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雪伦 黛维鑫



## from a life of artistic and altruistic contribution

Why are so many world leaders and art investors associated with the work of Davson?

Because Davson is one of the most valued living artists and the experience of being associated with her is enriching and rewarding.

People interested in promoting a more harmonious and free world for all who inhabit our Earth have benefited from their relationship with her.

Davson's art has touched the hearts and minds of people in over 80 countries, and is represented in prominent international collections.

Major survey exhibitions of Davson's art have toured in 24 public art galleries across Australia, and a public arts museum honours her in its name, - the *Davson Arts Museum* peace and environment centre.

Davson's exceptional art and charitable works have been embraced by world leaders from diverse fields and many countries, with her art being sought for both its own sake and for quality investment.

Sharon Davson AFDA DipT is an internationally successful and inspirational Australian artist, writer, art consultant, fashion designer and moving keynote speaker for major events, conferences, executive functions, workshops and cultural activities.

For charitable groups Davson is a tireless worker, fundraiser and donor, an advocate for peace, our Earth and all its disadvantaged.

**the artist world leaders follow....**

Bio edited  
by **Celia Berrell**



Davson working on her painting titled *Creative World Leadership* in February 2010.

This work contains contributions from **40 other creative leaders**, - with original autographed handprints by **Sir Cliff Richard, Dame Cleo Laine, Baz Luhrmann, Jimmy Webb and Jim Nabors** visible in this photograph.



# international highlights

## Davson's international achievements in art & for our Earth

2014

### Connecting Friends

### the Middle East

In January, Davson committed to being a Sponsor of the *Middle East Peace Run* with Pat Farmer. She also conceived a series of paintings to include the actual autographed hand and foot prints of the athlete. These works formed the cornerstone of Davson's concept for the *Connecting Friends* exhibition events to be conducted in Israel in association with the *Middle East Peace Run*.

#### April Launch with Australia's Prime Minister Tony Abbott



Feature paintings by Davson going to the Middle East were hung in the House of Representatives Alcove, Parliament House, Canberra, for the launch of the *Middle East Peace Run* with Pat Farmer.

\* Elements from Davson's *Turning Point* painting featured on Pat Farmer's running clothes for the *Middle East Peace Run* through Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine and Israel.



The Prime Ministerial event also heralded the start of a progressively unfolding, multi-year cultural exchange being led by *Davson ~ Connecting Friends* art exhibitions to be shown in countries in the Middle East and elsewhere.



\* **May** The first two exhibitions in her *Connecting Friends* cultural exchange crossed the borders of art and sport through her sponsorship of the *Middle East Peace Run*.

above: 2 with Prime Minister Tony Abbott, Parliament House, ACT;  
below: Dave Sharma, Australian Ambassador to Israel in the King David Hotel, Jerusalem.

\* **Held in the Peres Peace House in Tel Aviv and in the King David Hotel in Jerusalem, Israel, these Davson ~ Connecting Friends exhibitions displayed both real and 'virtual' art.**



### 2014 Mrs Globe gown Shezen, China

Davson hand-painted the National Costume gown for Yolandi Franken, Mrs Australasia. This gown was worn in the finals of the contest in Shezen, in the Republic of China.

## 2010 - 2012 **Pat Farmer's Pole to Pole run North to South Poles - the Americas**

**In 2010, Davson became the FIRST artist to Sponsor an international sporting event; and that event was conducted across 14 countries.**

Australia's World Champion ultra- marathon athlete, Pat Farmer planned to be the first person to run from the North Pole to the South Pole through the Americas. His 21,000 kilometres *Pole to Pole* run through 14 countries actually started on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2011 and finished on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2012.

He is the first person in the world to have run from the North Pole to the South Pole, and while doing so was also the first person to run the length of North America and the first person to run the length of South America, and combined.

As both a Sponsor and the official artist on this venture, Davson is creating a series of paintings about the epic adventure.

**STAR**



**Duo commit to a worthy cause**

7th December 2010

**TWO Australians from very different backgrounds, but with a passion for making a difference in the world, are establishing new world records.**

Sharon Davson is the first artist in world history to sponsor an international sporting event and that international sporting event that this artist from Gullston is sponsoring is no ordinary event. It is being conducted through some of the toughest environments in 14 countries. Ultra marathon runner, the Hon. Pat Farmer, is preparing for his 2011-2012 Pole to Pole run.

This will be the first time anyone has undertaken a run from the North Pole to the South Pole, down the west coast of the American continents, 21,000 kilometres, averaging 80 kilometres per day, for 11 months, through 14 countries, in some of the toughest environments and in all weather extremes.

During the course of his run, Farmer hopes to raise \$100 million for Red Cross humanitarian clean water projects.

Over the past decade, Farmer has been a Patron of several major endeavours concerning Davson including her 48 Hours To World Peace charity, the Davson Arts Museum peace and environment centre in Newcastle, and the major retrospective exhibition of her art, Davson World Leaders and Enlightenment that is touring in public art galleries, and was the opening exhibition in the Lockyer Valley Cultural Centre in December 2009.

In that same year, Davson completed a painting that Farmer had commissioned her to create in 2000 about his life. And that painting, *Turning Point*, and other works of art by Davson are now playing an important role in Farmer's Pole to Pole run and upcoming events surrounding the venture.

"I am most grateful to Pat for all his support over the years, so I am obviously delighted to be able to assist Pat in his preparations for the run," she said.

"He has been training for this for more than two years. He runs more than a marathon before breakfast each day."

Davson is assisting Farmer on his world record making plan to run from the North Pole to the South Pole by marketing of a select number of her paintings. The proceeds from these works by the foundation for Davson also becoming the first artist ever to sponsor an international sporting event.

## 2011 - 2012 **Record Art Sales - international standing**

**Living artists with the highest sales price for a painting within a country is almost exclusively the provenance of men. Davson became, and remains, the only female in the world in this position; and only the second female artist known to have held the position.**

A painting by Davson is already selling at a value higher than her 2011 record sale, with some shares selling to international art investors in Great Britain and elsewhere. Her painting *A Quality of Understanding Required* sold in shares in late 2011 with a price of \$4.2 million dollars with positive encouragement toward world sale rankings for female artists. Another work by Davson went on to attract a \$5.2 million price tag in 2012!

### Record price paid for living artist's work

Beth Searns

A PAINTER whose work has hung in the halls of the Port Macquarie-Hastings Council since the 1980s has sold another artwork for a record price of \$1.3 million.

Newcastle's Sharon Davson sold her painting, *On The Ark of Salvation*, to a group of collectors called Epic Oz Art, setting a record price for a painting by a living Australian artist.

The highest price for living artists within a country is a male domain, with the last record set by John Olsen in 2006, who sold his painting *Love in the Kitchen* for \$1.09 million.

Davson is the only woman in the world to hold a record sale price within a country.

"I am grateful to the people of the Port Macquarie area who have supported my work since the 1980s," Davson said. "It has been a long road to arrive at this highpoint in my career, and it could only have been achieved by the progression of milestone public collections, exhibitions, commissions and events."

The painting was created between 1997 and 1999 at Davson's art studio and gallery complex in Newcastle.

It depicts Newcastle's Port with Nobby's Headland in the background.

A koala is at the helm of a Boral ark as it heads out to sea. A full-necked lizard is



Top price: Artist Sharon Davson with her \$1.3 million artwork. Her work hangs in the halls of Port Macquarie-Hastings Council.

the only passenger. The sky displays a jigsaw puzzle map of the world with some of the pieces missing. Davson has created fewer than 100 paintings, a small number for a highly valued professional artist, she said. She has been an artist for more than two decades, and is best known for her spiritual and environmental works.

## 2011 **Ark Culture - Artists of the Ark international**

Since 2003, with her painting *On the Ark of Salvation* adorning the front cover of an international magazine for six months, Davson has also been widely acknowledged as the leader of a *new Spiritualism* in art.

On a trip to Japan in 2011, Davson learned of the depth of influence her art has with other artists internationally. So on 3<sup>rd</sup> November, in Takayama, Japan, with support of creative people from several countries, this new Spiritualism in the visual and performing arts formalised into *Ark Culture*, with Davson as its acknowledged leader.

This significant movement in art is growing around the world and supports Davson's lead to revive spiritual or God-centred themes in the visual and performing arts. Known as *Artists of the Art / Ark Culture* or simply *Arkists*, the art movement had its formal start in Takayama, Japan, with Davson as the acknowledged inspiration.



## 2003 International Magazine Front Cover

For 6 months - February to July 2003, Davson's painting *On The Ark of Salvation* featured on the front cover of the *Sukyo Mahikari International Journal*, a monthly magazine sold in over 80 countries.

1996 to the present

**Hikaru Memorial Museum**  
Takayama Japan

In October 1996, Davson's oil painting titled *With Gratitude Comes Growth* was gifted by the Australia-Oceania Region of Sukyo Mahikari to the Headquarters of Sukyo Mahikari in Takayama, Japan, as an encouragement for greater international understanding, harmony and inspiration.

In 1999, after the official opening of the Hikaru Memorial Museum in Takayama, the painting became part of the museum's collection.

The painting has been exhibited in other related public buildings including SUZA, the Main World Shrine, during the first *International Conference for Spiritual Elevation* held in 2005, and then for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ceremony of Sukyo Mahikari, as well as other events.



*With Gratitude Comes Growth*

In the Hikaru Memorial Museum collection is an original prototype world flag designed by Davson and documentation on her work for peace and environmental initiatives, as well as her art. Davson met with the Director of the museum in 2005 on a visit to Japan.

2004-05

**IBMA**

**Shanghai**

**China**

Davson was invited to participate in two business tours of China in 2004. Through these journeys Davson made contact with leaders from art, business and government sectors. Mr Nee, Managing Director of IBMA in Shanghai purchased her art for the foyer of their Shanghai offices. Subsequently, in 2005, delegations of Chinese government, education and business dignitaries visited her studio gallery in Newcastle, Australia.

1972 to the present

**Royal collections**

**Great Britain and Malaysia**

In 1972, HRH the Duke of Edinburgh Prince Philip purchased a painting by Davson from an art exhibition in

Toowoomba, QLD. On the same day, the Queensland State Branch of the *Duke of Edinburgh Award Society* gave a drawing by Davson to HRH Prince Philip in honour of his visit.



A delightful picture of the Duke of Edinburgh studying "Eunym Fantasy" after it was presented to him during his recent visit to Toowoomba, by Mr. A. Murray, chairman of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Area Committee, Gold Medalist Sharon Davson, centre, was the artist, and the presentation was made on behalf of the gold awarders.

In 1998, in Kuala Lumpur at an art exhibition and formal dinner, (refer next page) a work of art by Davson was acquired by members of the Royal family of Malaysia, Y.M. Tunku Dato' Mu'tamir Tunku Tan Sri Mohamed and Datin Paulene Tunku Mu'tamir BA.

1998

### Australian Walkabout

Kuala Lumpur

Malaysia

For the 1998 Commonwealth Games, Davson was invited to exhibit in and curate an art exhibition at the **Sunway Lagoon Resort Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.** Together with her own art, she selected art from Indigenous heritage Australian artists.



There were various functions and events associated with the exhibition, including a dinner in the *Sunway Lagoon Resort Hotel* attended by members of the Malaysian Royal Family.

*“... a sincerity and beauty, conveying messages of hope in an uplifting and inspirational approach to art. Davson lights a path leading us forward. Her art is strong, confident and reaches out to people of diverse cultural backgrounds.”*

**Wairah Marzuki**, Director, National Art Gallery of Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia 1999

1993 to the present

### International Celebrity Collections

Commencing with Neil Diamond, Davson’s art is owned by a number of leaders from the entertainment arts and sporting arenas in a variety of countries. Her art is also represented in other international private collections.

1998 - 1999

### The Great Australian Fashion Show

Egypt



*“Gold Leaf Glitter Jacket”*  
1998 sequin and satin lined jacket  
Created for the Great Australian Fashion Show



Davson was an invited artist into the international cultural event, *The Great Australian Fashion Show.*

For her first range as a fashion designer, she created a unique range of both lady’s and men’s jackets, that sold well in Egypt.

**Her garments were featured in two tours of Egypt in 1999** and an Australian tour including Sydney, Newcastle, Brisbane and Adelaide in 1998.

In January 1999, the *Great Australian Fashion Show* held

events in Cairo, Luxor, Aswan and Hurghada, and on a luxury three day cruise on the Nile.

So successful was the event that Sheraton Hotels invited the *Great Australian Fashion Show* to participate in their ‘winter collections’ presented during the European summer holidays. So it returned to Cairo, Luxor, Aswan and Hurghada, and also did an open-air show at the Isis Temple in Aswan, and shows on a luxury three day cruise on the Nile.

With *The Great Australian Fashion Show* Davson gave encouragement and support to Australian fashion designers and young models.



*“Blue Silk Cape Jacket”*  
1998 sequin and satin lined jacket  
Created for the Great Australian Fashion Show



1996 - 2011

### Ceremonies and Conferences

Japan

Davson has had the opportunity of being a representative of Australia at Grand Ceremonies and international conferences in Suza, the Divine World Shrine, in Takayama in October / November 1996, February 2004, June 2004, August 2005, October/November 2008 and October/November 2011.



Gifts

**1996 Aveda Corporation International Conference  
Long Beach USA**

**Davson's art and her work to support endangered species awareness were themes for the Aveda Corporation's International Conference held at Long Beach, USA, at which she was an invited special guest.**

*"A great artist whose work reminds us we are united with all things. We are not alone. Our actions impact on the soil, the air and all life forms. Her command of the visual medium awakens our spirit to respect everyone and everything. Her work is truly international, her work is for the world, to unite our understanding".*

**Horst Rechelbacher**

Founder & CEO,	Aveda Corporation	USA
Founder & Chair,	Give To The Earth Foundation	
Member,	Green Cross Committee	1996

Her painting titled *Gifts* was prominently displayed at the entrance to the Long Beach Convention Centre in Los Angeles, equipped with its personal bodyguard!

Davson was commissioned to create the painting by Horst Rechelbacher, Founder and Chairman of the Aveda Foundation and Member of the International Green Cross Committee (of which Mikhail Gorbachev was Chairman).

Horst was a great admirer of Davson's creative endeavours, and when introducing her to speak at this international conference in Long Beach USA, transmitted this to the several thousand attendees. Aveda Corporation also produced T-Shirts for this international convention displaying the painting's image. They sold out on the first day!

(In Australia in 1996, Horst Rechelbacher was a guest speaker at a Black Tie Dinner in the Renaissance Sydney Hotel that was held in conjunction with Davson's solo exhibition in that venue. The dinner was held in support of the endangered species awareness charity founded by Davson, *Artists For Life*. The other guest speaker was Robert Hill, who was at the time a Senator for South Australia, Leader of the Government in the Senate and Federal Minister for the Environment.)

**1990-91  
to the present**

**2 Around the World Ventures  
and World Book Encyclopaedia**

**Chicago USA**



Origins

**In 1990, Davson was invited to Chicago, Illinois, by World Book Encyclopaedia to discuss creating three paintings for their head office that could also be used in support of their upcoming release of their new international version of World Book Encyclopaedia.**

**Just prior to departure, she conceived the *Artists For Life* endangered species awareness initiative.** So, instead of flying to the USA for a week or so to visit Chicago and meet with the President of World Book, she changed her plans to 'an around the world venture'.



In Los Angeles, she was met by Fiona McNeill, and together they travelled for ten weeks across the United States to England and Hong Kong raising support for endangered species through the arts and gaining interest for the concept of *Artists For Life* from major artists, galleries, dignitaries, corporations and the media.

World Book Encyclopaedia was enthusiastic about her raising awareness for endangered species awareness through art based activities, and gave Davson full freedom to incorporate endangered species from around the world as a central theme of the paintings they commissioned her to create. (These were painted in 1991 with the titles *Origins*, *Growth* and *Understanding*.)



Davson with *Origins* in 1991

Some of the renowned artists who gave their support to Davson and *Artists For Life* were James Rosenquist, Tom Wesselmann, Larry Rivers, Christo, and Nancy Graves among others in the USA; Irina Nakhova from Russia; Arthur Boyd and David Rankin from Australia.

This was the first time artists of this calibre had united with a single theme on a global basis. The strength of Davson's initiative lay in the extensive peripheral events in each country.

During the first 12 months, over 300 media interviews were published in a variety of countries.

By June 1991, participation was offered by some 1,500 artists from 20 countries, as well as dance and theatre groups, embroiderers, textile designers, potters, weavers and hand-craft workers.

*Artists For Life*, with its Northern Hairy Nosed Wombat logo, was formally launched in Sydney, Australia by Mrs Kathryn Greiner on 14 June 1991. (See pages 55 - 60 for greater detail,

especially for all the events in Australia 1991-98).

The Guest Speaker was John Frere, President of World Book Encyclopaedia, Chicago, who came out to Australia. The paintings he had commissioned by Davson were used as a dramatic visual background to the launch.

Following the launch of *Artists For Life*, the paintings became an integral part of the launch of the new International Edition of World Book Encyclopaedia. In Australia, they were unveiled at that launch by the Governor General, the Honourable Bill Hayden AC.



John Frere, President of World Book International in Chicago, points to a hairy nosed wombat in one of their publications at the launch.

**The paintings then toured many capitals of the world** with John Frere as part of a promotion tour launching their new International Edition of World Book Encyclopaedia. Since then they have hung in the World Book Head Office in Chicago.



*Growth*



*Understanding*

The three paintings were also used in many of the media articles promoting endangered species awareness through *Artists For Life*.

1992

**Artists For Life Board of Directors USA and Hong Kong**

By 1992, Davson's *Artists For Life* charity was registered in the USA. John Frere was Chairman with Gabriella Andretti (Mario's daughter) and Sondra Hepner (President of At Home Health Inc.) among the Board members.

In Hong Kong, those who accepted Board positions included Angela Ho (Managing Director of Angela Ho Galleries) as Chairman, Roy Clements (General Manager of UNISYS [Hong Kong] Ltd) and Brian Deeson (President Century Hotels).

*Artists For Life* was a growing international movement, with many activities in Australia which are detailed from page 55 of this document.

1992

**Regional Art Gallery collections New Zealand**

By 1992, Davson's art was represented in the permanent collections of the *Hawkes Bay Cultural Trust* in Napier and *Waikato Museum of Art & History* in Hamilton.



Fiona McNeill and Davson at the Hyatt, NZ

**1991 Finding A Balance**

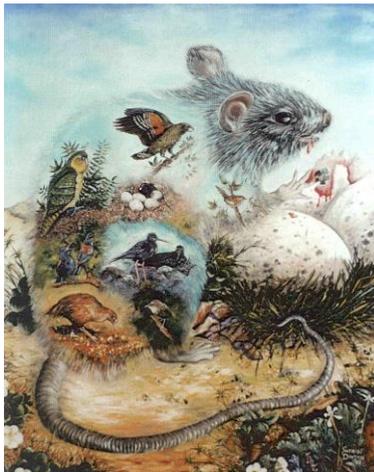
**New Zealand**

In acknowledgement of several major works of art by Davson arriving in New Zealand, and in support of her efforts toward endangered species awareness in New Zealand, she was invited to present a solo exhibition of her art in the Auckland Hyatt Hotel, New Zealand.

This *Finding A Balance* exhibition drew considerable local and national electronic and print media attention throughout New Zealand. A New Zealand branch of Davson's charity *Artists For*

*Life* was formed which worked with other local organisations for the preservation of the native bird populations.

Among the works featured were the three large exhibition name-sake paintings *Finding A Balance - Teeth, Claws & Tusks* which were commissioned by Roger Flowers, Managing Director of Coro Corp NZ, and *Harmonious Transitions* commissioned by Chris Abel.



1991 *Finding A Balance - Teeth, Claws & Tusks* commissioned by Coro Corp NZ (1.52 m x 1.22 m each)

Following this exhibition, the above three major title works hung on public display for a year in the Thames Coromandel Council Chambers, Thames, NZ, to encourage responsible feral animal management and safeguard native species.

In late 1990's, the *Finding A Balance* paintings came to Australia for inclusion in Davson's major retrospective exhibition, *With Gratitude for the Light* that toured in 14 regional art galleries across Australia from 1999 to 2002.

1991

### Harmonious Transitions

Auckland New Zealand



Davson's art and work to assist endangered species were well respected in New Zealand, and led to another significant painting commission - this time for well known Auckland business man, Chris Abel.

detail *Harmonious Transitions*



1987

### PNC International Financial Services

Pittsburgh USA

Davson was commissioned to create three paintings for PNC International Financial Services. The commission came through the Australian office in Sydney. Not long after the paintings were completed, they were shipped by the PNC staff to Pittsburgh in Pennsylvania, USA, for inclusion in their head office collection.



*Winning Combination*



*Interlink and Unlock*



*Inner Security*

1986

### Japan Week Festival

Japan and Australia

A joint venture of Japan and Australia in 1985 and 1986 was the Japan Week festival in Sydney. For Japan Week '86, this international festival committee commissioned Davson to create a large painting to hang in the Sydney Town Hall for the opening and other festivities which had extensive media coverage in both countries.



Davson and part of *A Quality of Understanding Required*

The commission encompassed much more than creating a painting in her studio. During the five months Davson took to paint *A Quality of Under-standing Required*, she averaged a television or radio broadcast or a print media interview each day.

For four weeks, she painted the work in public in the foyer of the Westpac Bank Plaza building in the heart of the Sydney CBD.

Her ambassadorial role for Japan / Australia relations was

quite extensive and hands on, in creating greater harmony between the people of Australia and the people of modern Japan.

