2008 Regional Arts Fund and the Visual Arts Board of the Australia Council for the Arts).

Support for artists in residence includes use of facilities and equipment, free enrolment in courses and workshops, help with grants applications, informal mentoring and advice, technical and creative support with projects, and exhibition opportunities.

Community projects

Projects facilitating access to the photo based arts continue to be an important priority for PhotoAccess. In 2009 we provided technical and creative support for a number of community projects:

- a film making project with Menslink, involving two weekend workshops assisted by the ACT Arts Fund (Community Arts); the workshops were facilitated by a filmmaker from Sydney with assistance from PhotoAccess, including venue and equipment, Edwin Daughtry (filmmaker) and Ed Whalan (technical support)
- with VACS support and assistance from the ACT Indigenous Arts Officer we assisted our second Emerging Indigenous Photographer (Lyndy Delian) and presented her exhibition *1200⁰* during NAIDOC Week in July 2009
- a project, *Show us your Assets*, with Queanbeyan City Council, including an exhibition showing positive images of Queanbeyan; the project involved a series of short workshops in basic camera skills and writing for a group from the wider community, and targeted workshops to assist groups from different areas including aged and disabled
- with consultant Merryn Gates, selection, preparation and printing of historic images for the restored Lady Gowrie Room at the Canberra Services Club
- with Billabong Aboriginal Corporation and coordinator Jennifer Martiniello, two workshops as part of a photography project for young Indigenous people under the ACT Indigenous Strategic Arts Initiative; one outcome of the project could be an exhibition, which we have programmed for NAIDOC Week in July 2010
- a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) group digital storytelling project in Cooma presented by Rewa Nolan, a HUW DAVIES GALLERY program artist, RAF artist in residence and courses tutor.

Courses

Our courses program helps people to access the photo based arts or to take their skills to higher levels. Entry level courses encouraged people to engage with photography confidently and imaginatively. Our intermediate and advanced courses and workshops allowed people to explore the creative possibilities of photomedia more adventurously, equipped with greater technical skills.

Interest in learning opportunities was surprisingly high in 2009 considering the general economic climate. Numbers allowed us to exceed both budget and the income figure for last year but, as always, it was difficult to anticipate with certainty what courses will meet community needs. We developed our ideas for courses through:

- contact with others involved in photo media and contemporary visual arts
- enquiries from and contact with members
- enquiries from community groups
- enquiries from the wider community
- researching programs offered by other organisations .

In 2009 a surge of interest in Camera Skills 1 and 2 seemed to have reflected the growth in ownership of digital SLR cameras. Successful new courses in 2009 were:

- a comprehensive 36 hour digital photography course (The Works)—from digital capture to digital darkroom, colour management, preparing files for printing and the print process
- a two day residential workshop on photography, landscape and architecture at the Bundanon Trust's Riversdale and Bundanon properties on 3 and 4 July
- weekend workshops on making panoramas, studio lighting, colour management and other specialist subject areas.
- our kids holiday programs, which encouraged and helped develop the skills of 70 young people in digital capture and digital imaging.



PhotoAccess Director David Chalker speaking at the 25th Anniversary Dinner; photo Gilbert Herrada

