

## 2008 Basil Sellers Art Prize

### Ivan Durrant

Ivan Durrant is well-known for his confronting happenings, sculptures, films and social realist paintings of the 1970s and 1980s. In his most recent series, *Boundary rider*, Durrant celebrates the colours of a football match in a semi-abstract style. The works grew from his passionate response to the spectacle of a major football match.

Ivan Durrant was born in Melbourne in 1947 and currently lives in Benalla, central Victoria. His first exhibition was held at Tolarno Galleries in St Kilda in 1970, where he continued to exhibit throughout the 1970s. More recent solo exhibitions include *Boundary rider*, Ballarat Fine Art Gallery, Victoria (2008), and Benalla Art Gallery, Victoria (2007); the major survey *Paddock to plate: Ivan Durrant 1968–2004*, Monash Gallery of Art, Melbourne, and tour (2004); and *Racing paintings*, the Australian Racing Museum, Melbourne (2004). Durrant's art has featured in numerous group exhibitions, including *How now cow*, Ballarat Fine Art Gallery (2007); *Viet Nam voices*, Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre, Sydney, and tour (2001–03); and *Horses for courses*, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Victoria (1999). Durrant has initiated a number of performance events relating to animal rights, including the well-known *Slaughtered cow happening* in the forecourt of the National Gallery of Victoria in 1975.

- Durrant, Ivan, *The great shed show 1988–1998*, Ballarat Fine Art Gallery, Vic., 1998.
- Phipps, Jennifer, 'Recent artists' film in Australia', *Flash Art*, no. 101, 1981.
- ——— *Paddock to plate: Ivan Durrant 1968–2004*, Monash Gallery of Art, Wheelers Hill, Vic., 2004.
- Thomas, Daniel, 'Ivan Durrant', in Laura Murray Cree & Nevill Drury (eds), *Australian painting now*, Craftsman House, Sydney, 2000.
- ——— 'Fleshly moralities: Ivan Durrant in Melbourne', *Art Monthly Australia*, August 2004.