*A Quality of Understanding Required* features the artist's visual interpretation of aspects of the spiritual, environmental and economic relationship between Australia and Japan in 1986. It encompassed traditional and modern images.

**1989** to the present

### Other Collections

Japan

**Davson was commissioned to create a oil large painting for Pyxis International in Tokyo, as a partner work to the painting in Sydney, Australia.**

Also in 1989, when the **Mayor of the Tamba City Council from Tamba in Japan** was visiting the City of Hawkesbury Council, a work of art by Davson was given as a gift to be taken back to Japan for the Tamba City Council collection.

**2000**

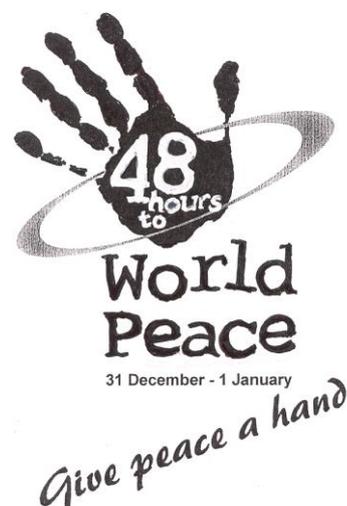
### Asia-Pacific Region International Union of Local Authorities (IULA) Bali Indonesia

**48 Hours To World Peace** was started by Sharon Davson in January of the year 2000. It quickly gained support form many sectors of the local and international communities.

**At the April 2000 Executive Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Region International Union of Local Authorities (IULA) in Bali, Indonesia, the theme of 48 Hours To World Peace was adopted by local government authorities for celebrations on 31 December 2000 and 1 January 2001.**

They also adopted a motion that the theme be given continued support for several years. This ongoing commitment allows communities to progressively adopt and integrate the theme of *48 Hours To World Peace* across the region, thereby developing a profound difference toward peace in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The concept was also given support on a world level by *IULA*.

The theme of *48 Hours To World Peace* was progressively adopted for the calendar New Year's Eve and New Year's Day events in many communities for progressive implementation during this *United Nations Decade For A Culture Of Peace*.



Through the *Local Government & Shires Association* as well as communication with City and Shire Council Mayors, this concept initiated by Davson and introduced by her through *48 Hours Toward World Peace*, was adopted by City Councils.

**Davson with Peter Woods in 2000**

World Vice President	International Union of Local Authorities
President	Asia - Pacific Region - IULA
President	Local Government Association of NSW
Board Member	Commonwealth Local Government Forum

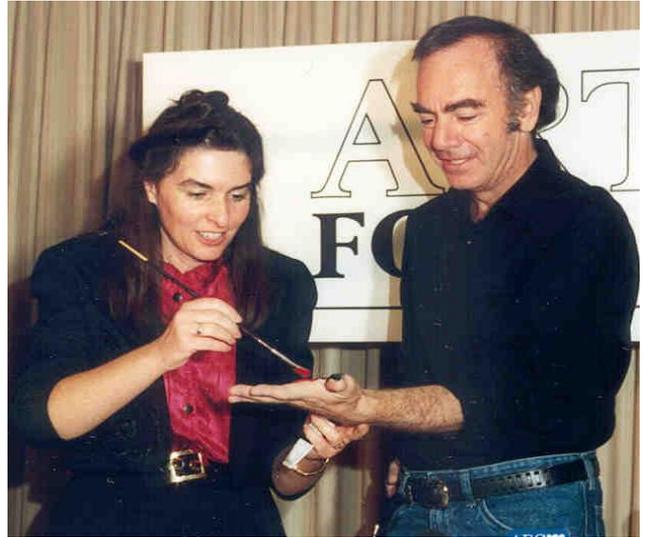
1992 to the present

## Hands Up

**Davson started this international project which has since been copied across the world by many others**

**Davson initiated the *Hands Up* campaign to assist endangered species awareness. International singing legend Neil Diamond launched the *Hands Up* project with her at a national press event at the Regent Hotel in Sydney in April 1992.**

**Hundreds of charities across the world have now copied the idea for a range of causes.**



Davson with Neil Diamond

Davson has painted the hands of over 400 world leaders and celebrities, keen to give their support to her endeavours. This activity involves a very simple form of art, with participants providing an autographed handprint using colourful paints.

The impressive list of celebrity participants includes: Paul Newman, James Belushi, Sir Cliff Richard, Sir Nigel Mansell, Pete Sampras, Andre Agassi, Sam Neil, Dame Joan Sutherland, Jon Bon Jovi and the late Sir Edmund Hillary

**Neil Diamond** International singing legend **USA**  
1995 *“Sharon, keep up the good work, love, Neil.”*

**Sir Nigel Mansell OBE** 1992 Formula One World Champion **UK**  
1993 IndyCar Champion  
1993 *“A remarkably gifted artist who can even get drivers to pay attention.”*

**Sir Edmund Hillary** World Famous Mountaineer **New Zealand**  
First person to climb Mount Everest  
1995 *“An artist whose work engages us all, with courage, dignity and humour.”*

**It is a great compliment to Davson, and the power of this initiative, just how many people in many countries have copied her concept to help a large variety of causes over the years.** Many of these were stimulated by Davson’s activities in the USA, Germany, South Africa and other places.

During the 1990’s, Davson conducted ‘Hands-up’ through the charity *Artists For Life* which she founded in 1990 to assist endangered species awareness. Then in the early 2000’s, through her second charity, *48 Hours Toward World Peace*.

Internationally and in Australia, as well as prominent celebrities, thousands of adults and children have participated with Davson and donated their handprints, as their personal visual commitment to greater caring and respect for all Earth’s inhabits.

**1993** **Indy 500** **Indianapolis** **USA**

**Davson was invited by the Newman Haas Team to be their track guest and do her ‘Hands Up’ at the Indy 500 in Indianapolis, USA.** The Newman Haas Team owners were Carl Haas and the celebrated actor Paul Newman. Driving for this multi-World Championship Indy team at that time were Formula One World Champions Sir Nigel Mansell and Mario Andretti.



Davson with World Champion racing car driver Mario Andretti

At the Indy 500 event racing and other celebrities participated with Davson to assist endangered species awareness.

**IndyCar** racing driver, **Arie Luyendyk** had participated with Davson at the 1993 *Indy 500*. So taken by her *Hands Up* concept, the following



Davson with film star Paul Newman

**year he painted a car with his handprints.** The vehicle was then auctioned raising a large six-figure sum for charity.

Others across the world have been inspired by her handprint ideas, and it would appear that millions of dollars for innumerable other charitable purposes have been raised.

**1994** **ATP World Championships** **Frankfurt** **Germany**

**Davson was invited to organise celebrity *Hands Up* activities internationally.** These included **Frankfurt, Germany**, where the eight ATP world Champion finalists and other tennis professionals happily donated their handprints and commitment towards endangered species at the **ATP World Championships**.

**2002** **World Leaders in Peace** **Durban** **South Africa**

As the '*Hands Up*' initiative evolved, leaders from different fields were nominated for Peace Awards. In accepting their nomination, they laid the foundations for the *Davson ~ World Leaders & Enlightenment* in the proposed *Davson - World Leaders In Peace* exhibition series and events.

The first leader to officially donate his handprint, specifically to be incorporated into Davson's art and in the *Davson ~ World Leaders & Enlightenment* in the proposed *Davson - World Leaders In Peace* exhibition series, was scientist and author Dr Andris Tebēcis PhD. Dr Andris Tebēcis PhD is a Regional Director with the Sukyo Mahikari organisation.

He donated his handprints in Durban, South Africa, on 21 March 2002 - *Human Rights Day* in the Republic of South Africa. 21 March is the *United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination*, and in Australia it is *Harmony Day*. This is the vernal equinox (when the length of day and night are equal throughout the world).

Since then, many other leaders have participated, with their handprints incorporated into Davson's art. Along with numerous others, they have been delighted that she has embodied their earlier participation into her art.

**2002 - 04 to the present** **International Patrons**  
***Davson - World Leaders in Peace* exhibitions**

As a testimony to the international respect for her work, the following achievers on a global stage are Patrons of her world harmony art exhibitions. *Davson - World Leaders & Enlightenment* is the first in what is planned to be a series of major art exhibitions.



above Davson with Sir Cliff Richard

Patrons ~ Great Britain Sir Cliff Richard OBE - popular music legend;  
 Dame Cleo Laine OBE - iconic jazz & soul vocalist; Leo Sayer - acclaimed singer / songwriter;  
Patrons ~ USA Carl Haas - Champion IndyCar Team owner – *Newman / Haas Racing*;  
 Jimmy Vasser - World Champion IndyCar Driver; Christopher Howard - leader in motivation  
Patrons ~ Canada Paul Tracy - World Champion *IndyCar* driver  
Patrons ~ Greece Nana Mouskouri - acclaimed singer, UNICEF Ambassador  
Patrons ~ Cuba Jose *Marakaibo* Castaneda, Reinaldo Creagh, Carlitos Gonzalez,  
 Guillermo Rubalcaba, Siomara Avilla Valdes Lescay and Eric Turro Martinez - acclaimed  
 Cuban performers with the Buena Vista Social Club.

**Creative World Leadership** is a work in progress and incorporates the handprints of some of the people who have assisted Davson in her efforts towards a more harmonious planet for all its inhabitants. Some panels from this massive visual prayer were included in her *Davson ~ World leaders & Enlightenment* exhibition as an example of the 'process of the artist'. That exhibition was a major retrospective and toured in Australia 2008-2011.

As with all her paintings, there is considerable planning to translate what she has already 'seen in her mind', so it can be viewed by others. She carefully positions the subject elements and brings them to colour with underpainting. Her paintings come up in layers.

When completed this will be a dramatic and beautiful modular work of art, with detailed plants and creatures from all continents of our world entwined into a painted tapestry. (continued next even page)



2009 5 panel detail from **Creative World Leadership** in early undercoat stages oil painting & other on **45 canvas boards** set into timber frames, and adjoined as **9 vertical panels**  
 size: **2.6 m high x 5.04 m wide** (Yet to be completed; and in the collections of Terry Barker and the artist.)

1992 to the present

**Selected international participants with Davson in  
*Hands Up* for endangered species & world peace - by country**

**Belgium**

**Didier Theys**

1987 - Buick Dealers American Racing Series Champion and Spa 24 Hour World Touring Car Championship; 1986 - Bosh Super Vee Champion.

**Brazil**

**Raul Boesel**

1987 - European World Sports Car Champion; 1985-97 IndyCar driver; IMSA race winner; 1982 raced Formula One; 1980 - Formula Ford RAC Champion.

**Marco Greco**

1972 - Brazilian National Go-Kart Champion; 3 time Brazilian 500cc Motorcycle Champion; 1990 - won Brands Hatch Texaco/Havoline Formula 3000 race.

**Emerson Fittipaldi**

1972 & 1974 Formula One World Champion; runner-up in 1973 & 1975; 1989 & 1994 IndyCar Champion; 1989 & 1993 'Indy 500' winner; 1969 - Formula 3 Lombank Champion; 1967 - Brazilian Vee champion.

**Nelson Piquet**

1981 1983 & 1987 - Formula One World Champion; 1991 - 2<sup>nd</sup> driver ever to drive in <200 Formula One Grand Prix; 1986 & 1990 - 3<sup>rd</sup> in Formula One World Championship; 1980 – 2<sup>nd</sup> in Formula One World Championship; had 23 wins and 24 pole positions in his F1 career; 1976 - Brazilian Super Vee Champion.

**Canada**

**Linda Evangelista**

1993 number one ranking super model in the world.

**Scott Goodyear**

1988 - Rothman's Porsche Turbo Cup Champion; 1986 North American Formula Atlantic Champion; 1987-97 race winning IndyCar driver.

**Bob Proctor**

International motivational authority on the psychology of human performance.

**Paul Tracey**

2003 - World ChampCar Champion; 1990 - American Racing Series Champion; 1986 - youngest driver to win a race in Can Am history; 1985 - youngest driver to win Canadian Formula Ford Championship; 3 times Canadian Senior Kart Champion; Canada/U.S. Challenge Champion; Canadian Junior Kart Champion.



Bob Proctor and Davson

**Columbia**

**Roberto Guerrero**

1992 - pole for Indy 500 setting track record; 1984-93 race winning IndyCar driver; 1982-83 - Formula One driver; 1978 - won eight Formula Ford races in England; 1979-81 won races in British Formula 3 series and European Formula 2 series. 1970's - won two national kart championships in Colombia.

**Croatia**

**Goran Ivanisevic**

Ranked in World Top 10 Tennis players for 5 consecutive years, 1992 to 1996.

**Cuba**

**Jose Marakaibo Castaneda**

Acclaimed Cuban Musician, performed the Buena Vista Social Club.

**Reinaldo Creagh**

Cuban Singing Legend, performed the acclaimed Buena Vista Social Club.

**Carlitos Gonzalez**

Co-Founder Buena Vista Social Club

**Guillermo Rubalcaba**

Maestro of the Piano, performed the acclaimed Buena Vista Social Club.

**Siomara Avilla Valdes Lescay**

Cuban Diva, performed the acclaimed Buena Vista Social Club.

**Eric Turro Martinez -**

Dance Master with the acclaimed Buena Vista Social Club.

**Fiji**

**Tamanivalu Tabua**

Played in fourteen international Rugby Union Tests, 6 for Fiji and 10 for Australia; High profile rugby union coach in Fiji.



Reinaldo Creagh with Davson

**Creative World Leadership - a work in progress**



above and centre below - **work in various stages of underpainting** on this large piece in the artist's studio



the image at left was taken in the *Lockyer Valley Cultural Centre* where the artist publicly painted during the opening and closing phases of the exhibition, and the image on the right is the set up in the *Davson Arts Museum* for the artist to do the same.

The concept for this painting was conceived by Davson in the year 2000. However, it was only in 2007 that she started the work; firstly, by selecting the handprints, having simple wooden frames made for them, and joining them into vertical panels. Then the background structure of her *World Flag*, musical instruments and some of the main birds and animals had their undercoats painted.

However, with the distractions of working on books, and of course life's interruptions, the work was set aside until 2009. It was after she received the formal invitation from the Lockyer Valley Regional Council for her exhibition to be the opening exhibition of their new Lockyer Valley Cultural Centre that she recommenced work on this large painting.

(continued next even page)



Davson with Stephan Gregoire  
**Michael Stich**

## France

### Sébastien Bourdais

2004 - 2007 history making four successive Champ Car World Series Championships; also a Formula 3000 champion, and raced Formula One.

### Stephan Gregoire

1990 - French Formula 3 B Champion with 9 victories; 1988 - French Citroen AX Berline Champion and also won 10 races in Porsche 944 French Cup series.  
1987 - French Karting Champion, winner of *Volant Motul*; IndyCar driver.

## Germany

**Boris Becker** 1995 & 1992 - ATP Tour World Champion; 1991 - World Number 1 Tennis Ranking.

**Christian Danner** 1985 Formula 3000 Champion, Formula One and IndyCar driver; commentator.

1993 ATP Tour Champion; ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> as world tennis player in 1993.

## Great Britain



Davson with Sir Nigel Mansell

**Julian Clary** English Internationally acclaimed comedian and novelist.

**David Gower** OBE English Former English cricket captain for two Tests and hit centuries in both.

**Rolf Harris** CBE AM English Internationally performing singer, entertainer and artist.

**Dame Cleo Laine** OBE English Iconic Jazz & Soul Vocalist

**Sir Nigel Mansell** OBE English 1992 Formula One World Champion with a record 9 wins in the season, with 6 start to finish wins and 14 poles; 1993 IndyCar World Champion; 1991, 1987 & 1986 - runner-up in Formula One World Champion.

**John Mayall** OBE English Internationally acclaimed master of Blues music; lives and works mostly in USA.

**Sir Cliff Richard** OBE English Internationally acclaimed popular singer

**Leo Sayer** English Internationally acclaimed singer and songwriter.

**Rachel Ward** AM English Internationally acclaimed actor, film director and screenwriter

**Kim Wilde** English Internationally performing pop singer with many hit records.

**Hot House Flowers** Irish Internationally performing rock group, (with blues and traditional Irish).

**Andrew Strong** Irish Internationally performing singer, *The Commitments*; own soul band.

**Jim Crawford** Scottish 1981- British Formula One title; 1980 - Aurora Formula Two Champion; 1979 - runner-up in Formula Atlantic Series; 1974 British Formula Atlantic Champion; 1984-93 IndyCar driver. 1983 & 1984 - finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in Can-Am points.

**Sir Tom Jones** Welsh Internationally acclaimed singer and songwriter.

## Greece

**Nana Mouskouri** Acclaimed singer, UNICEF Ambassador.  
Nana Mouskouri and Davson

## India

**Vijay Amritraj** President ATP Board of Directors - 4 terms; won 16 tennis singles titles and 13 doubles titles. UN Award - UNESCO *Pierre Coubertin Award*, Paris, 1988 - given to only one athlete from all sports; Recipient *Padma Shri Award* (one of the highest Indian civilian honours); Doctorate in Literature.



Dame Cleo Laine



John Mayall OBE and Davson





This major (yet to be completed) painted work of art presents **Davson's powerful collaboration with prominent cultural leaders from around the world. It is the first such work of its kind and establishes a new field of creative endeavour in her art. As always, Davson has taken her own path, and marked a road for others to follow.**

The painting was always intended to assist in promoting awareness and harmony for our Earth and its inhabitants, many world leaders from various fields have created their handprints with Davson. A significant number of these exceptional contributors have been happy for their original autographed handprints to be included in Davson's art.

The work consists of 45 framed canvas boards which have been adjoined into nine vertical panels to create one very large painted image. The background structure and underlying design of the seven central panels is Davson's *World Flag* concept. These panels are being adorned with a myriad of wildlife from the land and skies, brought together through an abundance of plant images. They also incorporate painted imagery relevant to spiritual and environmental awakening across our global village. The two outer panels incorporate musical instruments, as music is very important to our soul and as well as many of the participating dignitaries.

*Creative World Leadership* incorporates 47 original contributions by acknowledged cultural world leaders on 37 of the 45 segments. For your reference, there are 9 vertical panels with 5 segments in each; from the left numbering the panels **1 to 9** and then vertically the segments from **A to E**, you can find the following original autographed handprints in the art:

- |                |                             |  |                                    |
|----------------|-----------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| <u>music</u> - | <b>1B</b> Slim Dusty AC     | <b>4B</b> Sir Cliff Richard OBE  | <b>9C</b> Stephen Stills           |
|                | <b>4A</b> Tim Finn          | <b>1D</b> Keith Urban  | <b>3C</b> Helen Reddy              |
|                | <b>4D</b> Dame Cleo Laine   | <b>7C</b> Guillermo Rubalcaba  | <b>7A</b> Kim Wilde                |
|                | <b>6D</b> Leo Sayer         | <b>6A</b> Gene Pitney  | <b>8B</b> Jimmy Webb               |
|                | <b>5E</b> Jon Stevens       | <b>9B</b> John Mayall  | <b>8A</b> Moses O'Jah (Afro Moses) |
|                | <b>8D</b> Reinaldo Creagh   | <b>6B</b> Nana Mouskouri   | <b>8D</b> Jose Marakaibo Castaneda |
|                | <b>3C</b> Toni Lamond       | <b>7C</b> Carlitos Gonzalez  | <b>7C</b> Art Barbara              |
|                | <b>9D</b> Dennis Locorriere | <b>1C</b> <i>Silverchair</i> - Daniel Johns, Ben Gillies & Chris Joannou |                                    |

film, stage, literature and catwalks -

- |                          |                                   |                                |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>3E</b> James Belushi  | <b>2D</b> James Garner            | <b>2C</b> Bert Newton          |
| <b>7B</b> Tom Burlinson  | <b>2B</b> Sylvia & Stephen Killen | <b>2E</b> Sarah O'Hare Murdock |
| <b>6E</b> Julian Clary   | <b>3D</b> Eartha Kitt             | <b>5A</b> Olivia Newton-John   |
| <b>2B</b> Win Davson MBE | <b>4E</b> Baz Luhrmann            | <b>8D</b> Eric Turro Martinez  |
| <b>8E</b> Kate Fischer   | <b>2A</b> Paul Mercurio           | <b>7D</b> Luke Perry           |
| <b>3A</b> Isla Fisher    | <b>8C</b> Jim Nabors              |                                |

space shuttle astronauts -

- |                                     |                         |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>7E</b> Frank Culbertson Jnr. and | <b>7E</b> G. David Low, |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|

environmental and spiritual -

- |                                 |                          |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>3B</b> Horst Rechelbacher,   | <b>5C</b> Yoichi Toyoda. |
| <b>5C</b> Dr Andris Tebēcis PhD |                          |

Davson practices a simple Ho'Oponopono prayer in her daily life, so it naturally found its expression in the work to be shared with all who came before it. This is the only painted work by the artist in which words have a feature pictorial and meaningful role. It contains the essence of all prayer with the story part left unsaid. This healing prayer originated in Hawaii and brought to prominence by Joe Vasali in his book *Zero Limits*, thus assisting many people make remarkable changes in their lives across the world. It can be offered to God, yourself, anyone or anything.

Detail from *Creative World Leadership* at early undercoat stage showing the handprint of the first British Patron for *Davson's World Leaders in peace exhibition series*, **Sir Cliff Richard OBE**.



