

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Artists at Leisure: Albert Tucker Photographs**

**An exhibition showing artists from the Heide circle enjoying days at the beach, meals with friends, and other leisurely activities, captured through the eyes of Albert Tucker (1914–1999), opens at Heide Museum of Modern Art on 12 March 2016.**



Albert Tucker

*Joy Hester, Fitzroy Gardens, Melbourne 1942*

exhibition print from gelatin silver contact photograph

Albert Tucker Photograph Collection, Heide Museum of Modern Art and the State Library of Victoria

Gift of Barbara Tucker, 2008

Aptly described as the ‘accidental historian’ of the Heide circle and other artist communities in the late 1930s to mid-1940s in Melbourne, Tucker’s natural approach using available light lends itself particularly well to capturing unselfconscious moments. Other photographs reveal various leisure pursuits Tucker himself enjoyed, typically of a theatrical nature—wrestling matches, dances, soapbox speeches, and plays. The drama of the wrestling ring, gymnastic exploits and passionate protests are well-served by his keen eye for composition and dramatic use of light and shade.

Tucker’s photographs also reveal, more subtly, that an artist is rarely idle. The product of a restless desire to observe and document his surroundings, they demonstrate a likely detachment from full participation in leisure pursuits.

Several of his later colour photographs taken at the beach at Aspendale, where the Reeds had their holiday house, record scenes that became the subject of later paintings, some of which are also on display in the exhibition.

***Curator Linda Michael is available for interview.***

***High res images are available upon request.***

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**Artists at Leisure: Albert Tucker Photographs**



Albert Tucker  
*Mirka Mora Showing off her Frilly Knickers, Georges Mora, Lucy Beck, Sunday Reed at Aspendale*  
1961  
type C photograph  
41.2 x 32.5 cm  
Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne  
Gift of Barbara Tucker 2001

**EXHIBITION**

**ARTISTS AT LEISURE: ALBERT TUCKER PHOTOGRAPHS**

**Saturday 12 March – Sunday 7 August 2016**

**- END MEDIA RELEASE-**

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Tuesday-Sunday 10am-5pm  
Closed Mondays, except public holidays