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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **FACEWORKS EXHIBITION Brings BEN ECKERSLEY Into Focus**

BRISBANE, QLD, 07 July 2010 – Emerging visual artist Ben Eckersley, sponsored by bluethumb online art gallery, will be exhibiting his portrait exhibition, *faceworks*, at West End's InSpire Gallery Bar in the last week of July 2010. Opening night on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> July will be particularly exciting, with a special live performance by his band, *The Wells*.

Pushing the boundaries of predictability, Eckersley's series of interesting ink on paper portraits explore the face and its physical limitations. The *faceworks* exhibition is a great representation of the talent and original affordable art that can be found in Brisbane. Each work will be available for sale at the gallery via internet portal to bluethumb's site [www.bluethumb.com.au](http://www.bluethumb.com.au).

Eckersley, a 34 year old Brisbane-based artist, musician and graphic designer, shows marvellous skill and promise in the up-and-coming generation of visual artists. Guests and the public will be able to meet Eckersley on opening night, Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> July, browse his works and enjoy a live performance by *The Wells*, a five piece indie rock band of which Eckersley is the lead vocalist.

*The Wells* have enjoyed a recent surge in popularity, due to appearances at the Woodford Folk Festival, Greenfest and Brisbane's Valley Fiesta, as well as playing support act for bands such as *Something for Kate* and *Gaslight Radio*.

The exhibition is being sponsored by bluethumb ([www.bluethumb.com.au](http://www.bluethumb.com.au)), an online art gallery showcasing emerging Australian artists and their original artworks. "bluethumb's innovative online gallery and its ongoing support has allowed me to get my artworks in front of the public and help turn a hobby into a passion and possible future career", says Eckersley. bluethumb, now in its second year of operation, connects emerging artists to

potential buyers in a gallery of limitless wall space, putting quality art within reach of all Australians no matter where they live or what their budget.

InSpire Gallery Bar, an exciting newcomer to the West End hospitality scene, will be hosting the *faceworks* exhibition. InSpire is a fully licensed bar, with that laid-back atmosphere typical of West End. The bar offers gallery space to local artists in addition to its non-stop schedule of musical acts, trivia nights, live performances and poetry.

To view or purchase artworks by Ben Eckersley or other emerging Australian artists, visit [www.bluethumb.com.au](http://www.bluethumb.com.au).

The *faceworks* exhibition will be held at InSpire Gallery Bar, 71 Vulture St, West End, from Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July to Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2010.

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Available: 8 am to 9 pm AEST

Attachments: *faceworks small 02* by Ben Eckersley, ink on paper, 15cm x 10cm

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