

CONFRONTATIONAL IMAGES TO OPEN EYES TO HARSH REALITY

Brisbane Powerhouse presents

Jodi Bieber 'Las Canas'

Eight-time World Press Award winning photojournalist, **Jodi Bieber**, will change the way we look at the world forever when she brings **Las Canas** to Brisbane Powerhouse from **28 October – 20 November 2008**.

This confronting and unflinching photographic exhibition pulls back the curtains on the human tragedy that is **Las Canas** – an area outside Valencia in Spain where drugs are available 24 hours a day, anything is for sale, including the addicts themselves, and HIV/AIDS is rife.

South-African born Bieber, who is also known for her work on special projects with Amnesty International and MSF, created this collection of images as social commentary after being personally shocked by the conditions in **Las Canas**.

More than 100 people actually live in **Las Canas**, a fly-infested municipal dump, in abandoned cars, makeshift shacks, in tents or under the stars. At least 1000 people pass through daily to buy and consume drugs, with overdoses commonplace – sometimes as many as 20 a day.

Jodi explains that, although the exhibition is related to HIV/AIDS, the project is about people – the people you might see every day parking your car or sleeping in the streets – people that might also be addicted to drugs.

“They all have a story to tell which is often one of sadness and loss,” she says. “They come from different parts of the world, different backgrounds economically, culturally and intellectually but they all have one thing in common – drugs – they could be your sister or brother or son.”

Bieber became a photographer after completing three short photographic courses at The Market Theatre Photography Workshop in Johannesburg and being selected to participate in a photographic training program at the Star Newspaper in 1993.

With many of her personal projects also focussing on the country of her birth, Bieber continued to work at The Star leading up to and during South Africa's first democratic elections. Soon after she was chosen to participate in the World Press Masterclass in Holland and began working on assignments for publications such as NY Times Magazine, Geo and Stern Magazine.

Jodi Bieber's Las Canas will be on display at Brisbane Powerhouse from **Tuesday 28 October to Thursday 20 November 2008**.

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Date	Tues 28 Oct – Thurs 20 Nov 2008
Time	9am – 5.30pm
Venue	Turbine Hall & VISY Foyer
Tickets	FREE
Bookings	07 3358 8600 or brisbanepowerhouse.org

**For further information, images and interview opportunities please contact
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