## Italy

**Teo Fabi**

1977 - Italian Formula Ford Champion; 1991 - World Sportscar Championship; 1983 - set Indy 500 lap record and 2<sup>nd</sup> for championship title; 1981 - Can-Am 2<sup>nd</sup> in championship title; 1983-4 & 1988-97 - IndyCar driver with 9 pole positions. 1984-88 Formula One Driver - pole at German Grand Prix in 1985.

**Antonio Ferrari**

IndyCar *Eurosport* Team Owner.

## Japan

**Hiro Matsushita**

1989 - Toyota Atlantic/Pacific Division Champion; 1990-96 was 1st Japanese driver to compete in IndyCar events.

**Yoichi Toyoda**

Regional Director - Asia, for Sukyo Mahikari, remarkable man of peace.

## New Zealand

**Grant Chilott**

Nationally performing singer.

**Tim Finn**

Internationally performing singer musician.

**Sir Edmund Hillary**

World Famous Mountaineer - first person to climb Mount Everest summit.

**Judy McIntosh**

Internationally acclaimed film and television star

**Sam Neill**

Internationally acclaimed film star.



Waqar Younis and Davson

## Pakistan

**Wasim Akram**

1990's Test Cricketer and Captain; played in 1992 World Cup Victory; by 1999 had played in over 90 Tests; one of the finest left-arm pace bowlers ever, century scoring Test batsman; 2009 - ICC Cricket Hall of Fame.

**Intikhab Alam**

Captain of Pakistan Test Cricket 1969 – 1970's amid much political unrest; batsman, a leg-spin bowler and good all-rounder; 1990's Test Cricket Coach.

**Aquib Javed**

Played for Pakistan in 1992 World Cup Victory; 1990's Test and One Day Cricketer - fast-medium bowler.

**Waqar Younis**

Played for Pakistan in 1992 World Cup Victory; 1990's Test Cricketer - fast bowler and top order batsman, had best strike rate for bowler since the WW1.

## South Africa

**Steve Bitz**

Formula 1 and IndyCar test driver.

**Cliff Drysdale**

Won 33 tennis singles titles in his career. ATP's First President from 1972-74.

**Tony Grieg**

English cricket captain from 1975-77, made 8 Test centuries.

**Afro Moses**

Internationally singer and dancer with the band *Afro Moses*.

**Shaun Tomson**

1977 World Surfing Champion.

## Spain

**Alberto Berasategui**

In Top 40 year end Tennis World Rankings 1993-98, won 13 career titles.

**Sergi Bruguera**

1995 Tennis Ranking No.1 Spaniard for third consecutive year and gained a Silver Medal in Atlanta Olympics in 1996.

**Oriol Servià**

1999 - won the Indy Lights championship; 2005 - Champ Car World Series 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## Sweeden

**Stefan Edberg**

World Number One Tennis Rankings in 1990 & 1991; 2<sup>nd</sup> in 1987 & 1992.

**Stefan Johansson**

1992 - IndyCar *Jim Trueman Memorial Award*; 1983-1990 - Formula One driver; 1984 - European Group C Porsche Champion and runner-up in Formula 2 Japanese championship; 1980 - British Formula 3 Champion.

## The Netherlands

**Arie Luyendyk**

1990 & 1997 - won Indy 500 (1997 pole); 1989 - co-drove to win 12 Hours of Sebring; 1984 - Super Vee Champion; 1977 - European Formula Super Vee & European Western Zone Champion; 1975 - Formula Ford European Champion.

## West Indies

**Michael Holding**

1988 - 2<sup>nd</sup> bowler to capture eight wickets in an innings in both Test and One Day Cricket; one of the fastest bowlers ever to play Test cricket; commentator.



Davson with John Denver

**Florence Henderson**  
**Jeremy Jordan**  
**Eartha Kitt**  
**Dennis Locorriere**  
**Kyle MacLachlan**  
**John Mayall**  
**Jim Nabors**  
**Paul Newman**  
**Debra Otten-Pain**  
**Luke Perry**  
**Neil Sedaka**

**Sonia Dada**  
**Stephen Stills**  
**Jimmy Webb**

**USA - Inspiration**

**Frank Culbertson Jnr**  
**G. David Low**  
**Alan Downing**  
**Christopher Howard**  
**W. Mitchell**  
**Marc Maurer**  
**Horst Rechelbacher**



Lisa Anderson and her son

**Gary Bettenhausen**

**United States of America**

**USA - Entertainment**

**Gabriella Andretti** Entertainer, actor.  
**James Belushi** Internationally acclaimed film star.  
**Bon Jovi** Internationally performing rock group.  
**Neil Diamond** International singing legend  
**John Denver** Internationally acclaimed singer and songwriter.  
**James Garner** Internationally acclaimed film and television star, career spans several decades.  
**Harry Hamlin** Internationally acclaimed film and television star, (*LA Law*)  
**Phil Harris** Internationally acclaimed film producer and director.  
Internationally acclaimed film and television star, singer. (*The Brady Bunch*)  
Internationally performing singer  
Internationally acclaimed jazz vocalist and star of several feature films.  
Internationally acclaimed singer, song-writer and musician - the voice of *Dr Hook*  
Internationally acclaimed film and television star (*Twin Peaks*)  
Internationally acclaimed master of Blues Music.  
Internationally acclaimed film and television star (*Gomer Pyle*)  
Internationally acclaimed film star.  
Model, *Miss Indiana* 1989.  
Internationally acclaimed film and television star (*90210*)  
Internationally acclaimed singer, pianist and composer.  
Internationally performing group.  
Internationally acclaimed singer and guitarist - *Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young*  
Internationally acclaimed master songwriter and entertainer.

NASA Astronaut (Commander /Pilot) on Space Shuttles *Atlantis* and *Discovery*.  
NASA Astronaut (Mission Specialist) on Space Shuttles *Columbia*, *Atlantis* and *Endeavour*.  
Blind engineer with IndyCar race vehicle design, author.  
Leader in motivational education and NLP.  
International motivational speaker.  
President of the American Blind Association, Lawyer.  
Founder / CEO Aveda Corporation, Founder & Chairman - *Give To The Earth*; Member of the international *Green Cross Committee*.

**USA - Sport**

Davson and W. Mitchell

**Andre Agassi** 1999 - World No.1 ranking tennis player. 1995 - ranked World No.1 for 30 weeks. 1990 - ATP Tour World Champion.  
**Lisa Anderson** 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997 Women's World Surfing Champion  
**Jeff Andretti** 1991 IndyCar Champion and other Championships.  
**Mario Andretti** 1978 Formula One World Champion; 1965, 1966, 1969 & 1984 IndyCar World Champion; 1994 - named Driver of the Quarter Century. Holds US record for most pole positions, most championship starts and championship laps led.  
**Michael Andretti** 1991 IndyCar Champion and 1996 runner-up; 1983 Formula Atlantic champion; 1981 Super Vee Champion; Formula One driver.  
1983 - USCA Silver Crown Champion; 1980 - USAC Dirt Car Champion; 1969 - USAC 2 Champion; 1988 - won Silver Crown 100-miler at DuQuoin.



<b>Tony Bettenhausen</b>	<i>Rookie of the Year</i> 1981 – IndyCar and 1979 – USCA; 1990's -IndyCar Team Owner; 1969 - began racing career in stock cars, followed by NASCAR in 1972.
<b>Scott Brayton</b>	1979 - Formula Karts Skip Barber Series Champion, 1980 - set several SCCA Formula Ford Northeast Division track records. 1981-94 IndyCar driver.
<b>Robby Buhl</b>	1992 - Indy Lights Champion; 1989 - Barber Saab Pro Series Champion; 1992 - won 3 Firestone Firehawk events and 4 poles; 1984-88 - won races in Formula Atlantic, Formula 2000 and Formula Ford. IndyCar driver.
<b>Steve Carfino</b>	Basketball player; 1986 -1991 played in 132 NBL games; <i>Sydney Kings</i> player, team promotions; host of <i>The Rush</i> extreme sport's programme.
<b>Michael Chang</b>	Tennis World Rankings, 2 -1996, 3 - 1997, 5 -1995 & 1989, won 31 career titles.
<b>Eddie Cheever</b>	1998 Indy 500 winner; 15 won International 100 cc European & Italian Go-Kart championships; at 16 he finished 2nd in World Karting Championships; 1990 IndyCar Rookie of the Year. 1978-89 Formula One driver.
<b>Kevin Cogan</b>	1977 - SCCA Formula B National Champion; 1972 Western Division Go-Kart Champion in 2 classes; 1981-93 IndyCar driver with 1986 win at Phoenix.
<b>Dominic Dobson</b>	1985-93 IndyCar driver; 1990 - Co-drove to 2 <sup>nd</sup> in 24 Hours of Daytona; raced Formula Fords, Formula Atlantic and Formula Vee; owner of Zephyr racing.
<b>Mario Donaldson</b>	Played basketball in Israel and American CBA; 1994 - Australian <i>Sydney Kings</i> ; pre 1993 - played in Japan and America.
<b>Walker Evans</b>	In <i>Off-road Motorsports Hall of Fame</i> ; Baja 500 champion driver; won many other races in many other classes not mentioned here; driver and owner in the NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series; known as <i>the legend</i> .
<b>Sunny Garcia</b>	2000 World Surfing Champion. 1992 ranked No.3 in the world.
<b>Tony George</b>	President - Indianapolis Motor Speedway Board of Directors
<b>Kathy George</b>	Member - Indianapolis Motor Speedway Board of Directors.
<b>Nancy George</b>	Member - Indianapolis Motor Speedway Board of Directors.
<b>Josephine George</b>	Member - Indianapolis Motor Speedway Board of Directors.
<b>Robby Gordon</b>	1986-90 – 5 times SCORE International series Champion; 1996 & 2009 SCORE International series Champion; 1990-92 - 3 straight wins co-driving 24-Hours of Daytona in IMSA GTS division and won Del Mar in each year; 1991 - runner-up IMSA GTO champion; 1989 - won Baja 1000 in SCORE series with 17 hour solo drive; 1988 & 89 voted Off-Road Driver of the Year; 1985 - won Nevada 500 with father, Bob 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; won 16 Mickey Thompson stadium races. IndyCar driver.
<b>Tom Gullikson</b>	With twin Tim won 10 tennis doubles titles, (career of 12); 1984 won U.S. Open Mixed Doubles with Manuela Maleeva; American Davis Cup Captain 1994-5.
<b>Tim Gullikson</b>	Winner of 16 career tennis doubles titles; 1977 won 3 Grand Prix titles and 4 singles titles - tournament wins on 4 different continents. Coached top players including Martina Navratilova and Pete's Sampras.
<b>Carl Haas</b>	Multiple World Champion IndyCar and ChampCar Racing Team Owner - <i>Newman Haas Lanigan Racing</i> .
<b>Derek Ho</b>	1993 World Champion Surfer.
<b>Mari Hulman-George</b>	Chairman - Indianapolis Motor Speedway Board of Directors.
<b>Davy Jones</b>	1990 & 1992 - team won 24 Hours of Daytona; 1992 - IMSA GTP 2 <sup>nd</sup> in points; 1990 & 1991 - IMSA GTP 3 <sup>rd</sup> in points; 1986 -IMSA GTP and won 6 hour race at Sears Point; 1985 - Super Vees 2 <sup>nd</sup> in points; 1983 - Formula 3 - 3 <sup>rd</sup> in points; 1982 - Super Vee 3 <sup>rd</sup> in points; Canadian 1981 - Formula Ford Champion; 1978 - Northeast Quarter Midget Champion.
<b>Parnelli Jones</b>	1963 – won Indy 500; 1962 - Pole and set new lap record in qualifying round in Indy 500, first driver to surpass 150 mph; won races in stock-car and sprint racing; team owner at Indianapolis; raced in 24 Hours of Daytona and F1.
<b>Tim Mayotte</b>	1985 - Inaugural Lipton International Players Champion (Miami Masters); 1986 - Queen's Club Champion, London; 1987 - Paris Indoor title; 1988 - Silver Medal Seoul Olympics; won 12 singles titles; attained World No. 7 ranking.



Davson and Carl Haas with his handprint and those of Paul Newman, Sir Nigel Mansell and Mario Andretti



Graham Rahal

**Willy T. Ribbs**

**Johnny Rutherford**

**Pete Sampras**

**Dick Simon**

**Dwayne McClain** Basketball player - NBA with Indiana Pacers, 1992-94 played 105 NBL games *Sydney Kings*; 1985 - NCAA Champions - Villanova University; also played professionally in France, Canada, The Philippines, Indonesia and Greece.

**Scott Pruett** 1987 - SCCA Trans Am Champion; 1986 & 1988 IMSA GTO Champion; 1987 & 1988 co-drove wins in 24 Hours of Daytona; 1985 - co-drove 500km GTO win at Pocono; 1981 - Pro Karting World Champion. 1988-96 IndyCar driver.

**Graham Rahal** 2009 - IndyCar Series win St. Petersburg, and the youngest ever pole sitter at 20 years and 90 days old; 2006 - won 5 races in Champ Car Atlantic Series 2<sup>nd</sup> in championship; son of 1986 Indy500 winner Bobby Rahal.

1977 - Formula Ford Champion; 1990 - first black American IndyCar driver; 1987 & 1988 - IMSA GTO Cup - most outstanding driver in series; 1985 - Trans-Am runner-up after being 3<sup>rd</sup> in points in 1984; 1983 - SCCA Trans Am runner-up.

1980 - IndyCar Champion; 1965 - USCA Sprint Champion; 1974, 1976 & 1980 (with pole) Indy 500 winner; 1975 & 1976 - IndyCar Championship car & runner-up IndyCar Champion; 1974 - 1st driver to win Indy 500 & Pocono 500 in same season, and IndyCar Championship car. 1986 - 27<sup>th</sup> championship race win.

Longest ranking World Number 1 tennis player - 1999, 1998, 1997, 1996, 1995, 1994, 1993. Only player to be World Champion for so many consecutive years.

Indy Racing Team Owner and former IndyCar driver.

**Micky Solomone**

Distinguished Kentucky Derby winning jockey.

**Kelly Slater**

11 times World Champion Surfer, including 5 consecutive titles from 1994 - 98; he was both the youngest (at age 20) and the oldest (at age 38) to win the title.



Micky Solomone and Davson



Lyn St James above and Al Unser below with Davson

**Lyn St James** 1990 - co-drove win team in 24 Hours of Daytona; 1988 - broke own women's national closed-course speed record, and established 16 new national and international speed records, only woman to score championship points in every SCCA Trans Am event; 1987 - in GTO division team win of 24 Hours of Daytona. 1985 - 1st woman to exceed 200mph; first woman to win an IMSA GTO race; 1992 - Rookie of the Year IndyCar.

**Danny Sullivan**

1988 IndyCar Champion; 1985 won Indy 500; 1990 - 15<sup>th</sup> career championship win, championship pole total 19; 1983 - Formula One driver; 1982, 1984-97 - race winning IndyCar driver; 1974 - runner-up British Formula 2 Champion.

**Al Unser**

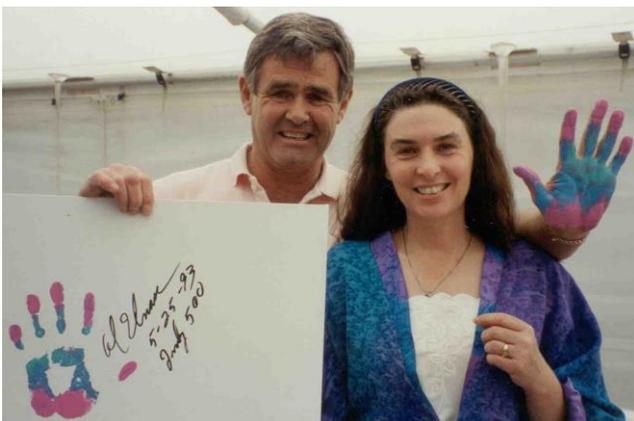
1970, 1983, 1985 & 1990 - IndyCar Champion; as IndyCar Champion in 1985 he beat his son Al Jnr. by one point and in 1970 his brother Bobby was 2<sup>nd</sup>; 1970-87 - named AARWBA's Auto Racing All American 5 times; 1970, 1971, 1978 and 1987 - won Indy 500, (Al and Bobby are only brothers to win Indy 500); 1978 - first driver to win Triple Crown Award. 1977 - IROC Champion.

**Al Unser Jr.**

1990 & 1994 - IndyCar Champion; 1992 - won Indy 500 and became 3<sup>rd</sup> member of Unser family to win an Indy 500, and first father and son winners; 1988, 1986 & 1982 - Can-Am Champion; 1986 & 1988 - IROC Champion; 1987 - co-driving won at 24 Hours of Daytona; 1982 - Can-Am series Champion; 1981 - National (USA) Super Vee Champion.



World Champion Surfer Kelly Slater



**Dean Uthoff**

Sydney Kings basketball; NBL representative honours in *All Star* teams on 4 occasions; placed 3<sup>rd</sup> Al Unser and Davson in MVP for league in 1988-89; played <180 NBL games.

**Jimmy Vasser**

1996 - IndyCar Champion; 1991 - 2<sup>nd</sup> in Formula Atlantic championship points; 1990 - won 5 races in Canadian Formula 2000 series; 1986 - National (USA) Formula Ford Champion; 1984 - North American Pro-Formula Ford Champion.

**Australia**

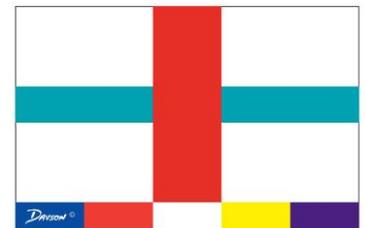
Listed in separate *Hands Up* section of this biography, pages 47 to 49.

**2004 to the present**

**World Flag**

**Together we can . . . establish a symbol of caring for all on our Earth ~ a *World Flag* ...**

The World Flag was designed by Sharon Davson in 2004 for all who inhabit our Earth; a flag for unity of purpose, as we make efforts to live in greater harmony with each other and all that we share in this world.



The design is deliberately simple and geometric for easy reproduction under numerous circumstances. A child with crayons can draw it.

The **red vertical** represents the spirit, fire and sun; (the hot, vertical energy of the time in which we are living). This crosses the **blue horizontal** of calm, water and moon; (the more gentle era of our past cultures). The **white background** represents the clarity and purity of air, translucence and transcendence. Along the bottom is the Earth, illustrated by the **5 spiritual colours for humans** as described in ultra-ancient times; blue, red, white, yellow and purple. The flag contains essential elements common to all cultural philosophies and religions.

Groups, organisations, businesses, cultural and religious bodies are progressively adopting the *World Flag* with a specially hand sewn 2.5m x 1.5m flag leading the way.

This special *World Flag* was sewn by Colleen Hegarty. It is being endorsed with the names of supporters and is displayed in public venues, art galleries and museums as appropriate.



GC Benji, Pat Farmer and Sharon Davson

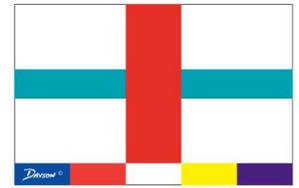


Davson is progressively adding the names of those who choose to participate in this way publically supporting a '*World Flag for all who inhabit our Earth and its environment*'

Sharon Davson and Colleen Hegarty



## A little of the *World Flag's* history:



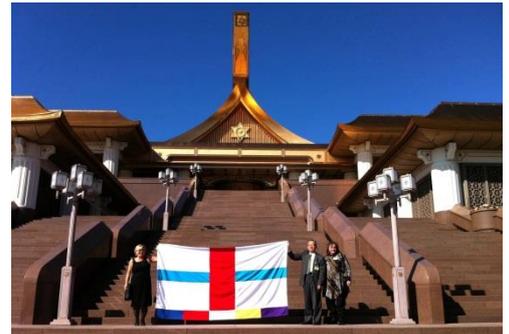
Davson is committed to assisting greater harmony on our Earth. This artist has started other charitable initiatives to assist this goal, including one for endangered species in 1990 and the other for world peace in 2000.

In 2004, Davson designed this flag for ALL who inhabit our Earth, including other species with which we share our global environment. The design was deliberately simple and geometric for easy reproduction under any circumstances, and with the ease for children to draw it.

### Two original prototypes for this World Flag were hand-made in 2004.

Since that time, Davson has modified the design slightly.

One of the prototypes is held at the **Hikaru Memorial Museum collection in Takayama, Japan**. It is accompanied by Davson's painting *With Gratitude Comes Growth* and documentation on her art, life and work for peace and environmental initiatives.



The other prototype of the World Flag is in the collection of the **Davson Arts Museum peace & environment centre in Newcastle, NSW Australia**.

2011 on steps of **Suza, Takayama, Japan**

This flag has original, autographed handprints by numerous celebrities on it, including by international music entertainers **Leo Sayer, Nana Mouskouri, Jimmy Webb**; IndyCar and ChampCar racing champions **Carl Haas, Jimmy Vasser, Sebastien Bourdais** and **Graham Rahal**.

**Sharon Davson and Leo Sayer** who is a Patron of the World Flag and Davson's art



**2008-2011**, it was hung in the major retrospective touring exhibition of Davson's art titled **Davson ~ World Leaders & Enlightenment**. This exhibition toured in public regional art galleries and venues in Australia.



In 2014, **Pat Farmer** is undertaking a 1,350 kilometre *Peace Run* in Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine and Israel with Davson's *World Flag* emblazoned on his running clothes.

**And on a large, special 2.5 metre World Flag handmade in early 2011 that went to the Middle East in 2014, names are being added.** This flag will feature in exhibitions for decades to come.



