



Issue 1

Welcome to the first issue of *Lost and Found* Volume 3, an email magazine with an inside view of Melbourne's creative people and places, and the first word on events buzzing in the city from June to September.

The five bumper issues of Volume 3 will arrive with a 'ping' in your inbox at convenient three week intervals, bringing with them niche knowledge, interesting giveaways and underbelly happenings, found and penned by the creative people who know best.

Current and new subscribers to *Lost and Found* have the chance to win a Melbourne escape for two worth \$2,749... Sound good? Then go to visitvicotria.com/lostandfound.



Guest Editor

This issue's guest editor is Jeff Khan – curator, writer and Artistic Director of the 2008 Next Wave Festival. As you're reading this, the festival is almost over, but the city's winter arts schedule is just heating up. And JK is the perfect tour guide. Originally from Perth, he found the seemingly 'inaccessible treasures' of Melbourne to be elusive at first. After a while, he says, the city opened up. 'I still consult the BOM every day, though. You can go out in boiling conditions, then freeze in arctic winds.' Apart from hunting down art and accurate forecasts, Jeff likes yum cha, cinematic fashion and living out his *Fame!* fantasies in Collingwood.



Arts

Jeff Khan: Melbourne has an incredible network of artist-run spaces – West Space, Blindside, TCB art inc., Platform, Kings ARI, Bus. Further out there's Conical, Seventh, Utopian Slumps, Joint Hassles, Ocular Lab and more. Every day's an exhibition opening. They're an institution here, where artists and industry types brush shoulders with hipsters and wannabes, and drink stuff. (Remember to look at the art too: that's why you're there.)

Via-N

So your painfully nonchalant Melbourne buddy says, 'I'll meet you in that gallery in the alley – you know the one.' Who's gonna admit they don't? Finding Melbourne's amazing, hidden-away artist-run spaces can be tricky, but the effort pays off. Via-N should be your secret weapon next time that so-called friend says, 'Meet you at the Bus opening.' This Victorian Initiatives of Artists Network site has the skinny on everything going down in Melbourne's underground art scene. Catch up with your 'pal' for a cheap beer – then totally brush them off: 'I'm going to that gallery in a letterbox now – um, you know the one.'



Events

Jeff Khan: When I arrived in Melbourne I thought, WOW, you'll never get bored of this choice; there are so many niches and sub-niches. In a way, the vastness can make you more picky. My favourite events are gigs. I love the Northcote Social Club – it's intimate, friendly and low-key. Whereas the Forum is gorgeous, spectacular and awe-inspiring. (I recently saw Sufjan Stevens and Arcade Fire there.)

Game On

Gaming parlour owners all over Melbourne have no doubt been cursing this exhibition since day one. Gamers, on the other hand, have been rejoicing because, since Game On launched, every day has been unlimited play day down at the Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI). It's a completely playable history of the video game – from Pong on a giant screen through to those early '90s household names, Alex Kidd, Sonic the Hedgehog and the little plumber who outlasted them all. Throw in another 125 arcade games and consoles, and you have possibly the greatest \$15 arcade lock-in of all time.

Until 13 July, ACMI, Federation Square, Flinders Street, tel: 03 8663 2200



Retail

Jeff Khan: Shopping: bring it on! I go to Order & Progress because it stocks stuff you can't get anywhere else from exotic countries like Brazil, and has one of the friendliest proprietors you will ever meet in the form of Cath Martin (a.k.a. Martini). I also love Alphaville for their cinematic take on high and low fashion.

Thread Den

If you wisecracked your way through home economics, it's likely you can't sew buttons on to save your dishevelled wardrobe. Do you weep over vintage dresses that are perfect but for a too-long hem or outré collar? Then Thread Den is your haberdashery haven. This cosy studio offers single-lesson classes for all levels of expertise, sells a kaleidoscopic array of vintage fabrics and buttons, and rents sewing machines by the hour. Free assistance is available, should your zigzag stitch go the way of the US all-ordinaries. But if hand-made sartorial splendour still eludes you, feel free to fake it by browsing the locally designed pieces for sale downstairs.

16 Errol Street, North Melbourne, tel: 03 9329 5303



Nightlife

Jeff Khan: Ah, my fragmented nightlife. I often go to the Gay Gay Straight weekly party next to St Jeromes. It's under and overground dance and indie music that invokes a baffling nostalgia for the 1990s, however disturbing that might be. I also attend the Bodyelectric Dance Studios (formerly known as Dance Explosion!) in Collingwood. A weekly dance class where enthusiastic amateurs can live out their Fame! fantasies...

Anna's Go-Go Academy

With new classes just added, Anna is well on her way to founding the Go-Go army she dreams of. Imagine: swarms of kids hopped up on The Pony and The Ski descending on dance floors around the country to convert the heathens. You, too, can be a part of the revolution for the measly price of \$12 a class. Or, if you need a second, third and sixth hit, try the six-class pass (\$60, or \$50 if you introduce a friend to Go-Go). Everyone's welcome two evenings a week; bookings recommended for those who do not wish to be hanging on like a yo-yo.



Visual Diary



Eating out (apart from drinking out) is a big thing for me, bachelor lifestyle and all. For a glamorous treat of a meal, St. Jude's Cellars has just opened on Brunswick Street. It's a cavernous loft of a place, but warm too. For great pub fare, my current favourite is the Gem in Collingwood (one of the few, remaining inner-city suburbs that still feels like a neighbourhood).



Win

Making Space was a one-off festival in 2007, sponsored by Via-N, that celebrated Melbourne's Artist Run Initiatives (ARIs). But it is also a hot hardcover book edited by Din 'The Art Pimp' Heagney and designed by Brad Haylock. This exploration of Australia's ARI history and networks will outlast the festival by a long shot. Unfortunately, it's totally sold out. Luckily, however, we have one to give away. (We met Din down an alleyway and paid for it using the cash form of a valuable foreign currency.)

For the chance to win, send an email to lostandfoundinmelb@gmail.com with the subject line 'Making Space on my bookshelf'.