



Body Rub: Images from Julie Rrap on body and naked figure themes.

Pushing paper boundaries

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Whether you fold it, scrunch it, tear it, glue it or simply draw on it, paper has long suffered in the pursuit of art and Paperartzi 09 is pushing its capacities even further.

First held in 2007, Paperartzi is back this year as part of the Perth International Arts Festival's Great Southern program. The event will showcase 24 WA visual artists and writers across a two-week program, along with special guest artists Julie Rrap and Dadang Christanto.

The festival aims to push the boundaries of paper to create artworks which inspire and intrigue, as well as strengthening the link between art and the timber industry in the region.

The festival marks the first time in Sydney-based Rrap's 30-year career that she will visit the Great Southern and she is looking forward to bringing her work *Body Rub* to regional WA.

"They are photographs which I draw on, it's a long drawn-out process," Rrap says.

"They are like performance works — there's the photos, there's a rubber head

I made of myself and there's a video."

Rrap says *Body Rub* is a continuation of her work which considers themes linked to the body and the naked figure. "Basically I just see art as a speculative thing and I guess everyone's got their own subject matter, and mine is quite figurative and to do with representations of the body and all the ways they change during time," she says.

Paperartzi opens on Saturday at the Albany Town Hall, the Albany Public Library and the Vancouver Arts Centre.

The event will be launched with a free community party. The launch includes the Great Tag event, when more than 1000 school students, as well as members of the local community, will create an artwork on a paper baggage tag. The tags will then be strung on lines in the festival marquee.

Rrap will give a talk on Sunday at the Vancouver Arts Centre.

Paperartzi runs from Saturday to March 15. Details:
www.paperartzi.org.au