

30 January 2006

MEDIA RELEASE

A Commonwealth of images to go on show at Immigration Museum

In celebration of the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games, the Immigration Museum is hosting a new exhibition of prize-winning photographs from across the 54 nations of the Commonwealth.

Commonwealth Photographic Awards – Best of the best will celebrate the many faces of the Commonwealth, through a collection of 36 diverse images with accompanying stories from some of its best photographers. This exhibition is being presented by Museum Victoria as part of Festival Melbourne 2006, and the 2006 Commonwealth Games.

Some of the images and stories on show for the first time in *Commonwealth Photographic Awards – Best of the best* include:

- a temporary school at a displacement camp in Eritrea
- Perth Glory captain Bobby Despotovski celebrating the team's win in the 2003 Australian Soccer League Grand Final
- revellers at England's world-famous Glastonbury Festival
- children in poverty-stricken rural South Africa playing soccer barefoot with a loaned ball
- a young Malay kick-boxer smashing a watermelon in an awe-inspiring display
- the Kenyan long distance running team
- young and old joining to commemorate ANZAC Day in Australia

The exhibition presents a selection of winners from the Commonwealth Photographic Awards, from the years 2000 to 2004, and is the first-ever collective showing of these images.

Established in 1999 by the Commonwealth Broadcasting Association in partnership with the Commonwealth Press Union, the Awards are an open competition for all Commonwealth residents.

The aims of the Awards are to improve communication and promote photography as an important form of media. Entries are judged on the basis of composition and the photographer's interpretation of the annual theme.

The Commonwealth comprises 54 countries, and 1.8 billion people worldwide.

Commonwealth Photographic Awards – Best of the best
Immigration Museum, 400 Flinders St, Melbourne
17 February to 30 July 2006

Admission to this exhibition is FREE.



Festival Melbourne 2006 celebrates the breadth of culture and art from across the nations of the Commonwealth. The Festival is an integral part of the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games, and it is proudly funded and supported by the Victorian and Australian Governments.

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For further media information, images and interviews, contact:

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Immigration Museum, 400 Flinders Street, Melbourne. Open Daily, 10am-5pm

General enquiries: (03) 9927 2700 or <http://immigration.museum.vic.gov.au>

The Immigration Museum is winner of the 2005 Australian Tourism Award for Best Heritage and Cultural Tourism Attraction nationwide.

The Immigration Museum is a Museum Victoria experience