# Davson's art in prominent collections & public galleries in Australia

2004 to the present



*Travelling Together* – originally commissioned by Cathay Pacific Airways

In 2002, both of these works were intended for donation to the newly formed *Gatton Shire Davson Art Gallery*. Internal politics within the Gatton Shire Council at the time meant this gift was re-directed for ultimate donation to another gallery / museum. They are now in the *DAM* permanent collection.

*Called Away* - originally commissioned by *Time Life Books*



Bishop Farren, Mick Davidson, Davson and Patron, Newcastle Lord Mayor John Tate at the opening of the DAM.

**Davson Arts Museum**

**NSW**

In Newcastle NSW, at the 2004 Annual General Meeting of the *48 Hours Toward World Peace* charity, it was unanimously moved that the organisation establish an ongoing museum for peace and the arts; and that it be called the *Davson Arts Museum* in recognition of the large contribution Sharon Davson had made to both, as well as to the community and the environment.

The concept remained quietly in the background for some time. In 2007, Davson started drawing the plans for such a museum on various bits of paper in meetings and restaurants. By late 2008, she had initial plans for her unique building concept of this arts museum drawn up by an architectural draftsman.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2009, a formal volunteer Committee of Management was elected. *DAM* quickly became an incorporated arts museum with ATO deductible gift status, a clear vision for its future, and a considerable collection of art by Davson including some gifted from corporate collections, and many items of interest from her ventures over the past decades.



2 April 2009 - celebrating after the meeting are Catherine Butterworth, Phil Barnard, Shaynee Statham, Tony Lawder, Don and Janine Thompson, Jill Heffernan, Ken Meyers and Sharon Davson (seated). The Committee of Management has grown since this time.

The *Davson Arts Museum* is an organisational force behind the multi-million dollar *Davson ~ World Leaders & Enlightenment* exhibition which was the opening exhibition in the Lockyer Valley Cultural Centre, and now showing as the inaugural exhibition in its own premises.

Included in exhibitions in 2010 were Davson's art from the permanent collections of the *Millicent Art Gallery* (SA), the *Muswellbrook Arts Centre* (NSW), and the *Win Davson Art Gallery & Museum* in Gatton (QLD).

1989 to the present

## Museum & Art Gallery of the Northern Territory NT



Detail from *Reflections*

In 1989, the Museum & Art Gallery of the Northern Territory in Darwin accepted a significant oil painting titled *Reflections* by Sharon Davson into its permanent collection.

They loaned this painting for the three year retrospective exhibition tour of Davson's art

titled *With Gratitude For The Light*. The exhibition was shown in fourteen regional art galleries in Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia from 1999 to 2002.

Davson with *Reflections*



1989 to the present

## Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre

NSW

**Davson's art has been represented in the Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre since 1989.** In recent times, this has grown to an important representative collection of over 20 framed works on paper highlighting the artist's creative development from her Queensland College of Art student days through to this century. A featured exhibition of this collection was opened by Upper Hunter Shire mayor Lee Watts on 9 September 2011, with Davson as the Guest Speaker.

Davson's relationship with Muswellbrook began in 1980 with her first journey in an ex-government bus with her dog and horse. She stayed in Muswellbrook on various occasions and her fondness for the area grew with her art being so well received and promoted by directors and curatorial staff of the Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre.

2002 to the present

## Millicent Art Gallery

SA

**The permanent collection of the Millicent Art Gallery has the most significant collection of art works by Sharon Davson in South Australia with over 20 works.**

Davson's association with South Australia goes back to 1975 with her first trip into Innamincka and the Simpson Desert. In 1981, she travelled solo up through the state in her old bus, and had many adventures with her horse, dog and motor-bike.

In 1983, a documentary about her was filmed in South Australia and included several drawings she did during the filming. One of these titled *The Tree Cries, The Artist Bleeds, The Woman Dies*, was done in the Flinders Ranges. The original drawing is in a private collection in Western Australia, however, one of the 1985 original etchings Davson did on the same theme found its way to the Flinders University collection in 1990.

The Millicent Art Gallery exhibited Davson's retrospective *With Gratitude For The Light*. This was the final regional art gallery venue in the three year exhibition tour. The exhibition was very well received and other functions were held in conjunction with the exhibition. Since that time in 2002, the friendship, mutual support and respect has grown between the artist and the gallery director, Janice Nitschke.

In 2009, during advance preparations for Davson's current multi-million dollar retrospective exhibition *Davson ~ World Leaders & Enlightenment* to be shown at the gallery, discussion evolved into the establishment of a relevant, framed collection of her art to become part of the gallery's permanent collection. This collection is still growing.



At the opening of the GSDAG with former Councillors Gwen Crozier and Mayor Bernie Sutton, gallery director Christine Young, Win Davson MBE and Sharon Davson on the right with her art in the background.)

**Hometown recognition for an artist mostly comes posthumously; however.....**

**In recognition of Davson's art, her outstanding creativity and other achievements,** (and the major contribution of her mother - Win Davson MBE and family to the arts and community), Davson's hometown of Gatton in South-East Queensland named their new, purpose designed, regional gallery the **Gatton Shire Davson Art Gallery** in June 2000.

In the development stages of the gallery, from mid-1999 to late 2000, Davson voluntarily gave hundreds of hours of

assistance in the development of the gallery including promotion and marketing strategy recommendations, as well as physical hands on help in hanging art and training staff.

*With Gratitude For The Light*, the first major retrospective exhibition of Davson's art, was the opening event for this new art gallery. The former Mayor Bernie Sutton opened Davson's exhibition and Mayor Ray Ferdinand officiated the proceedings in this new regional art gallery that was officially opened by John Walsh, President of the Regional Art Galleries Association.

*"We are very proud to name this gallery in honour of the outstanding contribution of the Davson family to the development in our community of artistic and cultural pursuits. We are especially proud of our local artist, Sharon Davson, who is the first Gatton artist to achieve such international recognition and whose Retrospective is the first art exhibition to be shown in our new gallery.*

*"We thank her for bringing this exhibition to Gatton and making her professional expertise available to us. It is hoped that one day the gallery will have some of these works back on permanent display as the cornerstone of its collection."*

**Ray Ferdinand**, Mayor, Gatton Shire Council, and on behalf of the  
Gatton Shire Davson Art Gallery QLD 2000

**The Gatton Collection** In keeping with the above expressed desire, and at the request of the Gatton Shire Council in 2000, the impressive *Gatton Collection* was organised to be donated by a group of collectors and the artist to the *Gatton Shire Davson Art Gallery*.

By 2002, it included **41** significant art works by Davson valued at \$500,000. Many of these art works were from the artist's major retrospective touring exhibition that had been the opening exhibition for the gallery in 2000. Others were from her personal collection.

Davson offered to house, insure and care for this significant collection for several years until such time as the Gatton Shire Council and the gallery were in the situation to accept this donation. This was to be after the building of their new art gallery and library complex.

Sadly, for the people of Gatton, the internal politics of the Gatton Shire Council under a new Mayor in 2002 actually declined this gift of such an extraordinary collection of art (valued in late 2007 at \$2.5 million dollars).

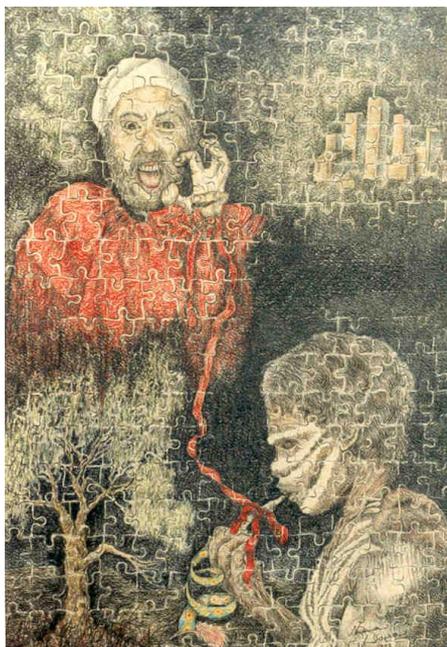
The works in this now multi-million dollar *Gatton Collection* form the basis of several impressive collections within Australia and elsewhere. It is still possible that a number of the works will return to Gatton. Currently, there is an historically valuable collection of her art and life memorabilia in the *Win Davson Art Gallery & Museum*.

Following the amalgamation of the Gatton and Laidley Shire Councils into the Lockyer Valley Regional Council, the *Gatton Shire Davson Art Gallery* closed in late 2007.

1978 to the present

Win Davson Art Gallery & Museum

QLD



*Dada Christmas*

**Davson has strong representation in, and involvement with, this public gallery and museum which was named in honour of her mother, Mrs Win Davson MBE FLCL AASA.** There are numerous works of art created in a variety of mediums by Davson in the *Win Davson Art Gallery & Museum* including the *Ian Fairweather Memorial Art Gallery & Museum* collection in Gatton, QLD.

Included in this valuable, award winning collection are representative paintings, drawings, original etchings and silk-screen prints and other works by Davson from 1972 to 1985, as well as over 20 paintings and other works by her mother Mrs Win Davson MBE.

An example of Davson's work in the collection is *Dada Christmas*, which is a drawing from her first Solo Exhibition in 1982, Sydney. The *model* for *Santa Claus* in this drawing was the late Brian O'Brien - friend, poet, playwright, art collector and rally car driver. The drawing entered the collection as the 1986 *Australia Theatre Week & Arts Festival Award Purchase*.

Davson has held a variety of executive committee roles over the past thirty years for this art gallery and museum, and is currently the honorary President.



*Melting Transitions Rise* 1987 oil painting on linen canvas 5'6" x 6'

1990 Manning Regional Art Gallery  
NSW

**Davson was invited to hold a solo exhibition in the Manning Regional Art Gallery in Taree in April 1990.**

This was the artist's first survey exhibition to be assembled and shown in a public regional art gallery.

Titled, *Melting Transitions*, it contained significant works from 1974 to 1990. At the request of the Manning Regional Art Gallery, Davson gifted an original etching from her exhibition for their permanent collection.

1989 to the present

**Not previously mentioned public art gallery,  
Australian city and university collections**  
with art by Davson in their permanent collections

**Davson is represented in many public art gallery, city and university collections, having generously given framed art to these institutions.**

**Regional Art Gallery Collections:**

- |     |  |   |
|-----|--|---|
| QLD | <i>Perc Tucker Regional Art Gallery</i>    | Townsville  |
| QLD | <i>Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery</i>     | Stanthorpe  |
| NSW | <i>Goulburn Regional Art Gallery</i>       | Goulburn, in a town that also houses a major commissioned work of art by Davson from 1985 |
| NSW | <i>New England Regional Art Gallery</i>    | Armidale  |
| NSW | <i>Lake Macquarie Regional Art Gallery</i> | Speers Point.   |
| NSW | <i>Bathurst Regional Art Gallery</i>       | Bathurst  |
| VIC | <i>Gippsland Art Gallery</i>               | Sale  |
| TAS | <i>Devonport Regional Art Gallery</i>      | Devonport   |

**University Art Collections:**

- |     |                                   |            |
|-----|-----------------------------------|------------|
| ACT | Australian National University    | Canberra   |
| NT  | the Northern Territory University | Darwin     |
| SA  | Flinders University               | Adelaide   |
| QLD | James Cook University             | Townsville |
| NSW | University of Western Sydney      | Richmond   |

**City Council Art Collections:**

- |     |  |
|-----|--|
| NT  | Katherine  |
| QLD | Gatton and Toowoomba   |
| NSW | Coffs Harbour, Cootamundra, Gosford, Greater Taree, Hastings, Hawkesbury, Kempsey, Wyong and Young |



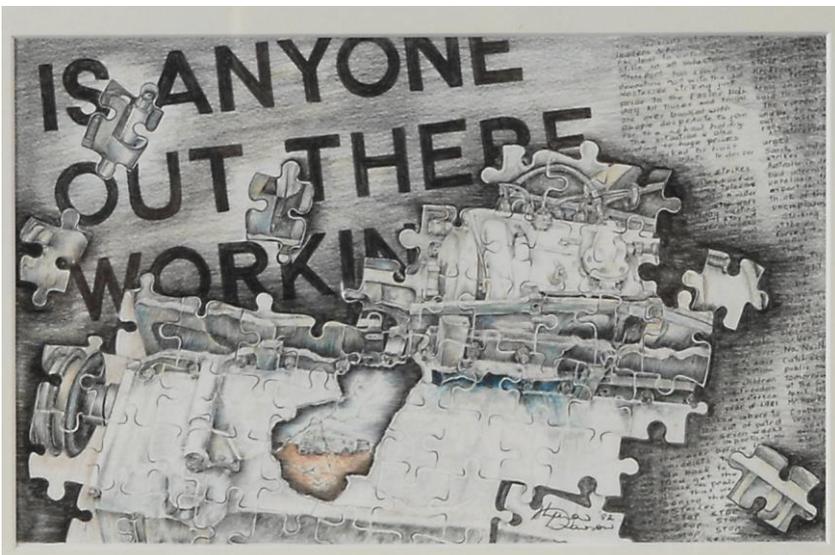
*The Tree Cries, ... etching*

1972 to the present

**Other collections**

**Australia**

**Such is the respect for her art, that since 2002, much of Davson's art has been increasing purchased by Superannuation Funds and other investment collections. These now total over 40.** This is rarely the case for most artists, especially while they are still very much alive and only in their 50's.



**Her art is also in many private collections in Australia and internationally. Among these is the Bridgestar collection of James Fairfax AO in Bowral NSW.**

*Is Anyone Out There Working?*  
Is a drawing from Davson's 1982 sell-out solo exhibition in Sydney. It is among the art works by her in the James Fairfax AO collection.

# Davson's major retrospectives, other art exhibitions & allied events across Australia

**2006 to the present**      *Davson ~ World Leaders & Enlightenment*

Since 2006, this multi-million dollar survey collection of Davson's art has been displayed as an inspirational visual narrative on the artist's development from her art college days to the present. It illustrates her passion to help endangered species and reduce prejudice in all its forms. It has the power to encourage and influence.

**2010**      **Opening exhibition of the Davson Arts Museum**      **NSW**

The *Davson ~ World Leaders & Enlightenment* exhibition was the opening exhibition for the Davson Arts Museum peace and environment centre in Newcastle. Although the arts museum has been operating for some time, this was its first official exhibition.

The opening formalities included a welcome by Aboriginal elder Mick Davidson. This was followed by a blessing from Newcastle Bishop, The Right Reverend Dr Brian Farran, and then the official opening by Newcastle Lord Mayor John Tate. Lord Mayor Tate spoke eloquently about Davson's art and contribution to the community.



Newcastle Lord Mayor John Tate, Davson Arts Museum Vice Chairman Tony Lawder and Davson



Bishop Farran and his wife Robin with roving magician Jamie, from Jaz Creations.



Mick Davidson playing the didgeridoo (far right) after his 'welcome to the land' as part of the opening formalities.



This large exhibition used all five gallery areas within the arts museum.

In the main gallery showing the product display (left)

The following day, Davson was in the gallery working on her large modular painting. (right)



2009

## Opening exhibition of the Lockyer Valley Cultural Centre QLD

For the opening of the new Lockyer Valley Cultural Centre in Gatton, Queensland, Davson was honoured by her *Davson ~ World Leaders & Enlightenment* exhibition being its opening exhibition.

It was officially opened by Wayne Wendt MP for The Honourable Rachael Nolan, QLD Minister for Transport, on 7 November.



people arriving for the opening

This cultural centre includes a museum, library and a new art gallery which replaces the former *Gatton Shire Davson Art Gallery* in which Sharon Davson's highly valued retrospective exhibition *With Gratitude For The Light* was the opening exhibition in the year 2000.



Aboriginal welcome

*"Sharon Davson is one of the most accomplished and innovative artists from the Lockyer. Davson's artwork is held in high regard and it has influenced people from all walks of life, nationally and internationally, and her charitable work for nature and her outlook on the betterment of humanity is encouraging to all of us."*

**Ian Rickuss MP**, Member for Lockyer, Gatton QLD 2009

Among the guest speakers for the opening were Mary Teague on behalf of the State Library and Wayne Wendt MP on behalf of Rachael Nolan MP Minister for Transport.



Davson speaking at the opening, Mayor Steve Jones seated glancing at his notes.

*"Lockyer Valley Regional Council is pleased to have acclaimed artist Sharon Davson exhibit a major collection of her work in the new Lockyer Valley Cultural Centre. Her retrospective exhibition, Davson - World Leaders & Enlightenment, is the first exhibition to be shown. Some of the works of art in this exhibition were also displayed as the opening exhibition of the Gatton Shire Davson Art Gallery in 2000, named after Sharon and the Davson family's significant contribution to the arts and culture both in Australia and internationally, as well as locally in the Gatton area."*

**Councillor Steve Jones**, Mayor, Lockyer Valley Regional Council, Gatton QLD 2009



**2008 Tour opening exhibition - Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery QLD**

As the *Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery* had previously celebrated the opening exhibition of Davson's first major retrospective exhibition, *With Gratitude For The Light* in 1999, she desired that this gallery have the opening exhibition of the *Davson ~ World Leaders & Enlightenment* collection.



Davson with Gallery Director Nicole Bryzenski, Stanthorpe Mayor Glen Rogers and the world peace prototype flag.

The exhibition was presented by *Newman Haas Lonigan Racing* - owned by Paul Newman and Carl Haas. It also contained some additional works, including two art pieces from the *Win Davson Art Gallery & Museum* in Gatton.

This very successful exhibition was officially opened on Friday 18 January 2008 by Stanthorpe Mayor, Councillor Glen Rogers, who also added his handprint and message to the *Wall for Peace* affiliated with the exhibition in the gallery.



Davson speaking at the opening, and in the gallery the next day



**2006 1<sup>st</sup> Preview exhibition of art in *Davson ~ World Leaders & Enlightenment***



Cessnock Mayor John Clarence officially opened the 1<sup>st</sup> preview exhibition of 20 selected works from this collection. It was displayed in the award winning *Hunter Valley Gardens*, Pokolbin, NSW, from 5 October 2006 to 10 January 2007. Over 22,000 people viewed the exhibition.

This preview event included the first public exposure of the planned book publications of Davson's art with poetry by Celia Berrell.

Will Creedon, Davson & her art, with singing star Leo Sayer and Cessnock Mayor John Clarence.





*Is It Too Late?*

*With Gratitude For The Light* celebrated the joy in a journey of progressive spiritual awakening by an artist born into the clear light of the Australian landscape. Davson's work provokes the viewer into answering their own questions about issues woven into the visual fabric of her images.

Gallery attendees saw the development of her visual expression as it evolved through the tragic figure in *Is It Too Late* depicting a nuclear explosion in the background of a night sky, into the dawning of a lighter mood in her works, and ultimately into a celebration of the True Light of creation, healing and salvation. A way forward for all.

*"Davson's exhibition With Gratitude For The Light, delighted visitors with the artist's vibrant and joyous use of colours. I know that these paintings had a wide impact on people in our community, with many re-visiting our gallery to spend time absorbing these very inspiring works."*

**Councillor Valerie Andrews, Central Goldfields Shire Council Maryborough VIC 2000**

### ***With Gratitude For The Light* exhibition itinerary.**

9 May → 1 Jun	1999	<b>Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery</b> Officially opened by Ted Reeves, President, Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery Society, with guest speaker Dr Michael Brand, Assistant Director (Curatorial & Collection Development) QLD Art Gallery.	Stanthorpe	QLD
7 Jun → 2 Jul	1999	<b>Murilla Shire Gallery</b> Officially opened by Councillor Lois Coleman, Murilla Shire Council.	Miles	QLD
21 Jul → 20 Aug	1999	<b>Duaranga Shire Art Gallery</b> Officially opened by Councillor Tom Hall, Mayor, Duaringa Shire Council.	Blackwater	QLD
7 Sep → 3 Oct	1999	<b>Bundaberg Art Centre</b> Officially opened by Michael Bailey, Manager, Win TV Wide Bay.	Bundaberg	QLD
19 Oct → 28 Nov	1999	<b>Riverlands Gallery</b> Officially opened by Lorraine Brook, Arts Officer - Riverland, Country Arts SA	Berri	SA
1 Dec 99 → 7 Jan	2000	<b>Chaffey Theatre Foyer Gallery</b>	Renmark	SA
12 Jan → 12 Feb	2000	<b>Warwick Art Gallery</b> Officially opened by Warwick Art Gallery Director Audrey Hoffmann, with guest speaker Mayor Bruce Green, Council of Warwick Shire.	Warwick	QLD
16 Feb → 12 Mar	2000	<b>Cooloola Shire Public Gallery</b> Officially opened by Councillor Annette Reilly, Cooloola Shire Council; Chairman, Cooloola Shire Art Gallery Society.	Gympie	QLD
23 Jun → 3 Aug	2000	<b>Gatton Shire Davson Art Gallery</b> <b>This new regional art gallery was named in recognition of the contribution made by Sharon Davson and her family to the arts.</b> John Walsh, President of the Regional Art Galleries Association, officially opened the gallery. The former Mayor Bernie Sutton opened the exhibition and Mayor Ray Ferdinand officiated proceedings.	Gatton	QLD
13 Aug → 12 Sep	2000	<b>Central Goldfields Shire Art Gallery</b> Officially opened by Councillor Valerie Andrews, Central Goldfields Shire Council.	Maryborough	VIC
17 Nov → 10 Dec	2000	<b>Wangaratta Art Gallery</b> Officially opened by Wangaratta Art Gallery Director, Dianne Mangan.	Wangaratta	VIC
11 Apr → 27 May	2001	<b>Grafton Regional Art Gallery</b>	Grafton	NSW
13 Dec 01 → 12 Jan 2002		<b>Shepparton Art Gallery</b> Officially opened by Shepparton Art Gallery Director, Leanne Willis.	Shepparton	VIC
1 Feb → 24 Mar	2002	<b>Millicent Art Gallery</b>	Millicent	SA

*"... 'Once you look for the hidden currents of life you can then watch the world and know where it is going'. Davson has an inner power, a personal fortitude, strength of character and spiritual serenity. Through her work she challenges us to realign our consciousness."*

**Audrey Hoffmann, Director, Warwick Art Gallery Warwick QLD 2000**

Included were major painting commissions, fashion pieces from *The Great Australian Fashion Show* tours of Egypt, environmental works, images from the 1983 documentary film *901 To Innaminka*, drawings from her first solo exhibition, as well as early career collages and silk-screen prints.

