

ArtCars

Bankstown City Plaza
Saturday 28th October

This bold community arts project was the dream child of initiators Chris Hudson (former CCD Officer at Bankstown Council) and Peter Politis (former Multicultural Arts Worker at BYDS). Their vision for Bankstown's first ever public exhibition of airbrush cars won support and funding from both Arts NSW and Bankstown City Council. 'Art Cars 2006' was go!

I took over organising the project in July. This meant I had to become custom car and 'pimp my ride' savvy overnight! I soon realised that we had some of the nations most respected 'street machine' industry people right here in our own 'hood. 'Art Cars' quickly took shape. We would focus on showcasing beautifully airbrushed and custom cars in Bankstown Plaza as well as inviting the public to come learn something of the art of airbrush itself.

Much to our delight, word about the event soon spread. We received calls from independent car owners and airbrush artists as far as Gosford and Narellan who were keen to be part of the day. We also received tremendous participation and support from businesses such as Custom Bodyworks (local legends!) and House of Kolor, who not only brought amazing cars to show, but gave us excellent praise, feedback and hearty urging to continue the 'Art Cars' exhibits in the future.

One of the crowd pleasing hits of the day was the tent we set up for the gifted teachers and students of Airbrush Venturi School. They created airbrush artwork before our very eyes as well as providing free temporary tattoos to over a hundred happy campers. Tim Carroll even walked away with some free body-art – an awesome demon busting out of his torso courtesy of the spookily talented Ryan and the guys at Twisted Arts.

Our own Lord Mayor, Tanya Mihailuk graciously donated her plain silver car which was transformed into a 'fully-sik' B-town-mobile, complete with pink leopard skin interior, mirror balls, nodding dogs etc and head-turning 'true flames' kindly donated by the fabulous John at Art & Soul. Muchos gracias to our 'fully sik' car makeover gals, Hala and Zayaan.

To entertain the constant and excellent crowd, our own Brotha Black flew up from Melbourne to perform some tracks off his new CD (hectic!!). Our favourite BBoyz, Hybrid Forms, rolled out the lino and made all the unfit & unfunky peeps very jealous, whilst DJ the Blak President, Leo Tanoi kept the vibes constant and pumping.

'Art Cars 2006' was a success. We had perfect weather, a great crowd who drooled in awe as they moved around the 18 beautiful street machines owned and kindly brought in by the loveliest people. We feel like we have made so many new friends in the custom car and airbrush subculture and that if 'Art Cars' continues as an annual event, we have the talented contacts and goodwill to ensure that it can only get bigger and better.

