

Planning matters:

Sam Brown's Da Vinci Code, in which I recently indulged, highlights the suppression of the Holy Woman throughout history. In this story, the subtle dominant power of Woman is overpowered by the overt strength and cunning of men, through stake burnings and such tales as The New testament.

There is such a struggle, a serpent-entwined crusade, occurring in every street of every town: the form-space battle of the built environment. Male is form – the brick and pillar, the walls, roofs and shiny objects and monuments. Woman is space – the useful bits between the inert objects which hold and encompass our lives and actions, like a chalice. The Tao Te Ching states: It is the cup we see, but it is its space we use.

The famous town planner Lewis Mumford in 1961 highlights how, up until the Neolithic period, society was dominated by feminine structures – the vase, the house, the cup, and the (camp) enclosure. But later in history, male structures – the weapon, the monument and the phallus – have come to dominate. A street or piazza

is shaped like the symbol of Woman apparently expressed in The Last Supper (between Jesus and his companion) – the 'V' or 'U' shape of the container. The building is the inverse.

Urbanism is the art of bringing buildings together to create meaningful and useful spaces. One or more individual buildings, even 'well-designed' ones, do not make a good Place. However, skilled arrangement of quite 'typical' buildings can combine to make a very interesting Place to Be and Do. There are innumerable villages and streets that have 'normal' buildings (eg Queenslanders) that make a wonderful street. Town planning today has no tools to combine buildings to make good streets and public spaces. Thus, the best new spaces tend to be internalised and private. Architects have no training in design streets or spaces between forms and town planners have become policy makers and enforcers. By asserting the intent for a space or street first, and making forms fit to that Place intent – that is leading with space and creating the Genius Loci: The Spirit of Place.

Watch This Space.

Dr. Ben

Bush Bards

Bush poets from all over the country will converge on the Mareeba Tropical Savanna Wetland Reserve on 30/31st July at the Far North Bush Poetry Festival. All welcome. T: Gwyneth on 0408 932303

Samoan Saturday

The Cairns Samoan Society are celebrating 43 years of independence this Saturday, June 11 from 7pm to midnight

at Crosswell Hall, Grafton Street (part of Cairns State High School). \$15 (adults) gets you an authentic Samoan meal and cheap drinks. Other activities include coconut husking and scraping competitions and traditional basket weaving. Walking races, sack races, lolly scramble and a tug-of-war will also be held. On Monday, there is a free sports and culture day as part of the Samoan Independence celebrations at the Idinji Hall, Moorooloolool.

No Way Out !?

A person checks into a hotel for the first time in his life, and goes up to his room. Five minutes later he calls the reception desk and says: "You've given me a room with no exit. How do I leave?"

The desk clerk says, "Sir, that's absurd. Have you looked for the door?" The person says, "Well, there's one door that leads to the bathroom. There's a second door that goes into the closet. And there's a door I haven't tried, but it has a 'do not disturb' sign on it."

Create & Donate

Three Grade 7 classes at Freshwater State School have called upon their creativity to design & make new and useful products, such as recyclable tuckshop bags, bamboo pencil holders, stress balls, laminated door hangers and hand-made soap, bath-salt and lipgloss! These were then sold and raffled at a craft fair, before donating ALL the takings to charity!

Having carefully researched a number of charitable organizations the three deemed most worthy of the \$1000 + raised by these industrious youngsters were Amnesty International, Doctors Without Borders and Save the Children.

Janet Walder, from the Cairns Amnesty International group, accepted a cheque for \$504 on behalf of the human rights organization. She took the opportunity to explain to a very aware class 7T, and their teacher Jane Termaat, how the money will be used in AI's ongoing research into, and prevention of, human rights abuses worldwide.

"The Cairns Amnesty International group will be focusing on children in Cairns Peace Week 2005 in July, with the film "Children of Tibet" and our ongoing Peace Mural being started by local high school students" said Ms Walder (pictured receiving the cheque from Freshwater students).



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Tropical Exposure - Qld Photographic Society Convention 2005

Sat 11th - Mon 13th June

Annual convention and exhibition comprising winning entries from the Photographic Society of Queensland annual competition, "The Queenslanders" – a travelling exhibition featuring photographers from around the state and also works from local photographic club members.

Exhibition Times: 2.00pm - 5.00pm
 Sunday 12th and Monday 13th only.

Night of Dance

Tues 14th June

Hour long presentation of the work of dance students at Trinity Bay High School.

Tickets: \$6 at door
Time: 7.00pm

Japan Week 2005

Sun 26th Jun - Sunday 3rd July



The Australian Japan Society and Tanks present a fun program that seeks "to foster mutual understanding between peoples of Australia and Japan".

- Sun 26th June - Tanks Markets
- Mon 27th June - Koto Concert
- Tues 28th June - Family Film Night
- Fri 24th - Sun 3rd - The Ceramic Form
- Tues 28th - Fri 1st - Wasabi Holiday Program

Coming Up: NAIDOC Week Exhibition

- from Wed 7th June

On Edge -

Contemporary Performance Week -
 Wed 13th - Sat 16th July



Tanks Arts Centre

Address: 45 Collins Ave, Edge Hill
 Info: tanks@cairns.qld.gov.au, 07-4032-2349

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04 Jun	Bay of Plenty v Lions	Rotorua	5pm
08 Jun	Taranaki v Lions	New Plymouth	5pm
11 Jun	NZ Maori v Lions	Hamilton	5pm
15 Jun	Wellington v Lions	Wellington	5pm
18 Jun	Otago v Lions	Dunedin	5pm
21 Jun	Southland v Lions	Invercargill	5pm
25 Jun	All Blacks v Lions	Christchurch	5pm
28 Jun	Maranata v Lions	Palmerston N	5pm
02 Jul	All Blacks v Lions	Wellington	5pm
05 Jul	Auckland v Lions	Auckland	5pm
09 Jul	All Blacks v Lions	Auckland	5pm



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