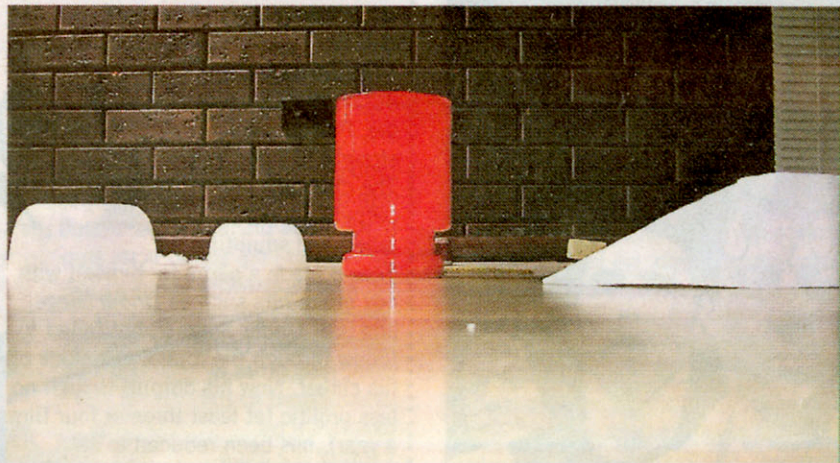


Sunday Age February 18, 2007

ARTS

Visual Arts Penny Webb



CARPETWEED, Rozalind Drummond and Stuart Bailey, Victoria Park Gallery, 250 Johnston Street, Abbotsford, until February 24.

An exchange is established between these two bodies of work — six photographs pinned around the space; six constructions on the floor: a meeting of minds, you might say.

Rozalind Drummond has cast a dispassionate eye on piles of materials and objects, discarded or yet to be claimed, in the process of some sort of office move or domestic upheaval (*Tangerine*, detail, pictured).

Photographed with the camera at floor level, the uncertain scale of the forms and rich chemical colours posit a point of view and a perceptual

experience — but whose? Stuart Bailey provides an answer of a sort with small works positioned in a spiral in the centre of the gallery. They are delightful when not disturbing; light-hearted when not laboured; and definitely on the look-out. Combining things to hand (polystyrene, plaster, paint, wooden skewers, plastic straws, lentils, sesame seeds, elastic bands), Bailey's "arts and crafts" activity is the 3D equivalent of tuneless whistling, his objects an aid to concentration, focal points in an otherwise amorphous world, an accretion of tiny incidents.

In a world that's moving too fast, Drummond and Bailey attempt to slow the pace. Instead of scanning, stand and stare. You'll love it.