

## **RECORD NUMBERS VISIT THE 'NEW HEIDE'**

Heide Museum of Modern Art has been embraced with record numbers visiting the Museum during the first six weeks since reopening on 18 July 2006.

Nearly 16,000 people have come to soak in the art, architecture, sculpture and gardens from Australia and overseas within the opening weeks, amounting to more than double the Museum's projections, and visitors' enthusiasm looks set to continue.

'We have been overwhelmed by the number of visitors and their positive, warm response to the 'new Heide' ', says Lesley Alway, Heide's Director. 'It is wonderful to walk through the exhibitions and grounds to talk with visitors, nearly all of whom love the mix of art and architecture, gardens and sculptures, and the seamless way they all connect, as well as Heide's reputation as being very visitor friendly', continued Alway.

The Heide Café has also proved to be a very popular spot for lunch as has the Heide Store for that special retail fix.

Not only have thousands visited, but a number of notable artists, writers, actors, musicians, designers and other personalities have been spotted checking out the 'new Heide', including: Lee Ranaldo from New York band Sonic Youth, Adam Elliott, Pinky Beecroft from Melbourne band Machine Gun Fellatio, Stephanie Alexander, Joanne Murray Smith, Mirka Mora, Bernard Smith, Charles Blackman, Leo Schofield, Jo Silvagni, Catriona Rowntree, Premier Steve Bracks and his wife Terry, Senator Rod Kemp, Federal Minister for the Arts and Sport, Mary Delahunty, Victorian Minister for the Arts, Andrew Clarke, Jeff and Felicity Kennett, Kathy Demos, Ross Madden, Angela Brennan, Lily Hibberd, Phil Barresi MP, Lidia Argonizzio MLC, plus architects Alan Powell, Howard Raggatt, Corbett Lyon and Norman Day as well as international journalists from as far afield as Belgium and France.

The dramatic O'Connor + Houle designed Heide III and Sidney Myer Education Centre, plus the refurbished Heide I and Heide II buildings and the surrounding grounds are well complemented by the exciting array of Heide's opening exhibitions, including.

***It ain't necessarily so... Mike Brown and the Imitation Realists***  
**Until 1 October 2006**

***Imagine... the creativity shaping our culture***  
**Until 29 October 2006**

***Meeting a dream: Albert Tucker in Paris 1948 – 1952***  
**Until 5 November 2006**

***Living in landscape: Heide and houses by McGlashan and Everist***  
**Until 5 November 2006**

***Cold cut, eye-stalk: Cate Consandine***  
**Until 5 November 2006**

T 03 9850 1500 [www.heide.com.au](http://www.heide.com.au)

Hours: Tue-Fri 10.00am – 5.00pm; Sat/Sun/Public Holidays 12.00noon – 5.00pm

Admission: All Areas - Adult \$12, Seniors \$10, Concession \$8. Gardens – Free

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