*“The exhibition of With Gratitude For The Light timed-in well with our school holiday program. We were able to bring children into the exhibition and play games in finding various animals within the paintings. The children loved it and were unaware at how involved they became in looking at the artworks, eventually establishing a meaning to the work as a group. The exhibition proved to be a valuable educational experience for young visitors.”*

**Shelley McLucas**, Co-ordinator, Bundaberg Arts Centre                      Bundaberg QLD    1999



At the exhibition, Davson and catalogue in front of *On The Ark Of Salvation*.

Davson’s strong love of nature and compassion for the inter-relationships between all the species can be traced back to her early works. The arts and nature, interwoven with an unfolding spirituality and gratitude for everything, have remained prominent throughout Davson’s life and work.

She believes this inspiration and truth is common to the world’s religions. Her art has strength in its spiritual basis. It has a distinctive style through her use of jigsaw puzzle pieces and captivating images of flora and fauna.

*“With Gratitude For The Light is a vibrant, colourful and thought provoking exhibition. It attracted a large and diverse audience – many of the visitors were inspired by the images and messages of Davson’s paintings.”*

**Susi Muddiman**, Director, Grafton Regional Gallery                      Grafton NSW    2001

## 1996 - 1998                      **The Evolution of Davson’s Major Retrospective Exhibitions**

**Major retrospective exhibitions evolve through a progression of events.** As most of Davson’s art was pre-sold, and usually delivered before it could be exhibited, she regularly received requests for a considerable body of her art to be brought together for exhibition.

**1996** Davson’s ***With Gratitude* solo exhibition** in the Renaissance Sydney Hotel was the foundation exhibition in the evolution of *With Gratitude For The Light*.



*Transitions*

For this exhibition she borrowed several paintings from her clients, including 4 major works shipped from New Zealand, 14 paintings from the Rooty Hill RSL Club & Resort, one each from Cathay Pacific Airways, Swiss Design & Décor and Konica.

Held in conjunction with the exhibition were two black tie dinners and other functions. One of the dinners was held in support of a charity founded by Davson, *Artists For Life* endangered species awareness, and had as its guest speakers Horst Rechelbacher, Founder and Chairman of the Aveda Foundation and Member of the International Green Cross Committee, and Robert Hill, a Senator for South Australia, Leader of the Government in the Senate and Federal Minister for the Environment.

Pleased with the enthusiasm shown for the exhibition, and the care and professionalism with which Davson handled the borrowed works, these collectors encouraged and supported the concept of loaning their paintings for other exhibitions of Davson's art.

Thus the seeds were sown for a major retrospective exhibition, and by late 1997, expressions of interest in showing a retrospective of Davson's art were received from regional art galleries in Queensland and Victoria.

**1998** In August 1998, a large body of paintings was brought together for a **solo exhibition in the Newcastle Town Hall** that assisted people with disabilities through the *Life Without Barriers* charity.

Paintings were again borrowed from some of the previously mentioned collectors. Works were also loaned by James Fairfax AO, Interforwarding International and the Cardiff Workers Club (now *Panthers Cardiff*). This brought together the core art works and patrons for a major retrospective exhibition.

**1998 - 1999** Then, to ensure the funding for such an exhibition, a Newcastle based collector funded the production of a Limited Edition Print from Davson's painting *Together We Can*. She finished numerous of these with an original drawing and the funds from the sales subsidised much of the costs of touring the exhibition.

*"Davson's work not only brought an impressive and thought-provoking exhibition to the Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery, it also brought her expertise in professional arts management.*

*Davson gave generously of her time and professional arts practice expertise in formal discussion meetings with the President of the Art Gallery Society, Committee Members, professional and voluntary gallery staff, elected and executive members of Stanthorpe Shire Council."*

**Tom Knobel**, Shire Economic Development Manager, Stanthorpe Shire Council, QLD 2001

*With Gratitude For The Light* was enthusiastically received in all venues. This prompted discussions for another exhibition of her work to tour in conjunction with a programme to encourage greater peace in local communities. Thus began the evolution of her 2<sup>nd</sup> major survey exhibition *Davson ~ World Leaders & Enlightenment*.

**1997**

### **Clean Up Australia National Conference Sydney NSW**



*Together We Can*

**Davson's painting *Together We Can* was the theme image for the *Clean Up Australia National Conference* held in the Sydney Renaissance Hotel.**

The painting was on display and miniature copies were given to all the delegates as souvenirs. Davson was guest speaker at one of the conference sessions.

*Together We Can* was initially commissioned in 1995 as a greetings card for UNISYS with the title of ***Uniting Natural Innovation Strengthens Your Success***.

(In 1998, the painting was purchased by James Fairfax AO for his collection in Bowral, NSW. In 1999, it was reproduced as a limited edition print and appeared on the front cover of the *With Gratitude For The Light* exhibition catalogue.)

**1985 - 1996**

<b>2004 → 2006</b>	9 solo shows with the <i>Gratitude Luncheons</i>
<b>1998</b>	Win Davson Art Gallery & Museum
<b>1995</b>	<i>Time to Grow</i> Artists For Life Gallery
<b>1993</b>	<i>Art Car</i> Sinclair Ford Showroom
<b>1992</b>	<i>Shelter In The Sun</i> Rooty Hill RSL Club & Resort
<b>1989</b>	<i>Interwoven Harmonies</i> Sharon Davson Studios & Gallery
<b>1986</b>	First Impressions Art Gallery
<b>1985</b>	<i>An Evolutionary View</i> First impressions Art Gallery

**Other solo exhibitions**

**Australia**

Newcastle	NSW
Gatton	QLD
Sydney	NSW
Penrith	NSW
Sydney	NSW
Richmond	NSW
Sydney	NSW
Sydney	NSW

**1982**

**First Solo Exhibition - a sell out**

**Sydney NSW**

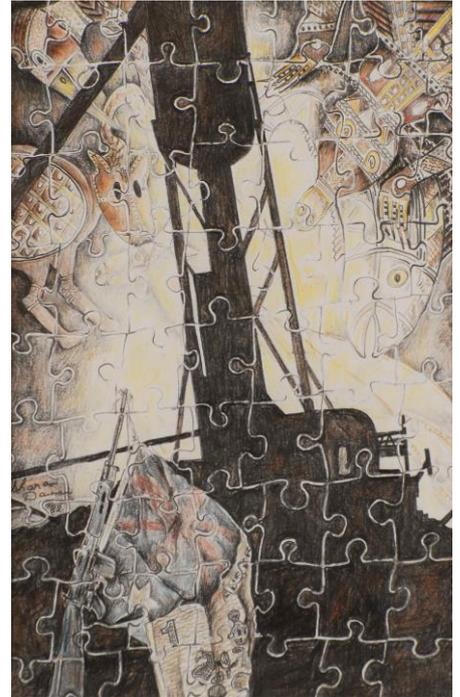
Davson had taken a couple of her drawings to Alvin Rasicot for framing. He was so taken by the originality and depth of meaning in the work that he invited her to hold a solo exhibition in his gallery.

This was to be her first solo art showing and was mostly comprised of drawings made during her bus journeys. This sell-out exhibition themed *Anti-Apathy*, was shown in December 1982 in Sydney.

It was the drawings in this exhibition that stimulated interest by a film company to make the documentary *901 to Innamincka about Davson*, her art and lifestyle. Davson regarded these journeys as her artistic 'apprenticeship on Australia'.

*"Davson's work is not feeble decoration or mindless banter. She raises pertinent and impertinent questions about her country, her world and the people who run both."*

**Alvin Rasicot**, Gallery Director  
Village Frameshop Gallery 1982



*A Matter of Value*



**1973 - 2006 Other group exhibitions**

**Australia**

<b>2004 → 2006</b>	2 group shows with the <i>Gratitude Luncheons</i>	Newcastle NSW
<b>2003 →</b>	The cow muster charity art event with 3 cows	Shepparton VIC
<b>1999</b>	Dame Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre	Penrith NSW
<b>1998</b>	TAFE College of Art - Hunter Street Campus	Newcastle NSW
<b>1993 → 1996</b>	Exhibited in and curated many exhibitions with Artists For Life and the Artists For Life Gallery	Sydney NSW
<b>1992 → 1993</b>	Exhibited in & curated exhibitions for Cornelius Art Gallery	Sydney NSW
<b>1989</b>	Artlook Galleries (three person show)	Sydney NSW
<b>1985 → 1987</b>	Exhibited in and curated many exhibitions with First Impressions Art Gallery (Glebe & Ultimo)	Sydney NSW
<b>1983 → 1998</b>	Ian Fairweather Memorial Art Gallery & Museum	Bribie Island QLD
<b>1978 → 1998</b>	Win Davson Art Gallery & Museum	Gatton QLD
<b>1974</b>	Queensland College of Art International Student Exhibition	Brisbane QLD
<b>1973</b>	Exhibited in and curated exhibitions for Toowong Art Gallery	Tokyo Japan
		Brisbane QLD

# Davson's art commissions

From 1984 to around the year 2000, much of Davson's art was pre-sold to collectors. This has included corporations and major clubs in Australia, America, New Zealand and Japan. Consequently this successful artist rarely exhibited her work in commercial galleries. There was no need. It was sold before it was created!

Davson happily worked on art commissions with complete control over the style and subject matter of her art. She wanted her art to have a home, and the freedom to create on a large scale. She attained both.

By the early 2000's, her art had attracted the attention of the serious investment market. Now much of her art is purchased for investment and superannuation purposes.

1984 - 2001

## Working on commission, her art was mostly pre-sold

*".. when I first saw one of Sharon Davson's paintings, it captured my imagination the moment I saw it. I was inspired to track down the artist to commission her services. This was the first time I had commissioned a painting and I was extremely happy with the final work. Sharon managed to capture the many aspects of my life's journey, as well as other evocative imagery and put them on a single canvas."*

**Pat Farmer MP**

World Record Ultra Marathon Athlete Sydney NSW  
Federal Member for Macarthur, Australian Parliament 2000



Pat Farmer with Davson and the painting

Davson enjoys working with people, geographies and histories. Knowing that her art will have meaningful relevance to its surroundings is a priority to her.

Her art encompasses large-scale paintings, sculptures, glass works; and intimately sized images - drawn, etched, printed and woven.

**She has been commissioned to create art for over 60 corporate collections** including Aveda in Minneapolis USA, World Book Encyclopaedia in Chicago USA, PNC in Pittsburg USA, Chris Abel in Auckland NZ, the Rooty Hill RSL & Resort in the Sydney area, the FAI Group in Sydney and the TRAK Centre in Melbourne.

Her work can be found within private collections in America, The United Kingdom, Scandinavia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand and Australia.

She has inspired many creative people to actively market their own work. Through seminars, floor talks in public art galleries and at other opportunities, Davson has encouraged other artists to have the confidence to become financially independent through their creativity.

## Selected Painting Commissions

- 2009** Private Commission - Prentice Properties Goodna  
QLD Australia
- 2001** Private Commission – the Honourable Pat Farmer MP  
Sydney NSW Australia
- 2000** Private Comm. - Graham & Jenny Buchan  
Sydney NSW Australia
- 1998** Interforwarding International  
Sydney NSW Australia





*Rod's World* (pictured previous page) oil paint on wood with relief cardboard and wood jigsaw puzzles 55 cm x 65 cm (frame size: 61 cm x 71 cm)

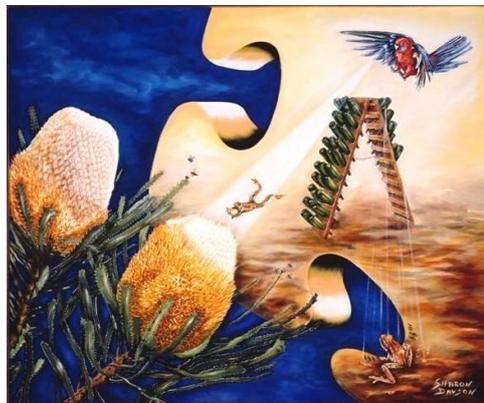
**1997** Nelson Bay RSL Memorial Club Nelson Bay NSW Australia  
*Good Directions, Great Discoveries* (pictured left)  
 oil paint on canvas 1.52m x 1.83m (frame size: 1.58m x 1.89m)

**1996-7** Cardiff District Workers Club Newcastle NSW Australia  
*Discovery* (pictured right)

(one of a set of 4 paintings with the Munibung Bunyip theme)  
 oil paint on canvas 1.02 m x 1.22 m (frame: 1.14 m x 1.34 m)



**1998** Private Comm. TW Geelong VIC Australia  
**1996** Private Commission Takayama Japan  
**1996** Aveda Corporation Minneapolis USA



**1996** Rooty Hill RSL Club & Resort Sydney NSW Australia  
*A Touch of Gold* (pictured left)  
 (one of a set of 14 paintings)  
 oil paint on canvas  
 76 cm x 91 cm  
 (94cm x 1.1 m)

**1996** Konica Australia Sydney NSW Australia  
*Print Picture Perfect* (pictured right)

oil paint on canvas 76 cm x 99 cm (87 cm x 1.13 m)



**1994-5** Town & Country Austwide

Sydney NSW Australia  
*Time To Grow (Town and Country Air)* (pictured below)  
 oil painting on canvas in 2 panels 1.22 m x 2.13 m each (total size 1.22 m x 4.26 m)



<b>1995</b> Cathay Pacific Airways	Sydney	NSW	Australia
<b>1992</b> Pyxis International	Tokyo		Japan
<b>1992</b> Telecom Payphone Services	Sydney	NSW	Australia
<b>1992</b> Swiss Design & Décor	Sydney	NSW	Australia
<b>1992</b> Kimberly Clark (Kleenex)	Sydney	NSW	Australia
<b>1992</b> Rooty Hill RSL Club & Resort	Sydney	NSW	Australia
<b>1991</b> World Book International	Chicago	ILL	USA
<b>1991</b> Coro Corp Ltd	Tairua		New Zealand
<b>1991</b> Private Commission - Chris Abel	Auckland		New Zealand



**1989** Pyxis International  
 Sydney NSW Australia  
*Gifts of Trust* (pictured left)  
 oil painting in canvas  
 1.52 m x 3.04 m 5 feet x 10 feet

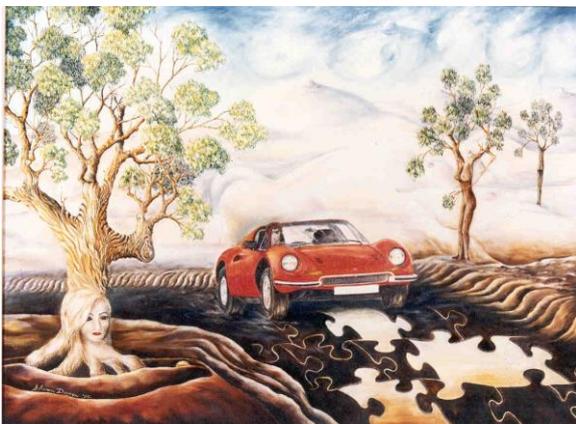
- 1991** SAAB Melbourne VIC Australia  
 (pictured left)
- 1991** Rick Damelian Motors Sydney NSW Australia
- 1990** FAI Insurance Group Sydney NSW Australia
- 1990** Budget Rent A Car Sydney NSW Australia
- 1989** North Ryde RSL Club Sydney NSW Australia
- 1989** Campbelltown Tennis Club Campbelltown NSW
- 1989** DJL Constructions Sydney NSW Australia



**1988** Mortgage Finance  
 Australia Sydney NSW Australia  
*Living Freedom* (pictured below) acrylic paint and coloured foils on wood



- 1988** New Valley Inn Resort  
 Perisher NSW Australia
- 1987** David Justice Holdings  
 Sydney NSW Australia
- 1987** PNC International Financial Services  
 Pittsburgh PEN USA
- 1986** John Saunders (Westfield /Busoni Pty Ltd)  
 Sydney NSW Australia
- 1986** Japan Week 1986 Sydney NSW Australia
- 1986** Pittwater Village Sydney NSW Australia
- 1985** Time Life Australia Sydney NSW Australia
- 1985** Goulburn Soldiers Club Goulburn NSW Australia



**1985** Hawker Pacific  
 Sydney NSW Australia  
*Driver's Dream*  
 (pictured left)  
 oil painting in canvas  
 58 cm x 76 cm (78cm x 96cm)

**1984** TRAK Centre  
 Melbourne VIC  
 Australia  
*Adding Quality To Life*  
 (detail pictured right)  
 oil painting in canvas  
 9 feet x 18 feet





**1985** The Point Resort The Entrance NSW Australia  
*Points of View* acrylic painting on canvas 1.37 m x 5.5 m (4½ feet x 18 feet)  
 This large work was created in three panels for the resort convention centre.

### Selected Silk-Screen Print, Collage and Woven Paper Commissions



- |                        |  |          |     |           |
|------------------------|--|----------|-----|-----------|
| <b>1992 &amp; 1990</b> | Rooty Hill RSL Club & Resort   | Sydney   | NSW | Australia |
|                        | Series of original prints, each different in colour of image placement.<br>(an example pictured above left)  |          |     |           |
| <b>1989</b>            | Radisson Rum Corps Resort  | Windsor  | NSW | Australia |
|                        | Series of original prints, each different in colour of image placement.<br>(an example pictured above right) |          |     |           |
| <b>1989</b>            | Panthers Resort  | Penrith  | NSW | Australia |
| <b>1989</b>            | Richmond Ex-Servicemen's Club  | Richmond | NSW | Australia |
| <b>1985</b>            | Barclay Hotel  | Sydney   | NSW | Australia |

### Selected Sculptural and Glass Commissions



**1997** Gosford RSL Club  
 Gosford NSW Australia

details from 2 of Davson's  
 3 large acid etched mirrors  
 2 m x 1.5 m each



- |                        |   |           |     |
|------------------------|---|-----------|-----|
| <b>1992 &amp; 1989</b> | Rooty Hill RSL Club & Resort            | Sydney    | NSW |
| <b>1991</b>            | Richmond Ex-Servicemen's Club           | Richmond  | NSW |
| <b>1988</b>            | Cardiff District Workers Club           | Newcastle | NSW |
| <b>1987</b>            | Southerland & District Trade Union Club | Sydney    | NSW |

# Davson's art galleries & studios in Australia

1997 to the present

**Davson Art Studio Gallery**

**Newcastle NSW**

In 1997, together with her husband Terry Barker, she purchased a former public building in the Newcastle area. This became the **Davson Art studio, gallery and office complex.**



Despite the disruptions of extensive renovations, Davson worked long hours and devoted much of her time to charitable and spiritual activities, helping people find peace and purpose. She continued creating inspiring works of art on commission, organising art exhibitions, writing and public speaking.



Early 2000, she formulated an initiative to promote world peace. *48 Hours To World Peace* operated from her studio, taking advantage of her computers, photocopier, fax machine, phones and other facilities, as well as being the venue for most of the meetings and working bees.



It is from this studio and office that Davson has assisted many people to gain life and career skills, and that she created many significant works of art and prepared much of the logistics for two major retrospective exhibitions which have been exhibited in public regional art galleries.



Her Newcastle studio complex is a dynamic area where people, ideas, exhibitions and projects converge toward benefiting as many people as possible.

1992 - 1996

**Artists For Life Galleries / Studio**

**Sydney NSW**



Kamahl, John Nevin and Davson

**The Artists For Life** endangered species awareness charity founded by Sharon Davson **opened its first art gallery** in Castlereagh Street (on the corner of King) in 1992.

These premises in the up-market shopping precinct of Sydney were sponsored by the then President of the organisation, Leon Kempler OAM. It was here at an exhibition function that the *Gold Members Club* was launched with Kamahl AO (pictured left at this event), Imelda Roche and Dame Leonie Kramer. Over the course of the year, several very successful art exhibitions supporting endangered species were held.

In mid-1993, the organisation and its gallery moved to level 12 of 49 York Street, Sydney. These premises were sponsored by Bruce Reid AO, a former sponsor / client of Davson's from the early 1980's when a documentary titled, *901 To Innamincka*, was made of her journeys across Australia. Davson had her art studio / gallery on level 13.

It was here Davson had her 1995 solo exhibition, *Time To Grow*, and where *Artists For Life* held many successful monthly art exhibitions, functions and events.

1988 - 1991

## The Richmond NSW Studio / Gallery

NSW



Davson in her Richmond studio / gallery

Whilst creating magnificent and unique works of art on commission, organising art exhibitions and giving inspirational public speeches, Davson was also an active member of the local community assisting sectors of the community that could benefit from her support.

From January 1988, her *Davson Fine Art Studios & Gallery* operated in the Park Mall Commercial Centre, Richmond. For Davson, residing in the Hawkesbury region proved to be an extremely fertile period of creativity.

