

# MISSION MONGREL EXHIBITION



**YOU ARE INVITED TO THE MISSION MONGREL  
LAUNCH**

**10:30am Tues  
29 Sept 2009**

Exhibition Dates: Tues 29 Sept – Sun 4 Oct  
Viewing Times: Tues-Sat 10-3:30pm Sun 11-3:30pm  
Where: ArtPlay, Birrarung Marr, Melbourne , Melway reference 1B R12  
Phone: 03 9664 7900 or visit [www.artplay.com.au](http://www.artplay.com.au)

The Mission Mongrel Exhibition was created during a Mission Mongrel Workshop facilitated at ArtPlay by visual artist **Mai Long**. The exhibition showcases 115 (+ more!) mongrel personalities, each crafted by young artists from 5 different disadvantaged primary schools. The result is extremely vibrant, humorous, individual and celebratory.

These mongrels were ritually produced in a timed environment using a set variety of materials, including chopsticks, recycled plastic bottles, and newspaper. In Session 1 a mass-produced calico bear was beheaded, followed by 3D reconstruction and modeling (2.5 hours from June 16-18). In Session 2 the mongrels were painted and decorated using mixed media (2 hours from September 16-17).

The workshop is inspired by folk art, and ideas of rebirth, multiple identities, and transformation. The mongrel workshop idea originally came from an exhibition about the traditional Vietnamese noodle soup "Pho". Pho Dog was a cheeky take on the idea of culture as it adapts and changes across geographic boundaries amidst challenges to varying perceptions of integrity. Mission Mongrel explores ideas of assimilation and allows children to express their individuality - each of these dogs is a reflection of their own identity. The fast pace of the workshop encourages spontaneous expression.

This project has been made possible through the generous support of the City of Melbourne, ArtPlay and Multicultural Arts Victoria.

The Mission Mongrel Exhibition is a free event. Everybody is welcome.

Contact: 0429 774 658.

Images:

Detail, Mission Mongrel installation (image 1) – also image on this page

Detail, Mongrels Drying (image 4) – attachment only

Mongrel by Eldrain Naidoo of Footscray City Primary School (image 3) – attachment only

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