



MEDIA RELEASE

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Jewellery making techniques on show this weekend

Local jeweller Cassandra O'Loughlin will give a free hands-on jewellery making demonstration as part of the 'Refined: Contemporary designed and hand-made jewellery' exhibition currently in the Living Arts Space this Sunday 16 January at 1pm. Locals and visitors are welcome to attend.

She will demonstrate cuttle-fish casting, a unique technique that reflects her interest in the coastal environment where she spent her childhood.

"I always believed in a philosophy adopted by William Shakespeare in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* whereby the 'object of art is to give life a shape'," Ms O'Loughlin says. "I believe this can be achieved by expression through metal. Metal is an interesting and semi-predictable medium. You can really encompass a thought or emotion in both the making and choosing of a piece that can reflect a moment in time. It can make the pieces hard to part with."

Cassandra O'Loughlin trained in Jewellery Manufacture and Design at NMIT in Melbourne in addition to a four year apprenticeship. She is currently employed as a repair and engraving specialist at Tony Kean Jewellery in Bendigo.

This artist talk will be the last in the series that accompanied the 'Refined: Contemporary designed and hand-made jewellery' exhibition currently in the new Living Arts Space at the Bendigo Visitor Centre.

While attending the demonstration people can also view the exhibition with works by other local jewellers including Kate Blackwood, Frances Harkin and Milton Long.

The exhibition is open daily from 9am – 5pm, and is on until Sunday 30 January 2011. The Bendigo Visitor Centre is located in the Historic Post Office in Pall Mall and is open 9am to 5pm every day of the year, except Christmas Day.

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For media enquiries please contact Aileen Walsh on 0407 706769.