It was in this studio / gallery that she completed many of her well-known art commissions in Australia, the USA, Japan and New Zealand, and established her international reputation as an artist of merit.

And here, that she created the massive leadlight sculpture, *Munibung Bunyip Mines Winding Creek*, for the Cardiff Workers Club near Newcastle. It was made in sections that could be handled by one person, trucked north and then assembled on site.



Davson on the ladder



The official opening, 1989.

Her art was sought by local business and private collectors. Local commissions included a stunning pair of acid etched glass doors for the Richmond RSL Club.

She created a series of original silk-screen prints for the Rum Corps Barracks Resort, Windsor. Each print had different colour or image arrangement. These works now reside in the Blue Mountains.

It was from her Richmond studios, that she created many of the works, for the largest and most diverse collection of her art in the Western Sydney region on public display, at the Rooty Hill RSL Club and Resort. (However, in 2008, a considerable portion of this collection was on-sold to other collectors.)

A significant silk-screen print collection was created for the guest rooms of the Panthers Resort in the neighbouring city of Penrith.



Detail from *Custodians of Harmony*  
- 3m x 10m glass etching, Rooty Hill RSL Club, 1989.

It was while in Richmond, Davson donated many works of art to public collections across Australia. It was her way of saying 'thank you' to the communities who had supported and encouraged her ventures.

1989 to the present

### Life Member - Friends of the Hawkesbury Art Collection and Regional Art Gallery

From her Richmond studio / gallery, Davson was an active member of the Friends group, with the goal of establishing a public regional art gallery in the Hawkesbury area. (This eventuated some years later.)

She donated two silk-screen works to the Hawkesbury City Art Collection and one woven work to the University of Western Sydney Hawkesbury Collection. These were beautifully framed original art works.

1989

### Tourism Hawkesbury Board of Directors



Davson served on the Tourism Hawkesbury Board of Directors. One project was the inaugural nine-day tourism festival - the *Antique Affair*.

Davson donated a framed work of art for auction at their Black Tie Dinner to raise funds for the *Stimulus Early Intervention Centre*.

Davson was also an active member of the Hawkesbury Chamber of Commerce.

*Tribute To Lindsay* silk-screen print

It was in her Richmond studio that Davson developed the concepts for the *Artists For Life* charity; and by 1991, generating greater awareness for the Earth's endangered species had become her main focus, locally and internationally.

1985 - 1987

### First Impressions Art Gallery & studios

Sydney NSW



Davson at work in her Glebe studio / gallery

An artist who excels in visual creativity and also has the skills required to own and manage an art gallery and studio is a powerful combination.

Davson opened the *First Impressions Gallery* in Glebe, Sydney, in 1985; moving to larger premises in Ultimo a year later.

Through her exhibition programme, Davson assisted

up-and-coming artists including Wendy Sharpe to gain early career exhibitions.

The *First Impressions Gallery* hosted regular performance evenings of music, poetry, theatre and dance. Davson's holistic approach to the arts brought vibrancy to the venue. This was an innovative venture.



Live band at the front of the Glebe gallery



In 1986, First Impressions moved to a 500 square metre premises in Ultimo which provided for greater variety in display and application. There was a 200 square metre main gallery area, a second 80 square metre gallery and the rest of the floor space was subdivided into individual artist studios to assist as many young artists and performers as possible.

In this *First Impressions Gallery*, Davson mounted charity events with special exhibitions designed to raise awareness and funds for causes such as animal welfare.

She was a member of *Wires* (wildlife rescue) and exhibited with them in their fundraising art exhibitions in the Sydney Museum.

In these Sydney studios, Davson created major art commissions for Australian and New Zealand clients.



Davson at work in her Ultimo studio / gallery (both photos)

She sold her *First Impressions Gallery* as 'a going concern' in 1987 when she moved to the Hawkesbury area. There she opened *Davson Fine Art Studios and Gallery* in the Park Mall Commercial Centre, Richmond, NSW.

## 1984 - 1985 Gertrude Street Spaces and Townsville studios VIC & QLD

**Davson had just moved from the Port Stephens area of New South Wales to Townsville in Queensland when she was informed she had gained her first major art commission - in Melbourne, Victoria!**

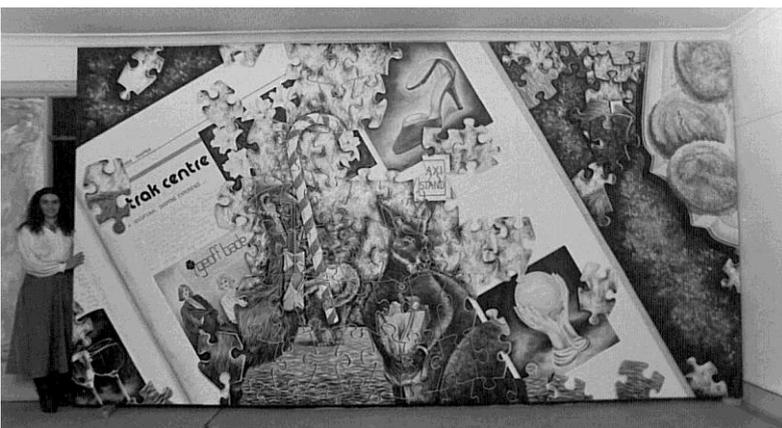
Davson hadn't even unpacked in Townsville, when she flew to Melbourne to spend five months painting in a studio in the Gertrude Street Spaces of Fitzroy.

Davson worked in her studio creating the huge *Adding Quality To Life* painting for the TRAK Centre in Toorak, while other artists including Judy Watson, worked in their studios on dramatically



different themes in the same complex. However, for the greater part, she was alone in the building.

Following the completion of this huge painting, pictured above and opposite, Davson returned to Townsville and established her studio in a large highset rambling building.



*Adding Quality to Life*  
(above and left in the Gertrude Street Studio, Melbourne VIC.)

# Davson's world peace, environment & community leadership

2004 - 2006

*Gratitude Luncheons*

Newcastle NSW

Davson initiated and hosted in her studio gallery, 11 *Gratitude Luncheons* in association with the charity she started, *48 Hours Toward World Peace*. The space comfortably seats 48 people and the premises can easily cater for many styles of function.

These *Gratitude Luncheons* attracted diverse audiences, culturally and spiritually. The luncheons established a social and educational forum for greater harmony in the local and broader community.

The guest speakers all explored the concept of *Gratitude Precedes Peace*.

Expanding gratitude in our lives can lead to greater harmony in our relationships.

Speakers included: Suresh Thambipillai Doshi, a television director in Sri Lanka who then dedicated his life to service as a *Sukyo Mahikari* staff member in Japan, New Zealand, Australia, PNG and Fiji; Dr Kerri Howells PHD, an internationally acknowledged educator and author who has introduced gratitude as a serious key process for university students in achieving academic success; John Tate, the Lord Mayor of Newcastle; Sharon Grierson MP, Federal Parliament Member for Newcastle; Paul Callaghan B.Com., Dip. Surveying, an Aboriginal elder of the Worimi people, TAFE Manager and natural healer.

Each function featured an art exhibition of various artists, including Sharon Davson, Anne Taylor, and local Aboriginal artists Steven and Garry Luke.



Christmas in July *Gratitude Luncheon* 2006 in Davson's studio

2000 - 2008

*48 Hours Toward World Peace*

initially *48 Hours To World Peace*



Davson with Lord Mayor John Tate, a patron of her initiatives.

Sharon Davson founded and became the volunteer Chairman of the not for profit initiative *48 Hours Toward World Peace*, establishing its major annual observance on the 48 hours of New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. It aimed to establish a focused basis for concluding each year in peace, and beginning the New Year with a renewed commitment to greater harmony within our global communities.

The *48 Hours Toward World Peace* charity encouraged people to expand their efforts toward creating greater harmony within their lives (and those with whom they come into contact).

It organised concerts, exhibitions and events and assisted people with specific needs. Many of the early meetings were held in the Lord Mayor's Reception Room and chaired by Newcastle Lord Mayor John Tate.

*48 Hours Toward World Peace* was actively involved with organising the *Gratitude Luncheons* mentioned above. The *Multi-faith Association of Newcastle & the Hunter Region* gained considerable event support for its promotion of dialogue and understanding among the religions under the auspices of *48 Hours Toward World Peace*. (see page 50)

**2000-01 to 2005-06**

**the charity's biggest event for the year was the  
48 Hours Toward World Peace New Year's Eve Concert.**

These free public concerts helped Newcastle usher in peaceful starts to successive New Years.

Six of these major events for Peace were held on the Newcastle Foreshore.

Concerts started at 6.30pm and played through until just after 12.30am, featuring top local bands with fire twirlers or other acts performing during the band changeovers.

These concerts were held in conjunction with the Newcastle City Council. Lord Mayor John Tate was the Chairman of the original organising committee for *48 Hours Toward World Peace*.

The Newcastle City Council, Police and other services congratulated the charity for initiating and staging these concerts.



2001 - afternoon at the concert



2002 - Late afternoon sound checks

These events gave people of all ages great entertainment and a positive focus for a night of celebration in an alcohol-free location. They helped revellers to see in the New Year with greater peace and safety.

**By the sixth concert there were almost 25,000 attendees. Police supervision required in the city on New Year's Eve had HALVED.**

Families could safely remain at the foreshore to enjoy the music until late. Previously they would depart after the 9pm fireworks, leaving the city to the more boisterous revellers.

After the inauguration of the concert, problem behaviour in the city reduced. With each successive year there were fewer arrests, altercations, hospitalisations and vandalism.

Each New Year's Eve Concert for Peace was preceded by the *Multifaith Association of Newcastle & the Hunter Region* offering teachings on the importance of the New Year from various religious perspectives. Their sincerity contributed to the caring atmosphere on the Newcastle foreshore.

Prior to and during the event, Sukyo Mahikari members unobtrusively offered True Light purification and prayers to the area for enhanced harmony.

Through the *Local Government & Shires Association* as well as communication with City and Shire Council Mayors, this concept initiated by Sharon Davson and introduced by her through *48 Hours Toward World Peace*, was adopted by several other City Councils. This successful initiative illustrates the value of holding such events. **In Newcastle, the management of the New Year's Eve Concert transferred from 48 hrs to the Newcastle City Council in 2006-2007.** This illustrated the true success of the initiative.

**2004** At the Annual General Meeting of the charity it was unanimously voted to establish the **Davson Arts Museum** and all its relevant documentation. The *Davson Arts Museum* is assisting with preparations for the *Davson - World Leaders & Enlightenment* exhibition to tour in public museum galleries in Australia and elsewhere.

**2001 - 2006** *48 Hours Toward World Peace* supported people with disabilities or disadvantage to gain work skills, training, start small business ventures, gain traineeships or employment, providing computer and other equipment to assist independence.

Focusing on senior members of our community, volunteers from differing backgrounds and corporate professionals arranged concerts and other events to enhance their sense of peace and joy. A variety of functions in venues ranging from clubs to indigenous art galleries were held.

*48 Hours Toward World Peace* assisted with fundraising for an orphanage in Fiji and other worthy causes.

**2000** One of the big early ventures of *48 Hrs* was the production of produced 500 **handprint kits** which sold to families, community groups, corporate bodies and educational institutions as visual aids for peace.

These kits contained a large piece of fabric, 4 containers of water based fabric-ink in blue, yellow, red and green; a paintbrush; a permanent black felt marker pen; souvenir magnet and an A4 sheet of simple instructions. The cloth was used as a tablecloth, furniture cover or other as an ongoing reminder for peace in the home, family and neighbourhood. Visitors added their handprints, signatures and drawings to this cloth.



Many thousands of people gave their handprints for *48 Hours Toward World Peace*. The resulting fabrics were displayed at public venues such as branches of the *Newcastle Permanent Building Society*, *EnergyAustralia* and the *Honeysuckle Development Corporation* head offices. On New Year's Eve Day they were displayed together on the Newcastle Foreshore, creating a visual impact with further handprints being added throughout the day.

James Butler and Christine Atanassoff paint the hands of children at the Honeysuckle Markets in 2002.

*48 Hours Toward World Peace* conducted many handprint activities including at the *International Masters Games*, the *Darby Street Fair*, *Cultural Stomp*, *Water Week* and functions in the *Newcastle City Council Chambers*.

**At 11am on 12 September 2001**, on the day Australia awoke to the Twin Towers disaster in New York, a memorable handprint ceremony occurred in response to the tragedy.

In the Lord Mayor's Reception Chamber of the Newcastle City Hall, Lord Mayor John Tate, together with Mayors from various Hunter Councils, business and community leaders participated with Davson in a symbolical event by placing their handprints together for greater harmony in our communities.



● Peace of it . . . seven of the Hunter Region's local government leaders joined peace activists Sharon Davson in putting their handprints down in the name of world peace.

2007 - 2008

### Newcastle Art Space

NSW

Davson has sponsored many community activities over the years, among them she was a major Sponsor for the *Annual Up & Coming Artist Award* at the Newcastle Art Space. Davson was the donor/sponsor of the \$3,000 Award for *Works On Paper* for 2 years. (Her first solo exhibition was mostly drawings - works on paper!)

She is a member of the Friends of the Newcastle Regional Art Gallery.

2002 to 2011

### Multi-faith Association of Newcastle & the Hunter Region

Davson is a Foundation Patron and active committee member of the Multifaith Association of Newcastle & the Hunter Region.

The Bahá'í Chaplain Tom Jones initiated the association with Buddhist Priest Greg Heathcote taking a significant role. Davson was integral to the association's inception in 2002 at the Newcastle City Hall at which the Vice Chancellor of Newcastle University was awarded the title of President.

Since then, Davson has voluntarily hosted their monthly meetings and Annual General Meetings in her studio gallery premises and participated in the group's many and varied functions and events.



Buddhist priest Greg Heathcote at the Equinox

*The Equinox* observances conducted at Nobby's Heads in Newcastle are among the most moving and significant regular events of the group. The *Equinox* is observed in most religions as a significant occurrence, allowing differing faiths to share a commonality.

The *Cultural Stomp* is an annual outdoor public festival celebrating the cultural diversity and harmony within Newcastle. The multi-faith association actively participates with stalls showcasing the world's religions.

It hosts interfaith seminars, group talks, forums and other activities during the festival.

This multi-faith group participates in *United Nations Day*, *Human Rights Day* and other significant events on the UN Calendar. Various mixed-faith activities, such as *Prayers in the Park*, are periodically organised by the group.

Since 2005, the group has staged a large annual multi-faith concert. This major undertaking is a popular, diverse concert which is staged in the Newcastle City Hall. The multi-faith group also staged the day-time entertainment for the Islington Fair in 2003.

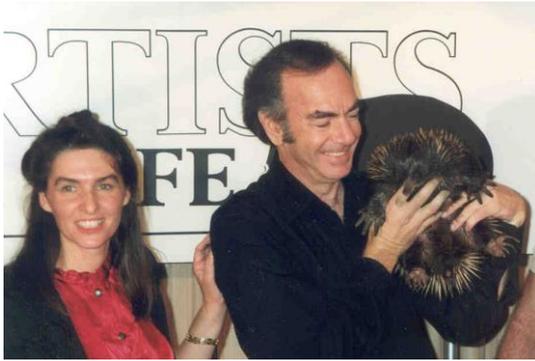
Visitations have been organised for those of other faiths to attend the spiritual premises and ceremonies of a variety of faiths. This has assisted with greater community understanding of different expressions of faith directed towards God. Special introductory evenings hosted by Davson have explained various God Centred practices encouraging values and respect.

In the lead-up to the World Parliament of Religions being held in Melbourne in December 2009, the group has organised a pre-parliamentary event in the Newcastle Cathedral. Also, as a post-event to report on the World Parliament of Religions, a luncheon is to be held and hosted by the Davson Arts Museum in Newcastle.

1992 to the present

### Hands Up

national and international



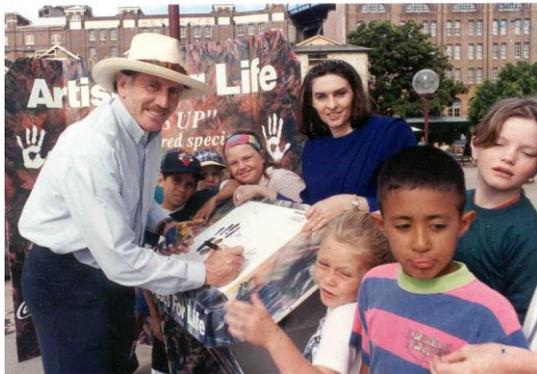
Davson with Neil Diamond holding an echidna

(see pages 55 to 59 of this biography).

As mentioned in the international section, Sharon Davson initiated the *Hands Up* campaign to assist endangered species awareness. Neil Diamond launched the *Hands Up* project with her at a national press event at the Regent Hotel in Sydney in April 1992.

Davson periodically continues with this initiative and raises funds for causes for which she is passionate, including world peace and environmental initiatives.

During the 1990's, Davson conducted 'Hands-up' through the charity *Artists For Life* which she founded in 1990. Then in the early 2000's, through her second charity, *48 Hours Toward World Peace*. (see pages 51 to 53)



Ian Chappell with Davson and school children

Among her televised activities, was a 1993 event on Channel 7's *To-Day Show*. Davson and Monty the weatherman, together with Ian Chappell, animals from *Taronga Zoo* and children from inner-city schools, created handprints that were hoisted as sails aboard the ship *The Bounty*. This event raised considerable awareness for endangered species.

In 1992 at the Corpus Christie School, *Artists For Life* conducted a *Hands Up*

*Up* activity in association with the National Parks and Wildlife on responsible cat care education.

Many *Hands Up* activities were conducted with Davson's 'art cars' in wide-ranging locations.



Corpus Christi teachers and students with the National Parks and Wildlife Service's Ken Blade (centre)

Thousands of people have given their handprints to *48 Hours Toward World Peace* on specific fabrics with permanent inks and pens. These lengths of fabric have been displayed in numerous venues to promote greater harmony in the community.

Since 2002, many of the leaders who have participated have done so with the intention that their handprints become incorporated into Davson's art. Along with numerous others, they have been delighted that she has embodied their earlier participation into her art.

From 2000 to the present numerous people who donated their handprints to assist greater harmony in our communities, including the following Australian leaders who donated handprints for incorporation in the art of Sharon Davson and for use in the *Davson ~ World Leaders* series of art exhibitions and events for greater harmony with all on our Earth.



Winning Combination

Layne Beachley  
Lyn Bowtell  
Adam Brand  
Sir Jack Brabham OBE

Slim Dusty AO MBE  
the Honourable Pat Farmer  
Cathy Freeman OAM  
Paul Harrigan OAM  
Jim Haynes  
INXS  
Gina Jeffreys

7 times women's World Champion Surfer  
Awarded country music singer  
Awarded country music singer  
Formula One World Champion and  
Formula One World Constructor Champion  
Awarded country music singer  
World Record holding Ultra Marathon runner  
Olympic Gold athlete  
Australian Rugby League Captain  
Awarded country music singer  
Internationally successful rock band  
Awarded country music singer



Mark Richards and Davson

**Lee Kernaghan**  
**Ian Kiernan AO**  
**Toni Lamond**  
**Olivia Newton-John**  
**Sarah O'Hare Murdoch**  
**Helen Reddy**  
**Mark Richards**  
**Tamara Stewart**  
**Keith Urban**  
**Tracey Wickham MBE**

Awarded country music singer  
 Founder & Chairman *Clean Up Australia*  
 Internationally successful singer  
 Internationally acknowledged film star and singer  
 International Super Model  
 Internationally acknowledged singer "I am woman"  
 4 times World Champion Surfer  
 Awarded country music singer  
 Internationally acknowledged singer and songwriter  
 World Champion swimmer

**2000-2004** Please see reference to *48 Hours Toward World Peace* for the major initiative with the *Hand Print Kits*.

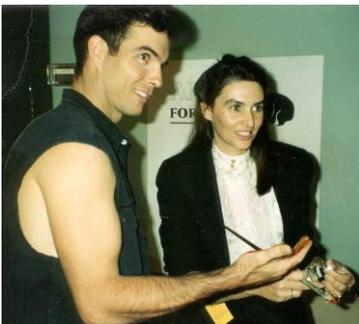
**1994** As well as conducting a *Hands Up* activity in Frankfurt, Germany with the eight finalists and other tennis professionals, she assisted tennis professionals in Australia to donate their handprints and commitment towards endangered. The following Australian champion tennis players participated:

**John Newcombe AO**    **Patrick Rafter**                    **Tony Roche**    **Todd Woodbridge**  
**Mark Woodforde**    **Jason Stoltenberg**                    **Wally Masur**    **John Alexander**

**1993** In Australia, the Ford Pro-Am Team invited Davson to the Indy Grand Prix on the Gold Coast. Among those distinguished Australians to donate their handprints at the Gold Coast Indy Grand Prix were:

Car racing                    **Alan Jones MBE** - Formula One World Champion  
**Gary Brabham**                    **Leo Geoghegan**  
**John Goss**                    **Bill Brown**                    **John Harvey**    **The Ford ProAM Team**  
 Motor Bike racing    **Wayne Gardner AM** - 500 cc World Champion

**1992 -1998** During this time, Davson was a guest at many functions and events. Handprints donated in participation for endangered species awareness included:



Davson with James Blundell

ENTERTAINMENT –  
MUSIC and SINGING

Dame Joan Sutherland AM, Kamahl AO, Tim Farriss, John Farnham, Renee Geyer, Rolf Harris CBE AM, Diesel (Mark Lizotte), Melissa Tkautz, Jennifer McGregor, James Blundell, Marcia Hines, Jon Stevens, Kerrie Biddell, The Bad Loves, Angry Anderson, Nathan Cavaleri, Michael Scott, Bobby Gebert, Nick Barker, Matt Heydon, Mahalia Barnes, Ken Davis, The Sharp, Sounds Unlimited, Girlfriend & Rat Cat.