2009 HUW DAVIES GALLERY program

	Dates	Title	Artist(s)	Notes
1	6 Jan–8 Feb	<i>UNCHARTED</i>	Anna Madeleine	2008 EASS artist in residence. Wall works and stop frame animations in the Multimedia Room. Sunday in the gallery and artist talk 1 February
2	12 Feb–8 Mar	<i>AUtonomies</i>	Jessie Boylan with Emma King	Images and audio stories reflecting issues for Northern Territory Indigenous communities affected by the 'Intervention'. Opened by Tom Calma, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner and Race Discrimination Commissioner. Sunday in the gallery and artist talk by Emma King 15 February
3	12–29 Mar	<i>Guys, Girls, Guitars</i>	Andrew Mayo	An exhibition of images of Australian and international rock icons in performance. Supported by a grant from the 2009 ACT Arts Fund. Opened by David Chalker, Director PhotoAccess. Sunday in the gallery and artist talk 22 March
4	2–19 Apr	<i>www.MYWORLD.com.au</i>	David Warren	Nine holograms reflecting the cyber world places inhabited by millions who ignore the physical barriers to communicating, travelling and doing business around the planet. Opened by the artist. Sunday in the gallery and artist talk 5 April.
5	23 Apr–10 May	<i>Dumb-founded</i>	Kathleen Fisher	Two contrasting exhibitions. Kathleen Fisher's images explore an exaggerated, fake femininity that reflects the lifestyles her mannequins were originally made to sell. David Bruce offers a picturesque, atmospheric take on Canberra landscape. Opened by Dr Tony Stewart, Chair PhotoAccess. Sunday in the gallery and artist talks 3 May
6		<i>First Impressions</i>	David Bruce	
7	14 May–7 Jun	<i>Access all areas 2009</i>	<i>Members exhibition</i>	A record 120 works by 58 members in predominantly digital media. Opened by Director artsACT, David Whitney. Sunday in the gallery and mass artist talk 24 May
8	11–28 Jun	<i>Garema</i>	Ian Copland	Images made over 12 months showing aspects of life in Canberra's iconic Garema Place. Opened by David Chalker, Director PhotoAccess. Sunday in the gallery and artist talk 21 June
9	2–19 Jul	<i>1200⁰</i>	Lyndy Delian	NAIDOC Week exhibition by 2009 PhotoAccess Emerging Indigenous Photographer, Lyndy Delian. Images of glass making and other artworks by a multi-talented Canberra artist. Opened by Ann Jakle, Executive Director Canberra Glassworks. Sunday in the gallery and artist talk 12 July
10	23 Jul–9 Aug	<i>Familiar Fable</i>	Lauren Hewitt	Night images of ominous, meaning laden Canberra places by artist in residence Lauren Hewitt. Opened by Dr Denise Ferris, Associate Dean, ANU College of Arts and Sciences. Sunday in the gallery and artist talk 26 July
11		<i>Jangil (Homesick)</i>	Talbot Fulthorpe	Multimedia story about place and change. Opened by Lucien Leon, Lecturer in Photography and Media Arts, ANU School of Art. Sunday in the gallery and artist talk 26 July
12	13–30 Aug	<i>Streets of Sydney</i>	Frank Plicka	Beautiful black + white images by Sydney street photographer Frank Plicka. Opened by Dr Denise Ferris, Associate Dean, ANU College of Arts and Sciences. Sunday in the gallery and talk by Gilbert Herrada 23 August
13	3–20 Sep	<i>Hang it yourself 2009</i>	More than 170 images from 60 participants	A photomedia take on street art by PhotoAccess members as part of the 25 th Anniversary program. Opening Saturday 5 September and closing with mass artists talk on 20 September. Opened by Dr Bob Burne, scientist, Visiting Fellow, ANU, and PhotoAccess board member

14	12–19 Sep	<i>Postcards from the Territory</i>	ANU Rural Medical Society	Wall works shown in the Multimedia Room recording the experiences and work of medical students on placements in remote communities in the Northern Territory
15	24 Sep–11 Oct	<i>There is a time</i>	Ruth Maddison	Project and exhibition supported under the 2008 Regional Arts Fund and the Visual Arts Board of the Australia Council for the Arts by artist in residence Ruth Maddison. Opened by Dr Isobel Crombie, Senior Curator, Photography, National Gallery of Victoria. Sunday in the gallery and artist talk 27 September
16	15 Oct–1 Nov	<i>In for Life</i>	Joe Cali, David Chalker, Huw Davies, Iain Dawson, Sue Ferrari, Denise Ferris, Danny Flynn, Lesley Goldacre, Lindi Holly, David Houlder, Annie Jacobs, Bronwyn Jewell, Brian Miller, Julia Mulligan, Jennifer Nagy, Gerry Orkin, Katherine Pepper, Kerrie Ruth, Babette Scougall, Payal Sehgal Mahajan, George Serras, Alison Sexton-Green, Kathleen Shaw, Tony Stewart, Sharon Swincer, Ed Whalan	PhotoAccess Life Members Show and launch of 25 th Anniversary Commemorative Print portfolio. Opened by Joy Burch MLA for the Chief Minister and Minister for the Arts
17		<i>PhotoAccess 25th Anniversary Print Portfolio</i>	Images donated by artists associated with PhotoAccess as board members, board advisors, staff, course tutors and exhibiting members	16 images from the 25 th Anniversary Print Portfolio shown in the Multimedia Room. Artists Kerry Baylor, Stephen Best, Tim Brook, Bob Burne, Joe Cali, David Chalker, Denise Ferris, Lauren Hewitt, Kate Luke, Belinda Pratten, Barbie Robinson, Jocelyn Rosen, Lorna Sim, Tony Stewart, Sonia Turner, Ed Whalan
18	5–22 Nov	<i>Walking East</i>	Gino Zardo	Wall and screen images creating a photographic sound portrait of travels through the North Western provinces of India, the Himalayas of Nepal and the Island of Papua New Guinea; opened by Dr Martyn Jolly
19		<i>Mist</i>	Gene Bagdonis	Ziatype prints based on images of Fujiko Nakaya's Fog Sculpture in the National Gallery of Australia's Sculpture Garden; opened by Dr Martyn Jolly
20	26 Nov–13 Dec	<i>Threads</i>	Gina Smith	Works from the PhotoAccess Collection, donated by Gina Smith in 2006. Opened by Ed Whalan, General Manager PhotoAccess
21		<i>Bundanon show</i>		Images from the July 2009 Bundanon visit and workshops. Opened by David Chalker, Director PhotoAccess and former Director, Bundanon Trust
22	17 Dec–		TJ Phillipson	EASS artist in residence