

People's Choice award too.

Visitors to the Melbourne leg of the exhibition's tour will also have the chance to vote for their favourite.

Ruddy, a long-time fan of Gulpilil, made no small effort to track his elusive hero, who aptly came to fame in the 1971 film *Walkabout*. When Gulpilil surfaced in Adelaide, Ruddy took himself there from Sydney.

"I was a little persistent at the end, two weeks before the deadline, and finally they said 'OK, get in and out quickly,'" he recalls.

**Popular choice:** Craig Ruddy and his winning portrait of David Gulpilil. Picture: MANUELA CIFRA

"They told me I could have an hour with him. But once I arrived, we clicked very quickly and I ended up staying all afternoon and evening and spending a lot of time with him.

"I have just admired him all my life. He has the most amazing, beautiful face and he is very enigmatic."

Having sat for his "raw and arresting and a little bit graffiti-like" portrait, Gulpilil returned to his home in Ramangining and, as far as Ruddy knows, is not aware of the dispute.

Ruddy says Johanson's challenge has made it tough for him to settle down to work again. "I had a lot on my mind and instead of being able to

appreciate the beauty in front of me, I got caught up in fear of the criticism and judgement," he says.

### 2004 ARCHIBALD PRIZE

**WHERE:** George Adams Gallery, Arts Centre until January 9. Free entry

## Victoria's prize rejects putting on a brave face

### ALTERNATIVE ARCHIBALD

#### Alison Barclay

OF THE 732 entries for the 2004 Archibald Prize, 692 were promptly returned, never to be hung on the Art Gallery of NSW's walls.

It took cunning on the part of curator Jacqueline Taylor to winkle them out again. But she has persuaded 21 Victorian entrants to lend her their portraits for the Hidden Faces of the Archibald, now on show at Crown, a 10-minute stroll from the official finalists' show.

"It was a bit of a hunting job, because obviously I didn't know who has put in for the Archibald and I didn't know which ones had come back," Taylor says.

"But I knew they had to be sent



**Irish out of luck:** *Jimeoin Going Down* by Joseph Attard.

back by courier. I liaised with the courier company and asked them to tell the artists, if they were interested, to get in touch with me.

"What is well known about the Archibald is that (most of the finalist entries) are from NSW



**Friendship:** *Crowned Miss Australia* by Rachel Rovay.

artists. And they keep choosing the same people. It is a little bit of a thing for a Victorian artist not to be accepted.

"What we are giving is an opportunity for people to go to both shows and compare."

The Victorians include Joseph Attard's portrait of comedian Jimeoin, James O'Brien's close-up of fashion designer Mariana Hardwick and Benjamin Lai's four-panelled homage to Bud Tingwell.

Rachel Rovay painted Beverley Pinder, a former Miss Australia she befriended in the early '70s when both were recent migrants learning English.

Several works, including Victoria Watts's portrait of tennis champion Paul McNamee, have been bought by their subjects.

### HIDDEN FACES OF THE ARCHIBALD

**Where:** Foyer, Crown Towers, Southbank; open 24 hours until December 19



Great value for money, this double album launch sees Brisbane duo Stringmansassy launch smooth jazz album *Dragonfly* while George's Tyrone Noonan (above) launches self-titled solo debut *Palimpsest*.

**Where** Corner Hotel, 57 Swan St, Richmond

**When** Wed 8pm

**Cost** \$22+bf

**Bookings** 9427 9198

### MINING THE PAST

To get Victorians in the mood for *Eureka 150*, the celebration of the 150th anniversary of Eureka Stockade, Australia Post is hosting an exhibition *Post Office Eureka: Delivering Gold* featuring art, letters, and artefacts from the Victorian Goldfields, including a portrait of Peter Lalor, the figurehead of the Eureka Rebellion.

**Where** Post Master Gallery, 321 Exhibition St, city

**Until** March 6

**When** Mon and Sat-Sun Noon-5pm, Tue-Fri 10am-5pm.

### ENTERTAINMENT

**Editor**> Alison Barclay

**Phone**> 9292 1844 **Fax**> 9292 1177

**E-mail**> entertainment@heraldsun.com.au

**Advertising**>

**gig guide** Ben Wintle **Phone**> 9292 2216

**film** Katie Lynch **Phone**> 9292 2747

**live** Trudi Woodward **Phone**> 9292 1721