Davson with Dame Joan Sutherland & Leon Kempler



Davson with Tom Burlinson

FILM and STAGE Stars

Eric Bana, Baz Luhrmann, Catherine Martin, Paul Mecurio, David Williamson, Tom Burlinson, Miranda Otto, Rachel Ward, Judy McIntosh, Andrew Williams, Peter Adams, Christine Amor, Tristan Bancks, Ray Barrett, Craig Beamer, Andrew Blackman, Josephine Byrnes, Ryan Clark, Colleen Clifford, Lorraine Bayly, Isla Fisher, Eden Gaha, Kimberley Davies, Paula Duncan, Dominic Elmaloglou, Rebekah Elmaloglou, Melissa George, Penne Hackforth-Jones, Gavin Harrison, Steven Jacobs, Genevieve Lemon, Kimberley Joseph, Sophie Lee, Kristen Marlow, Scott McCrae, Toni Pearen, Garry McDonald, Julie McGregor, Benjamin Mitchell, Judy Nunn, Georgie Parker, Ingo Rademacher, Eli Faen, Denise Roberts, Chris Betts, Bill Marron, Bruce Roberts, Noah Taylor, Laura Vazquez.



Geoff Harvey, Ray Martin and Davson

TELEVISION and RADIO

Ray Martin, Geoff Harvey, Kerri-Anne Kennerley, Bert Newton, Don Burke, George Negus, Peter Luck, Derryn Hinch, Steve Vizard, Dr Harry Cooper, Richard Moorecroft, John Dengate, Geraldine Doogue, Russell Fairfax, Andrew Paschalidis, Trisha Goddard, Lyn Talbot, Melissa Hannan, Kayley Harris, Doug Mulray, Tonia Todman, Clive Hale and Nick Bennett.

COMEDY

Jeanne Little, Steady Eddy, Austen Tayshus, Jane Kennedy, Peter Moon, Matt Parkinson, Alan Pentland, Glenn Robbins.



DIGNITARIES

Governor General The Hon Bill Hayden AC, Premier Bob Carr MP, Dame Leonie Kramer, Paul Simons AC, Lady Sonia McMahon, The Hon Chris Hartcher MP & The Hon Virginia Chadwick MP.

ARTS and FASHION Luminaries

Bryce Courtenay, Arthur Boyd AC, OBE, Tjapukai Dance Theatre, Lindy Chamberlain- Creighton, Jenny Kee, Win Davson MBE FTCL, Susie & Stephen Kelen, Deborah Hutton, Kate Fischer, Debra Otten-Pain, Yaeson Fletcher, Peter Morrissey, Louise Olsen & Liane Rossler.

Davson with Premier Bob Carr MP

INSPIRATIONAL and ADVENTUROUS Leaders

Tim Macartney-Snape, Dick Smith, Professor Fred Hollows.

ENTERTAINMENT / MEDIA Professionals

Harry M. Miller, Romy Meerkin, Bruce Samazan, Paul Cussen, Noelene Hogan, Keith Sarson, Jack Deagenkemp, Kristin Marlow, Honie Rowley, Ian Peterson, Paul Philpott, John Howitt, John Emery, Callum Mclean, Alison Cowan, David Strong, Toby Creswell, Caroline Gowen, Shane Mckenzie with Mark Moffer.



Layne Beachley and Davson

SPORTS Champions

Michelle Martin, Jane Flemming, Darren Clark, Rob Brown, Wendi Carroll & Barbara Kendall.

SURFING Champions

Layne Beachley, Pam Burridge, Pauline Menczer, Tom Carroll, Matt Hoy, Bernard Farrelly, Wayne Bartholomew, Robert Young, Barton Lynch, Damien Hardman, Shane Powell, Simon Anderson, Stuart Bedford-Brown, Shane Herring, Mark Warren, Richard Marsh & Jodi Holmes.

RUGBY UNION 1993 WALLABY Team For The Rugby Tour To France

Nick Farr Jones AM, Phil Kearns, David Campese, Anthony Daly, Rod McCall, Ewen McKenzie, Jason Little, Matthew Burke, Tim Gavin, Martin Roebuck, David Wilson, Peter Slattery, Barry Lea, Tim Kava, Tamanivalu Tabua, Mark Catchpole, Garrick Morgan, Ryan Constable, Michael Brial, Scott Bowen, Tim Hartill, Brian Hopley, Pat Howard, Bob Lewplet, Alistair Murdoch, David Nucifora, Warwick Waugh, Greg Craig, Cameron Osborne, Robert Dwyer & John Breen.

TEST CRICKETERS

Greg Chappell MBE, Ian Chappell, Ritchie Benaud OBE, David Gower, Bill Lawry, Steve Waugh & Mike Whitney.

BASKETBALL - Sydney Kings

Tim Morrissey, Damian Keogh, Dean Uthoff, Greg Hubbard, Mario Donaldson, Michael Kenny, James Carr, Tony De Ambrosis, Neil Turner, Wayne Womack, Bob Turner & Michael Wrublewski.

**Davson's *Hands Up* concept was copied across the USA after her visit in 1993 and her meeting with executives from Creative Agencies, and through this, hundreds of thousands of dollars have been raised for various causes. Since 1992, celebrities from dozens of countries have participated with Davson.**

Handprints for many causes have been popping up with increasing frequency here and overseas since the publicity and activities of Davson in 1992 and 1993.

1990 - 1998

## Artists For Life

national and international



Davson with the Honourable Bill Hayden AC  
Governor General of Australia

In 1990, Davson started the charity *Artists For Life*, which focused awareness for endangered species through art exhibitions, festivals and events. Over the next eight years, in Australia and elsewhere, Davson initiated many projects, concerts, boardroom and black tie dinners, functions and other art or educational events both locally and internationally.

The *Artists For Life* Patron was the Governor General of Australia, the Honourable Bill Hayden AC.

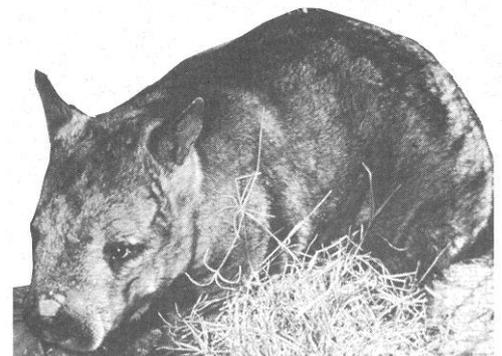
**Sharon Davson** as Founder & Chief Executive Officer of *Artists For Life* NSW Australia 1990

*“Endangered species is more than an urgent environmental issue. It is of major cultural importance as well. As we lose species from the wild, their inspiration is lost to future generations of artists. We then lose their forms from our paintings, sculptures and designs; from our literature, poetry and song; from our fabric designs and architectural details. Our culture, as well as our environment, is diminished.”*

**How it started** Davson had created a large, fun painting of Australian birds and animals playing tennis for the Campbelltown Tennis Club (detail below). In the



work was a Northern Hairy Nosed Wombat, complete with two pairs of tennis shoes and large sun glasses. After completing the work, a friend asked her, “Did you know there were only 40



Northern Hairy Nosed Wombat, photo courtesy of the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service in Rockhampton.

*Northern Hairy Nosed Wombats left?”* She said she

didn't. His next statement was, “Well now that you do, what are you going to do about it?”

Davson realised that for many thousands of years artists had used the plants and animals with which we share this planet as a source of inspiration. Like these artists, she had included creatures and plants throughout her paintings, sculptures and other visual art works. Life forms continue to be a source of inspiration for all the arts, adding strength to our cultural heritage, our medicine and science, as well as for its own sake and biodiversity.

She decided to act to ensure the continued existence of the diversity of species on our Earth. Thus began the major education and awareness programme *Artists For Life*.

After Davson conceived *Artists For Life* on 13<sup>th</sup> October 1990, she immediately took the concept to America, England and Hong Kong where she gained considerable support from her clients including *World Book Encyclopaedia International*, other corporations, dignitaries, prominent galleries and leading artists including Jasper Johns, Christo, Tom Wesselmann, James Rosenquist and Larry Rivers.

Over the next few years, Davson helped unite that creative element in thousands of people to build awareness, find positive solutions and help save Earth's endangered species.

She worked with corporations, governments, environmental bodies, educational institutions, cultural organisations and individuals to bring about positive progress while showing care and consideration for all people and sensitivity towards plants and creatures.

She organised dozens of art exhibitions, festivals and events with the goal of inspiring all in the global community to value and protect endangered species.

Davson's stunning art and her mainstream approach to raising awareness for endangered species generated positive results for other organizations assisting the environment and its wildlife. Her clients supported media articles about *Artists For Life*, featuring Davson's endangered species imagery in their art.

Davson gave over 800 media interviews on behalf of the charity. She travelled extensively (both locally and internationally) at her own expense and gained support for endangered species from artists, businesses, government leaders, and over 350 celebrities.

In December 1991, Davson arranged meetings with interested persons to establish branches of *Artists For Life* in the Blue Mountains and in Sydney.

During the first two years, she focussed the majority of her working time on *Artists For Life*. By 1992, the *Artists For Life* initiative was a formal charity with the *Artists For Life Gallery* situated in her client-sponsored space on Castlereagh Street, Sydney, courtesy of Leon Kempler of Cornelius.

#### **The first Board of Directors included:**

<i>President:</i>	John Nevin	(Business consultant, Founder of SWAP and the National Speakers Association in Australia)
<i>Vice President:</i>	Dame Leonie Kramer AC	(Chancellor of the University of Sydney; Board Member of the ANZ Bank, Western Mining and other positions)
<i>Secretary:</i>	Alison Harrington	(Co-ordinator of AFL Blue Mts Branch and Footsteps Festival, former Head of Podiatry Department at Fremantle Hospital)
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Leon Kempler	(President of the Victorian Chamber of Commerce; President of the Australia Israel Chamber of Commerce)
<i>Directors:</i>	Senator Bronwyn Bishop	(Honorary Governor of the Art Gallery Society of New South Wales, and many other positions)
	Roger Grant	(General Manager Corporate Relations of the ABC)
	David White	(Host of TV Channel 7's <i>Real Life</i> )

#### **Over time the Board of Directors also included:**

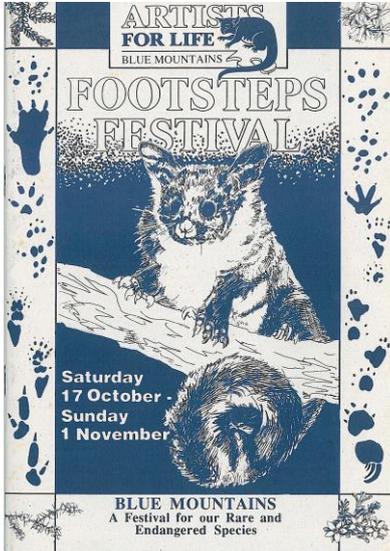
<i>Presidents:</i>		
Julie Ankers	(Managing Director of Entertrainers & Speakers)	
Leon Kempler	(see above - Treasurer)	
<i>Directors including office bearers:</i>		
Imelda Roche	(President & Managing Director of Nutri-metics International; Chairman of the World Federation of Direct Selling)	
Clare Roche	(Director of Nutrimetics International)	
Bill Rothery	(General Manager of Cathay Pacific Australia and New Zealand)	
Chris Pratt	(Country Manager Australia & Papua New Guinea of Cathay Pacific Airways)	
Tim Acton	(Industry Affairs Manager Australia with Cathay Pacific Airways)	
Dick Simpson	(Managing Director - UNISYS Australia; Vice Chair - Australian Information Industries Assoc.)	
Peter Lazar	(Chairman of Professional Public Relations; Chairman of Fellows - Public Relations Institute of Australia - NSW)	
Stuart Reville	(Assistant General Manager of the ABC)	
Peter Ludemann	(Partner with Walsh James Solicitors)	
Tom Harvey	(Consultant to Woolworths, Director of Australia Day council NSW)	
Namoi Dougall	(Lawyer with Middletons Moore & Bevins) and Anne Powell (Business consultant)	
Tanya Davis	(School teacher) and Brian Hanks (Director of Brian Hanks & Associates)	
John Lash	(Vice President Marketing of One Earth Pty Ltd)	

*First Administration / Management Team:*

Sharon Davson (Founder, artist - PR, marketing)  
Terry Barker (co-founder - documentation)  
Shirley Page (co-ordinator - Sydney / NSW)

Graham Ramsay (co-founder - photographer)  
Fiona McNeill (co-founder - co-ordinator USA)  
Frances Dalton (co-ordinator - New Zealand)

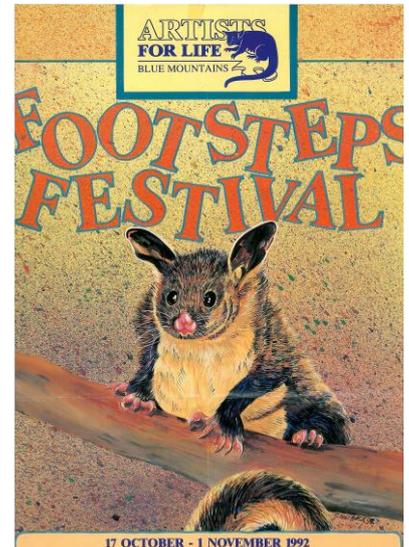
By early 1992, the **Blue Mountains Branch** was established under President, Sue Lollback, creating the enormously successful 1992 *Footsteps Festival*.



The 1992 *Footsteps Festival* organised and conducted by the *Blue Mountains Branch of Artists For Life* gained a **NSW State Tourism Award** in 1993.

The festival ran over 10 days and incorporated art exhibitions, concerts (including one in the Jenolan Caves), dance theatre, street parades, dinners, education kits, bush walks and other activities.

At a time when environmental and endangered species education in schools was minimal, *Artists For Life* produced educational kits and actively encouraged the expansion of



ecological education by working with numerous affiliated bodies.

In 1992, *Artists For Life* received a letter from Prime Minister Paul Keating supporting the project, and many dozens of letters from other dignitaries.



Davson with John Dengate

Davson maintained a hands on role with the Sydney Branch. This group initially met at the *Keep Australia Beautiful* offices from December 1991 and moved to Ryde during 1992. In Ryde, they conducted monthly evening events where guest artists spoke about their work and the importance of the natural environment and endangered species.

From September 22 to October 5 1992, *Artists For Life* held an extensive Art Exhibition by 30 artists at the Platypus Gallery in Taronga Park Zoo. Dr John Kelly, Director of the Zoo was the guest speaker, with the exhibition officially opened by media naturalist and author John Dengate, who also participated in *Hands Up*.

On 10 October, *Artists For Life* held an outdoor art exhibition in conjunction with the Ku-Ring-Gai National Park Annual Wildflowers Exhibition. ABC News presenter Richard Morecroft publicly gave his and print and invited all present to participate in a large fabric *Hands Up* public event and take the provided literature on endangered species.

Over the eight years *Artists For Life* operated, there were dozens of art exhibitions for endangered species awareness in Sydney, Coffs Harbour, Noosa, and elsewhere in art galleries, theatres, quality hotels, restaurants and other venues.

There were numerous concerts, including environmental musicians such as Ken Davis.

In 1993 the *Artists For Life Gallery* offices and Davson's art studios moved into levels 12 and 13 at 49 York Street, Sydney. This opportunity was provided by long-term sponsor of her ventures and former owner of Primus, Mr Bruce Reid.



A2Z Studio & Assoc  
Time Life Books  
Hilton Hotels  
The Bounty  
ATP Tour

Many successful exhibitions, functions and events were organised from, or held in, these premises. *Artists For Life* also produced one of the earlier cat collars to protect native species.

Most of the early Sponsors and Donors to *Artists For Life* were Davson's existing clients, sponsors and friends. The primary funding for *Artists For Life* in its first two years was from Davson's studio - through the sale of her commissioned works of art. Therefore, the majority of her income and resources were channelled to assist endangered species awareness.

Even when financial and other support for *Artists For Life* grew, Davson continued to assist *Artists For Life* financially, from her personal income, as she did later with *48 Hours Toward World Peace*.

**Artists For Life Major Sponsors included:**

- |                             |                         |  |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Davson Art Studios          | Coca-Cola South Pacific | Cathay Pacific Airlines                  |
| Bruce & Joy Reid Foundation | UNISYS Australia        | Ansett Australia Airlines                |
| Continental Airlines        | Cornelius Australia     | World Book Encyclopaedia                 |
| Time Life Books             | Rooty Hill RSL Club     | Professional Public Relations            |
| ANZ Group                   | Microsoft               | Conrad Jupiters                          |
| Thomas Productions          | Woolworths              | Inter.Continental Hotel Sydney           |
| Walsh James Solicitors      | Rabbit Photo            | ACME Photo Video                         |
| Arthur Andersen & Co.       | Shoalhaven Paper Mill   | The Canberra Hyatt                       |
| Hard Rock Café              | AIDC                    | Century Hotel Group Hong Kong and others |

**Gold Members to Artists For Life included:**

- |                    |                               |                                    |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Larry Wynner       | Managing Director             | Acme Presents                      |
| Alex Lewenberg     | Managing Director             | Alex Lewenberg & Associates        |
| Len Bleasell       | Managing Director             | AGL                                |
| Don Mercer         | Chief Executive Officer       | ANZ Banking Group                  |
| Steven Skala       | Partner                       | Arnold Block Leibler               |
| Marcus Blackmore   | Managing Director             | Blackmores                         |
| James Fairfax AO   | Chairman                      | Bridgestar                         |
| Martin Cowley      | Managing Director             | Cathay Pacific Airways             |
| Don Little         | Managing Director             | CDC Constructions                  |
| Charles Tarbey     | Managing Director             | Combined Real Estate               |
| Leon Kempler       | Managing Director             | Cornelius Group                    |
| Graham Cowley      | Partner                       | Cowley Hearne Solicitors           |
| Rick Damelian      | Managing Director             | Rick Damelian Motors               |
| Peter Joseph       | Managing Director             | Dominion Mining                    |
| Rodney Adler       | Chief Executive Officer       | FAI Corporation                    |
| Michael Landy      | Chief Executive Officer       | Forward Mortgages Group            |
| Suzanne Morey      | Manager Corp. Affairs         | HongkongBank Australia             |
| Len Rust           | Vice President South Pacific  | International Data Corporation     |
| Trevor Matthews    | Managing Director             | Legal & General                    |
| Mark Johnson       | Chairman of Corp. Finance     | Macquarie Bank                     |
| Charlie Bell       | Managing Director             | McDonald's Australia               |
| Tony McNamara      | Managing Director             | McNamara Group Constructions       |
| John Barker        | Managing Director             | Marion Merrell Dow Australia       |
| Paul Lyons         | Managing Director             | Michael Page International         |
| David Solomon      | Managing Director             | MP Selection                       |
| David Thompson     | General Manager               | Nestles Confectionery              |
| Murray French      | Managing Director             | Nupaden Australia                  |
| Imelda Roche       | President & Managing Director | Nutri-metics International         |
| Ross Bunyon        | Chief Executive Officer       | Pacific Power                      |
| Bob Mansfield      | Managing Director             | Optus Communications               |
| John Utz           | Chairman                      | Rothmans Holdings                  |
| David Greatorex AO | Chairman                      | State Bank                         |
| John O'Neill       | Managing Director             | State Bank                         |
| Allan Gillespie    | Chief Executive Officer       | Sydney Electricity                 |
| George Bates       | Chief Executive Officer       | State Electricity Com. of Victoria |
| Bruce Reid         | Managing Director             | Bruce & Joy Reid Foundation        |
| Dick Simpson       | Managing Director             | UNISYS Australia                   |
| Paul Simon         | Chairman                      | Woolworths                         |



Davson, Dame Leonie Kramer & Imelda Roche



Davson with Paul Simon

*Artists For Life* provided direct funding for projects such as the **weather station for the Northern Hairy Nose Wombat west of Rockhampton** for on-going research into this highly endangered species.



Funds for projects such as this were raised through hosting quality luncheon events in Sydney's best Hotels with guest speakers including Senator Bronwyn Bishop and Dame Leonie Kramer.

In 1993, Davson instigated a series of silver service Boardroom Lunches for 12 to 14 high profile guests. Guest Speakers included: The Hon. Tim Fischer, Leader of the National Party; the Honourable, Bob Carr, Leader of the NSW State Opposition / Labor Party; Frank Sartor, Lord Mayor of Sydney and Dr John Hewson, Leader of the Opposition.



Dr John Hewson, Leader of the Federal Liberal Party with Managing Directors of leading Australian companies and Davson in 1995 at a Boardroom Luncheon.

These events helped bring issues on the environment, culture and endangered species to greater prominence in the political arena.

Attending these select events were CEO's, Managing Directors of leading Australian corporations, and executive professionals including lawyers and accountants.

Subsequent to these lunches, corporate leaders better understood the need to strengthen the environmental commitment policies of their companies.

Davson certainly had substantial influence in changing environmental attitudes and actions at all levels of the community.

There is so much more to add on the depth and breadth of Davson's activities with *Artists For Life*. She gave generously of herself, her resources and her time. Even when financial and other support for *Artists For Life* grew, Davson continued to assist *Artists For Life* financially, from her personal income, as she did later with *48 Hours Toward World Peace*.

