

Masterpieces of the surf



ART OF SURFING: Tully St John of Sunrise Beach is a master board spray artist.

PHOTO: CHE CHAPMAN/N19016B

Check the garage or board racks for original surfboard art for exhibition

By **PETER GARDINER**
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CLASSIC surfboard art is like the album cover of Sgt Peppers' Lonely Hearts Club Band – the quality of performance is all inside but as an owner you just can't take your eyes off the outer images.

Whether it is mesmerising psychedelic, tribal totems, morning of the Earth serene or just in your face flesh, boards just keep making a statement about surfing culture.

And the Sunshine Coast's search is on to uncover and display the rarely heralded Rembrandts, or even Reg Mombassas, of foam, fibreglass and resin at the Noosa Regional Gallery.

The "Art of Surfing" exhibition is going to see a gallery hung with surfboards with stunning visual effects including the creations of Noosa Surf Works.

Among the masterpieces produced by father and son

board makers Mick and Tully St John is their classic "Spirit of Noosa" longboard depicting Noosa in pictures.

Noosa's classic point breaks are captured in a photo-art collage reproduced with a studio quality that are available only in a limited edition.

Tully, 33, who grew up around blank "canvasses" that his Dad would shape, said their board art is collaboration between Cooloom graphic artist Fraser Wilson of H2Ink, their printer and airbrush artist Christian Chapman.

Distinctive board art in their range includes images of rock legends Jimi Hendrix, Bob Marley and John Lennon.

"Shaping is the number one thing for the making of a good board," Tully said, "but the art work is what often seals the deal."

"We came up with the way to get photo quality reproduction on our boards ... now everyone has followed our lead because we

didn't patent it, but that's a pretty good thing I reckon."

Deb Perry of the Noosa Regional Gallery said the amount of surf artistry lying about in local garages on board racks or private collections was quite a revelation.

"The Spirit of Noosa is quite fabulous," she said.

Art of Surfing will open on Friday, February 8 until Sunday, March 9, 2008 in Gallery 3 while the "Surfing in the 60's" exhibition will be held in the main gallery.

Any surfboard manufacturer, surfboard collector or anyone with a surfboard that features a creative original work of art is invited to enter the exhibition and boards can be sold at the exhibition.

Deb needs a description of the surfboard – dimensions and a photograph of the artwork, emailed or posted to the gallery with a name and address.

Contact details are 5449 5340 or log onto www.noosa-regionalgallery.com.

CHARITY AUCTION

Surf Gear & Sports Memorabilia

all proceeds to local disabled kids

Nov. 10th
6.00pm
@kawana
hotel



SURF GEAR

- Wetsuits, clothing, fins, leg ropes, sunnies, shoes & DVD's from Billabong, Quiksilver and Rip Curl. Surf coaching from SC Surf Schools.

SURF MEMORABILIA

- Signed photos, books and gear from Nat Young, Bob McTavish, Mark Warren, Hayden Kenny, Kelly Slater, Joel Parkinson, Mick Fanning, Mark Visser, Julian Wilson, Layne Beachley.
- 'Surfing the 60's' book by Stuart Scott, personally signed by surf pioneers Bob Cooper, Hayden Kenny and Kevin Platt
- Original photos and prints by Dick Hoole of Michael Peterson. Personally autographed by MP himself.

SPORTS MEMORABILIA

- Signed footballs and gear by Broncos and Former Origin Greats
- Moto GP racer Chris Vermeulen signed LeMans pictorial and plaque
- Matt Hayden signed gloves, shoes and shirt
- Matt Hayden's Australian cricket shirt signed by the whole team
- Signed gear from Glen McGrath and Andrew Symonds
- Beijing Olympics trials shirt personally signed by kayak champion Clint Robinson

SURFBOARDS

- 9 brand new boards from Christo, Cooper and NaPapa
- Classic 60's copy longboard by Chris Heavener
- Signed boards from champions Julian Wilson, Layne Beachley & Mark Visser

GENERAL ITEMS

- Advertising vouchers from Sunshine Coast Daily and HotFM
- Landscaping design package
- Australia Zoo and White Water World Family Passes
- Miessence skin, hair and beauty products
- Annette Syms cook books
- Specially labelled event wines
- Autobiography on the Inside story of Holden's all new VE Commodore by Peter Robinson
- Fitness training package from Sean Redman Fitness.
- A Voucher for 10 to the Mapleton Observatory
- First Aid kits from Australian Surf Lifeguard Academy

All items can be viewed at www.theboardmeeting.org



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Govt won't take legal action

A COALITION government would take legal action against Japanese whaling if it thought it would be successful, environment minister Malcolm Turnbull says.

But he told the National Press Club yesterday that failure would only

provide further ammunition to the Japanese whalers to continue their so-called scientific whaling.

His remark followed an accusation by Labor's environment spokesman Peter Garrett that the government had been sitting on its hands over the issue. —AAP