

# Manyung Gallery Group

• Malvern • Mt Eliza • Sorrento • Mobile

## Janine Daddo

Janine Daddo is a lucky person. She always wanted to be a painter. And in fulfilling her dreams, she has become a highly successful one - by sharing her happiness with others. Yet, luck is no matter of chance. You have to strive for serendipity. Her enthusiasm for life expressed in her joyous, colourful paintings emerges from one touched with tragedy. As always, the way we handle adversity defines our character, for those nightmares in life's journey are times of unbelievable blackness. Yet, they seem to be necessary experiences that precede the pathway to perceptions of light and joy in the perception and expression of unbounded beauty. Daddo communicates this exuberance through her art, and is one of the reasons why it is so popular. Another is her gifts is this means of communication, schooled at RMIT in graphic art and design, developed through fashion illustration, and finely honed in the world of advertising in Sydney and Melbourne. Her paintings are conversational and attractively packaged in seductive colours. Numerous sell-out exhibitions provide their own testimony.

Artists are very fortunate people in being able to see anew the everyday world with a freshness and enthusiasm, which they share through the works they create. As in Daddo's paintings, a kitchen scene becomes a chaos of delight, the diurnal becomes the extraordinary. Her imagery is familiar, friendly, and highly appealing, with an echo of Charles Blackman in whose house she once lived in Sydney. Influence came by osmosis, rather than directly, found in her love of colour, figuration, and certain lyrical touches, especially of flowers and lovers, as in *A Little Romance*. Her *Secret Garden* series probably owe part of their genesis to the same neighbour's garden which Blackman looked onto from his studio window. This secret place for Daddo is one of freedom, completely relaxed and open. In large *Secret Garden 2007*, the richness of the reds create the mood and capture the passion, in harmony with the embrace and intertwining of the figures, repeated in the sinuous lines of the flower forms of the background.

The richness of her colours comes from her technique of layered surfaces, usually working in opposites, from darks to lights, from turquoise and jade to reds. The layering gives added texture,

glimpses of underlying colours added variety, topped by a final glaze to express the wonderment of life. Birds and bare-bosoms are metaphors of freedom, as likewise paintings of childhood memories, of innocence recollected and, To the Moon and Back, the possibility of dreams. As the spring of youth finds fullness in summer, Summer Garden parades the blossoming of womanhood, of letting go and becoming woman. A background in fashion provides touches of the fashionable, the beauty of the beautiful, and the eye of seeing. Daddo says, 'Painting for me is like creating a conversation, a memory, a yearning.'

Janine has enjoyed 'sell-outs' in Sydney, Melbourne and Chicago, and her work is now enjoyed in private collections throughout Australia and as far a field as London and New York.

### Biographical Note

- 1961 Born
- 1979-81 Studied Graphic Art and Design, RMIT, Melbourne. Finished with Honours and Dux
- 1981 Worked as illustrator in Fashion and Retail Industry
- 1982-94 Advertising career working for several large agencies and boutiques in Melbourne and Sydney
- 1994 - Full-time mother and artist

### Select Exhibitions

- 2011 "Fall In Love With Life", Manyung Gallery, Mount Eliza
- 2010 Atlas Gallery, Chicago
- 2010 Art Images, Adelaide
- 2010 Manyung Gallery Melbourne
- 2009 Glenferrie Road Contemporary Art, Malvern
- 2008 Manyung Gallery, Melbourne Art Show, Art Sydney and Art Brisbane, Art Gallery Collections, Gold Coast
- 2007 Manyung Gallery, Melbourne Art Show, Art Sydney
- 2007 Trevor Victor Harvey Gallery, Sydney
- 2006 Melbourne Affordable Art Show, Art Sydney, and Manyung Gallery – all sold out. Solo show at Gullotti Gallery, Perth and Trevor Victor Harvey Gallery, Sydney

- 2005 Solo shows at Gallery Philip Neville, Darwin, and Manyung Gallery – both sold out
- 2004 Group exhibitions, including Melbourne and Sydney Affordable Art Shows. Manyung Gallery solo show sold out
- 2003 Group exhibitions. April, solo at Manyung Gallery
- 2002 December, first solo show, Manyung Gallery – sold out
- 2002 Group exhibitions at Oakhill Gallery

### **Select Awards**

- 2004 Frankston High School, 'Best Contemporary Work'
- 2003 Kunyung Arts Festival, 'Best Acrylic/Oil on Show'

### **Collections and Commissions**

Private collections in Melbourne, Sydney, Perth, Chicago, Hong Kong, Israel, London, Los Angeles, New York, and Singapore

### **Published**

Michelle Hamer, 'How it feels to be a famous artist', The Age, Melbourne, January 17, 2008