

MAX DUPAIN: ON ASSIGNMENT

5 March to 23 May 2010



CAIRNS
REGIONAL
GALLERY

Max Dupain (1911–92) is widely considered to be one of Australia's greatest photographers.

Max Dupain on Assignment spans Dupain's development as a photographer and demonstrates two influential elements in his career – his work with the Australian government and a relationship with a major client. Together the photographs provide a rich visual record documenting post-World War II social change in Australia.

Reflecting the documentary style for which he was famous, Dupain's photographs of Australia after World War II are important records of a changing society. Most of the images in this exhibition were taken by Dupain while on assignment for the Australian Government and were used to promote Australia to domestic and international audiences. Also featured are photographs taken by Dupain over many years for one of his earliest clients, CSR Limited (then known as the Colonial Sugar Refining Company Limited).

Dupain's photographs evoke a strong sense of time and place, from the capital cities and rural scenes he captured in the 1940s and 1950s, to the striking images of architecture and industry he produced in the 1960s and 1970s. This exhibition showcases the diversity and longevity of Dupain's commercial career, tracing his development as a photographer and artist during this time.

The National Archives of Australia and the Noel Butlin Archives Centre at the Australian National University are fortunate to hold in their collections some of the best examples of his commercial work, a selection of which is presented in this exhibition.

The National Archives of Australia and the Noel Butlin Archives Centre are excited to be able to present these images together for the first time in an exhibition dedicated to the commissioned work of Max Dupain.

EXHIBITION LAUNCH

Friday 5 March – 6.30pm

FLOOR TALK

Friday 5 February – 5.30pm

Hear about this famous Australian photographer and his iconic works from a member of the National Archives of Australia.



Max Dupain,
Boys playing cricket at the beach, Melbourne, 1946.
Image courtesy of the National Archives of Australia

A Touring Exhibition from the National Archives of Australia.

GALLERY OPENING HOURS:

10.00am - 5.00pm Monday – Saturday

1.00pm – 5.00pm Sunday and Public Holidays

Gallery admission: Adults \$5.00

Children up to 16 years are free

Cnr Abbott & Shields Sts, Cairns. Tel 4046 4800

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