Art exhibitions, concerts and events did much to spread an environmental message at a time when endangered species awareness and environmental concerns were far from mainstream consciousness. Part of her legacy was contributing to what we now realise is a global concern.



**MOVING MESSAGE**  
EFFORTS TO preserve our endangered species are nearly as diverse as the species themselves. Artist Sharon Davson has put the issue on wheels and is taking it to the streets near her home in north-western Sydney.  
What was once a perfectly ordinary hatchback sedan has become an art piece, sporting a beautifully painted northern hairy-nosed wombat, an inquisitive-looking leadbeater possum and other endangered flora and fauna.  
"Something like this car is great because it attracts attention and gets [people] interested," says Davson. "People can see what a lovely animal the leadbeater possum is. They ask questions about it and want to help save it." Davson is still finishing details on the car and will raffle it at Christmas. The car is featured in *Reflections on an Endangered Wilderness*, an art exhibition now showing at Sydney's Taronga zoo. *Charlote Franklin*

GOOD WEEKEND

**1992 - 2008 Art Cars NSW, QLD, VIC & SA**

Driving home the message for endangered species awareness, Davson painted a Ford Festiva in 1992, believing that endangered species awareness could be fostered in the community by utilising a car painted with endangered species flora and fauna.

This mobile visual reminder provoked thought and action for people to assist wildlife through *Artists For Life*, *National Parks & Wildlife Service*, *WWF* and other organisations.

This awareness-raising activity was like a *dripping tap*. It was not quantifiable, but created discussion that led to education. Wherever the car stopped, people regularly asked questions; and the car did a lot of miles! It featured on Channel 9 with *Sydney Extra* and was in a variety of news media from Brisbane to Melbourne.

The vehicle was officially unveiled as the feature “art work” by Alderman Tony Aquilina MP, Member for St Mary’s and Mayor of Penrith in a solo exhibition of Davson’s art in the Sinclair Ford Showroom, Penrith.

Davson’s *art car* was displayed at the Mulgoa Fair. It led the Sinclair Ford cars in the St Mary’s Annual Street Parade and was displayed in St Mary’s Park.

In December 1992, it became the property of the Rooty Hill RSL Club where it was in daily use through events, displays and as a courtesy car.

**In 1993, Davson painted a new Ford Laser.** This car was mostly painted in public at Sydney Rocks events in 1993.

It was in many news media articles, and in daily use into 2007. The car has done many interstate journeys each year to Queensland and Victoria, and has provoked discussions about endangered species with thousands of people. It has been an extraordinary visual, environmental and educational tool.

**1995 to the present**

### **Sukyo Mahikari**

**With a love of God and human kind, Davson is an active member and practitioner of Sukyo Mahikari which teaches “the origin of all religions is one”.** In keeping with the altruistic and multi-faith practices of the organisation, Davson freely gives of her time and makes efforts to assist people who may be experiencing emotional, mental or physical discomfort.

In 1996, at the time of the Grand Autumn Ceremony, the Australia-Oceania Region of Sukyo Mahikari gifted a painting by Davson to Sukyo Mahikari in Japan as an encouragement for international harmony and inspiration.

Davson believes each of us can contribute to world peace through our thoughts, words and deeds. This process may be strengthened when we focus on the common ground in our God-centred practices, rather than the differences, and that practising gratitude promotes peace.



2007 Sukyo Mahikari primary course in Davson’s studio gallery

**1993 - 2006**

### **Helping those with a disability or disadvantage**

**Davson has compassion and concern for the welfare of others.** She is always keen to give support and encouragement and accommodate the special needs of an individual. She has assisted people with varying disabilities to gain life and employment skills, traineeships and employment.

She has assisted people with disabilities to gain training, computers, other equipment including a modified motorcar, house repairs and outfitting.

Davson has voluntarily taught these people how to use computers, develop other skills and enhance their talents. She has organised group and individual computer training, as well as assisting them towards greater independence through advanced education, instigating small business ventures, or gaining traineeships.

**2002 - 2006** As a voluntary supervisor for *Work For The Dole* projects, Davson assisted people to gain employment training skills through *48 Hours Toward World Peace*.

**2001** In conjunction with *CRS Australia* (employment solutions for people with a disability or injury), Davson gave training and lobbied companies to improve their employment opportunities.

**1998** *Life Without Barriers*

Her solo exhibition in the Newcastle City Hall incorporated a black tie dinner in support of *Life Without Barriers*. It raised \$10,000 for this charity which assists people with disabilities in the Newcastle region. She co-organised the event with Richard Hall, a Newcastle University student with cerebral palsy.

**1993 - 1996** Through *Artists For Life* projects and events, Davson assisted many people experiencing varying degrees of trauma or disability to gain life and work skills.

Working in collaboration with *Nadow Training Program Limited* and long-term unemployment programs, she was able to assist participants to acquire valuable experience and skills that culminated in meaningful employment.

**present**

### **Selected Memberships**

**Davson is a member of various organisations, among these are:**

National Art Gallery Society	Canberra	ACT
Newcastle Art Gallery Society	Newcastle	NSW
Lake Macquarie Art Gallery Society	Speers Point	NSW
Hunter Business Women's Network	Newcastle	NSW

**2000 - 2003**

### **Zonta Club of Newcastle City**

**NSW**

**Davson served as a volunteer Director for the Zonta Club of Newcastle City, and was a charter member for this local chapter of this international women's organisation recognised by the United Nations.**

The objective of Zonta International, as a peak women's organisation, is to "advance the status of women." Activities by the Newcastle club assisted women in need both locally and elsewhere including with supplying basic 'Birthing Kits' to Papua New Guinea that save save the lives of mothers and their newly born babies.

**2001**

### **Shortland RSL Club Board and Laughter Club**

**NSW**

**In support of the neighbourhood RSL Club, Davson voluntarily served on the Board of Directors of the Shortland RSL Club.** Davson and her immediate family had a long association with such clubs, as her father had been a *Rat of Tobruk* in World War Two; and for many years she was married to a Royal Australian Air Force officer.



**Davson hosted the Newcastle Laughter Club** in her studio and gallery premises, and other small not-for-profit groups that encourage positive outcomes in local and broader communities



# Davson's other talents

1988 to the present

## Keynote Speaking and Seminars

**Davson has been an invited guest speaker nationally and internationally addressing broad-ranging audiences in many locations on a wide range of topics.**

Audiences have included leading CEO's and Corporate Managing Directors, distinguished environmentalists, political and diplomatic leaders, creative people from the arts and accomplished sportspersons.

At breakfast, lunch and dinner functions, in seminars and community gatherings.

In locations including city halls, resorts, hotels and convention centres, board rooms, art galleries and museums, community halls, indoor and outdoor public venues.

On a range of topics including inspirational and motivational themes, business creativity, endangered species and the environment, art professionalism, human dignity and rights, domestic violence, women's issues, and gratitude as a way of life.

**Through her seminars, Davson has assisted many business owners and artists to creatively increase their professional business expertise, creative spiritual and environmental understanding and investments, (and for artists her specifically design seminars have also resulted in increased sales of their own art).**

Artists and art-based organisations at all levels of professional development and from many geographic locations have gained invaluable knowledge from her seminars.

Individual artists have profited from Davson's shared experiences. Davson has earned a substantial primary income from the sales of her art for the past 30 years, and has employed staff in her studio / gallery and office for most of these years. This helps set this artist's achievements in perspective.

Her tailor-made workshops, seminars and presentations are precisely structured to suit her audience.

Her seminar topics focus on *Creating Wealth From Art*, including *Successfully Marketing Your Creativity*, *Creating Sell-Out Exhibitions* and many of the business aspects of making a living as a creative person.

Seminars can be of half and full day in duration, extend to in-depth weekend workshops, or be multi-day and full week master-class events.

Being published soon

## *Davson ~ a brush with gratitude*

**This beautiful art book is rich with full-page, full-colour images of Davson's work and its extensive biography gives insights and background to the creation of the art.**

It is to be the first in a series of publications and culminates years of the artist's creativity and desire to promote endangered species awareness.

*Davson ~ a brush with gratitude* features poetry by the North Queensland poet, Celia Berrell, (see [www.science.rhymes.com.au](http://www.science.rhymes.com.au)). Her poetry acquaints us with the exploits of a group of friendly Australian birds and animals.

Among those offering written contributions are Andris Tibec, is PhD, Pat Farmer MP, Leo Sayer, Carl Haas, James Fairfax AO, Dame Leonie Kramer and Ian Kiernan AO.

2004 to the present

## World and Australian Flags

With a desire to foster greater harmony, Davson designed two flags that have been displayed in many forums.



The *World Flag* is an expression of love and unity. Most flags separate us into various exclusive groups. Even the United Nations flag does not include all countries. **Davson** designed this flag for all who inhabit our Earth.

The design is deliberately simple and geometric for easy reproduction under numerous circumstances.

The red vertical represents the spirit, fire and sun. It crosses the blue horizontal of calm, water and moon. The white background represents the clarity and purity of air. Along the bottom is the Earth, illustrated by the 5 spiritual colours for humans as described in ultra-ancient times; blue, yellow, white, red and purple.

The original prototype for this world flag is held in the care of the *Hikaru Memorial Museum* collection in Takayama, Japan. It is accompanied by her painting *With Gratitude Comes Growth* and documentation on her work for peace and environmental initiatives.

Davson has also created a design for consideration as a new Australian flag, which has also been well received within its limited exposure.

# Davson's early adventures & education

1980 - 1983

## Solo Journey Across Australia

QLD, NSW, VIC, SA & NT

Davson's contribution to arts and the broader community continuously evolves. As with many great innovators, the passage to success shines with determination and commitment, and often along 'rocky roads.'

In late 1980, Davson sold her small acreage in South-East Queensland and set out on a journey with her dog, appaloosa horse and motorbike in an old ex-government bus. She travelled south to Sydney and Melbourne, across to Adelaide, up to Darwin, across to Townsville and back down to Sydney, but never in a straight line!



This venture ultimately involved three buses (due to various breakdowns) and numerous shorter trips to Queensland and Victoria. This multi-year odyssey consolidated the jigsaw puzzle imagery in her artistic style as her professional freelance career evolved.

These trips were funded through her own efforts; from savings, sales of art, by selling advertising space on the bus, promoting sponsor products and by writing articles for *Australia's Western Horseman Magazine*. Several hundred media broadcasts and print articles followed her progress and adventures.

Sam, Davson and Abby with 2<sup>nd</sup> bus

Davson and Sam with 1<sup>st</sup> bus





**1983** **Television Documentary**  
**901 To Innamincka SA**

A one-hour television documentary titled, *901 To Innamincka*, was made about Davson, her art and travels in 1983. This was filmed during a return visit to South Australia and Innamincka.

The documentary included footage of Davson creating several hauntingly poignant drawings including her *Self Portrait in South Australia*.

**1976 - 1980 Art and English Teacher QLD**

Davson was a full-time High School teacher. She also taught evening classes in art for Adult Education facilities and art philosophy at the Queensland College of Art.

Davson fulfilled a childhood dream of purchasing a small acreage in the Brisbane Valley. From here, she commuted to teaching institutions, created art works, cared for horses and a variety of other animals, and was active in the local and broader communities assisting with arts-based activities.

She resigned from her teaching appointments in late 1980 and sold her property. She used most of the proceeds to fund her enterprising artistic “*apprenticeship on Australia*” as she began her travels and new life as a freelance artist.

**1975** **Diploma of Teaching QLD**

Davson studied for, and gained, a Diploma of Teaching at the Kelvin Grove College of Advance Education.

**1972 - 1975 Extra-curricular activities encompassed:**

Davson had a love of horses and although she came from a country town, since her father said, “*You can own a horse only when you have the land on which to keep it.*” Davson therefore worked part-time as a waitress to support her education and to save towards purchasing a small acreage property.

Davson was also an active member of the *Royal Historical Society* and other groups.

**1972 - 1974** **Queensland College of Art Brisbane QLD**  
**Student Union Founder / President**

In 1972, Davson gained a 4-year Queensland Department of Education scholarship. She studied Fine Art full-time for three years at the Queensland College of Art, Brisbane, before pursuing a Diploma of Teaching at the Kelvin Grove College of Advanced Education.



*Herbert* silk-screen prints



*Reflections*

Davson Founded and became President of the *College of Art Student Union (CASU)* during her first year at college. She held the position for two years creating representation for the improvement of student conditions.

During her second year at college, she sought appropriate premises and **managed her first art gallery - the TAG Gallery in Toowong, Brisbane.** Through the gallery she encouraged professionalism among other young artists and arranged group student exhibitions.

As a college student, Davson advocated for a variety of causes including the protection of heritage buildings, many of which were being demolished in the early hours of mornings in Brisbane; rainforest protection in the face of wood chip and logging operations in Queensland and Northern New South Wales.

Her advocacy voice has persisted through her art and lifestyle to the present day.

**1968 - 1972**

***Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award***

**QLD**



**HRH the Duke of Edinburgh Prince Philip presented Davson with her Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award in 1972.**

In 1972, the QLD State Branch of the *Duke Of Edinburgh Award Society* gifted a drawing by Davson to HRH Prince Philip. HRH Prince Philip, via a member of his entourage, also purchased a painting by her at an associated art exhibition.

*Duke of Edinburgh Award recipients - Catherine Whitford with Sharon and Christine Davson.*

**1950's to the present**

***Gatton Mercury Theatre & Mercury Children's & Youth Theatre  
Australia Theatre Week & Arts Festival  
Win Davson Art Gallery & Museum***

**QLD**

**Her activities with *Gatton Mercury Theatre & Mercury Children's & Youth Theatre* and *Australia Theatre Week & Arts Festival* laid the foundations for her life of service.**



Davson (in costume) with her sister Christine, and mother Win Davson MBE (art by Win)

Davson was literally born into community service within the arts. Her mother, Win Davson MBE FTCL, founded the *Gatton Mercury Theatre & Mercury Children's & Youth Theatre* (1951) and *Australia Theatre Week & Arts Festival* (1959).

Davson's first stage role was at the age of three. She became an accomplished young actor performing in many theatrical productions, some early television roles and a concert tour of New Zealand at age thirteen.

She has never ceased to be a backstop volunteer for activities in these not-for-profit theatre and arts organisations.

Her expertise included theatre prop creating, set painting, ushering, serving refreshments, selling raffle tickets and fundraising. Then there were dances, carnivals, festivals and art exhibitions! With a natural love of all the arts, she submitted her work to youth art exhibitions and won various awards. Davson also belonged to Church groups, Brownies and the Lockyer District High School Debating Team.



From early adulthood to the present, she has held a variety of Executive Committee positions, starting with *Gatton Mercury Theatre & Mercury Children's & Youth Theatre*, including the *Win Davson Art Gallery & Museum*; and with *Australia Theatre Week & Arts Festival*. Currently, she is the Honorary President of all the above.

Davson has continually assisted in many activities relating to these organisations over the past 40 plus years. Many of these activities are documented in the *Win Davson Art Gallery & Museum* collection, as well as the hundreds of press cuttings, mostly from Gatton, Toowoomba, Ipswich, Brisbane and Bribie Island newspapers.

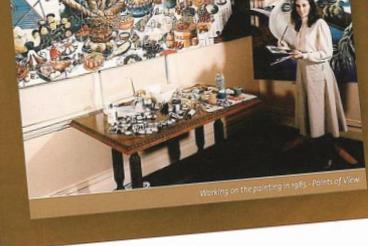
Davson in white costume at age 18



Davson and her painting *Winning Combination*  
which incorporates an original autographed handprint by  
legendary Formula One World Champion Sir Jack Brabham



Pat Farmer World Record Pole to Pole runner and former Federal Parliamentarian and Dawson with Points of View - recently Photos by David Wallace.



Working on the painting in 1985 - Points of View

# DAWSON

DAWSON'S \$5.2M RECORD ART SALE - Story by Celia Berrell

"Points of View" is an iconic Dawson work lavishly themed with her signature jigsaw puzzle pieces, and includes subtle personal motifs woven into the artwork. It is an opportunity investment in this leading female artist's work.

## FEATURE

every country on the planet to assist most conceivable causes.

Her "Artist For Life" initiative through its Blue Mountains Branch and the National Parks & Wildlife Service created the very first education kit in Australian schools for endangered species education. They also gained a State Tourism Award for their festival.

Through her "48 Hours to World Peace" initiatives, she helped establish free New Year's Eve concerts in many local council municipalities in Australia lowering delinquent behaviour, hospitalisations and vandalism. In Newcastle, she and her group of volunteers ran the concert for several years until it became institutionalised by the Newcastle City Council as an annual event under its jurisdiction!

Recently, Dawson was recently a significant

sponsor of an international sporting event with Pat Farmer's run from the North Pole to the South Pole through the Americas. The book, *Pole to Pole Run*, immortalises his venture and acknowledges Dawson.

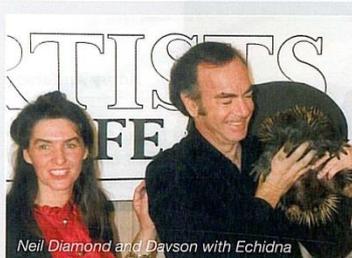
### Q. What do you think of her relative to other artists?

A. Dawson has achieved way above most artists on the local and global arenas, for both the quality of her art and also for her international influence across environmental and charitable initiatives. Her jigsaw puzzle motifs and water patterns have been widely copied, and she has inspired the makings of a new Spiritual movement in art.

Yes, Dawson is an "inspirational" artist who has achieved well outside of what we normally think of for an artist.

She has had major retrospective exhibitions of her

art tour in public regional art galleries, is represented in major galleries in Japan and Australia, and has sold her art in Australia, the USA, New Zealand, Japan, China and Malaysia. She is represented in two Royal Collections and many other public, corporate and investment collections. And, she even has an arts museum named after her!



Neil Diamond and Dawson with Echidna

### Q. Any comment on about those who doubt her value?

A. Everyone is entitled to their opinion. Besides, it is mostly the artists who are at least for some of their art careers 'outside' or 'criticised' by the art establishment that we ultimately read about in the art books. You can start with Rembrandt and just keep going. Add Dawson to the list!

### Q. Any further advice for someone considering investing in art.

A. What you buy is up to your own preferences, and acquiring art by 'safe' artists known through all the 'established' circles is fine.

You could also acquire art with a little more 'edge' by a world leading female artist who has so far created less than 100 paintings in her professional career. This is the work I choose. "Her work is rare and valuable."



Pat Farmer with Dawson & art she is working on re Pole

## Dawson's \$5.2M Record Art Sale

by Celia Berrell

The sale of Dawson's painting *Points of View* has surpassed all previous prices for a painting by a living Australian artist, dramatically surpassing the record set last year by a smaller Dawson artwork.

*Points of View* was created as three continuous canvases by Dawson in 1988. It was originally commissioned by Norman Hemmings for his then Coastal Coast resort for \$12,000. Since that time the painting has changed hands several times.

Boyd Nelson of Whitehead Gupta Lawyers, issued the following statement on behalf of the new owner:

"Macquarie Trustee NZ Ltd is happy to announce the acquisition of the painting 'Points of View'. The 1.37 x 5.5 metre (4.5 by 18 foot) painting was Dawson's second major art commission. We regard it as a significant work in Dawson's career, as well as an important work in the history of Australian art.

"Given the comparatively small out-of-pocket measurable internationally accredited artist, 'Points of View' is an excellent example of Dawson's art sold before being created. It is very rare to have the opportunity to acquire a major early painting by her."

themed with her signature jigsaw puzzle pieces, and includes subtle personal motifs woven into the respective canvases. It is an opportunity investment in this leading female artist's work. Macquarie Trustee NZ Ltd is very pleased to have acquired the painting."

This \$5.2 million (US\$85.35m) sale places Dawson by a living female artist for a male domain, holds this record with a sale value of US\$6.3 million for her painting *The Visitor*, a US\$2.9 million work by Yayoi Kusama from Tokyo is second. Cady Noland takes the overall value record for art by a living female artist for a US\$6.6 million sculpture.

Achieving the highest sales price for a living artist within a country is predominantly a male domain. Dawson is currently the only female holding this title. It is quite telling that she, and Australia, achieved this record twice in a row: the first painting 1.22m by 1.52 m (4ft by 5ft) *On The Art of Salvation* which sold for \$1.3 million.

Dawson said, "I am delighted about the sale of *Points of View*. It's testimony to all those who have believed in my work over the past decades. I trust it will also be of encouragement to women artists everywhere that in this 21st Century the 'glass ceiling' in the arts is finally being shattered. I am also elated that the sales value reflects that art doesn't need to be confronting or shocking to be considered of high worth. It is time for works that inspire and uplift to have their 'turn in the sun'. All the best. Thank you."

Dawson's art is represented in public collections including in the Hibiya Memorial Museum in Tokyo, Japan, the Museum & Art Gallery of the Northern Territory in Darwin and 40 public art galleries, city or university collections. Her art is also represented in 2 Royal Collections and over 60 corporate collections in Australia, the USA, Japan and New Zealand.

From 1999 to 2002, Dawson's major retrospective exhibition *Ways Gratitude For The Light* toured 14 public regional art galleries throughout Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia. It showcased 63 artworks dating from 1972 to 1999. *Points of View* featured in this inspirational touring exhibition.

The majority of these exhibition pieces were borrowed from public, corporate and private collections, including the Museum & Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Coro Corp.

Contact Dawson Art Museum  
Dawson's art has experienced more than two decades



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