



Merrick Fry
Shopping Mall
1992
acrylic on plywood
66 x 122 cm

Merrick Fry
Backyard
1989 - 90
compressed charcoal on paper
50 x 71 cm



IMAGE FRONT
Merrick Fry
Boing Boing 1997
found objects
27.5 x 33 x 36.5 cm



Merrick Fry:

A Newcastle Survey

A survey exhibition of works
produced in Newcastle 1987 - 1993



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA



Merrick Fry
Home Is Where the Fire Is
1988
acrylic, enamel and charcoal on
cotton duck primed with gesso
169 x 542 cm

Donated to the Faculty of Medicine by Dr Sally Redman, as an acknowledgement of the life and work of Professor Jill Cockburn, this work is installed in the David Maddison Building.

“... I understand the arguments for art for arts sake but I really believe that the best art for me has this actual tension between the making and being about an idea...”

(Interview with Harvey Shields - www.merrickfry.com)

Merrick Fry

A Newcastle Survey

The work of Merrick Fry explores both dimension and medium and many of his works incorporate the assemblage of found and discarded materials. His use of recycled objects or layered paint and paper cut outs, illustrate a process of altering objects in order that they describe landscape. The works from his time in Newcastle present a comforting, yet somehow unnerving magnetism - his figures in this landscape are luminous and energetic and imbue these industrial settings with all the familiarity of home.

Fry's method of working is dynamic and immediate and the works appear to be potentially kinetic as in the sculptural assemblage, 'Boing, Boing'. His choice of materials and style alludes, through his adaptive use of found objects, to the real nature of the industry or home life they present.

The works exhibited here are all specific to Newcastle and discuss its industrial history and the declining position of industry in the region during the period of Fry's residence from 1987 to 1993. While both the subject matter and materials may reflect the ordinary, the everyday or the unobserved, Fry represents these captured scenes and moments with warmth and lyricism.

Merrick Fry has exhibited prolifically in Australia since the late 1970's and his work is held in numerous collections both in Australia and abroad. This exhibition also underscores an important donation by Dr Sally Redman of a large painting by Merrick Fry to the University Art Collection in acknowledgement of the life and work of Professor Jill Cockburn.

Merrick Fry is represented by
Stella Downer Fine Art, Sydney.
www.stelladownerfineart.com.au