



Exhibition out of the box

Seeds of inspiration all around for artist

By **ADAM BROCKMAN**

AN ABILITY to draw inspiration from everyday activities has earned Curtin University postgraduate art student Mark Parfitt the 2008 Galerie Dusseldorf Scholarship and his first solo exhibition.

The Master of Art graduate, who described his work as interdisciplinary and non-media biased, will now produce a body of work for the Mosman Park gallery.

"If drawing, performance, sculpture, video, digital printing, book making or anything else is appropriate in any combination for my ideas, then I will go with it," he said.

"I consider activity or action as art – I find an everyday task or problem in my ordinary life and apply a creative practice to it.

"My work is about ordinary existence, but making it more celebratory, more interesting and fun."

Parfitt recently displayed his work, Carlisle Buffalo, at the John Curtin Gallery

for dOFa08.

"My front lawn looked dry, patchy and pathetic, so to fix it, I decided to make it the subject of my artistic practice," he said.

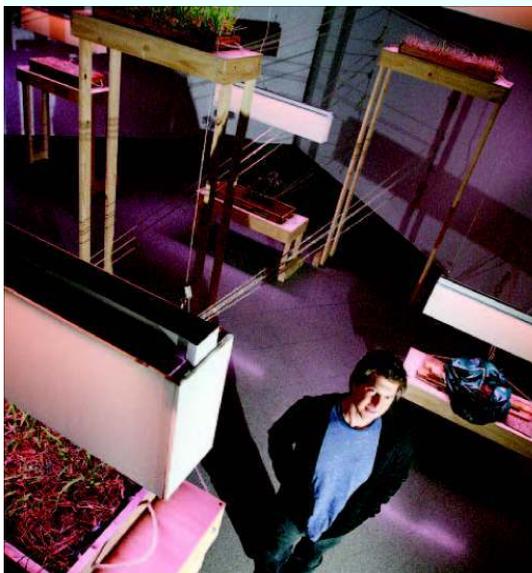
Parfitt gave boxes of the worst parts of lawn to friends and family and they reported to him on the progress of each plot of grass.

"Out of 12 boxes I only received a couple that had been well looked after; consequently some were quite embarrassed to see their lawn box on display in an art gallery.

"The things that matter are right in front of us no matter how insignificant or futile they may be to others."

Curtin Dean of Art Ted Snell commended Parfitt's achievement.

"Galerie Dusseldorf is a well recognised gallery that represents many reputable Australian artists," he said. "A lot of the previous recipients of this scholarship have gone on to be very successful nationally and internationally."



Mark Parfitt with some of his exhibition at Galerie Dusseldorf
Picture: Justin Benson-Cooper