

*Gaudi and Shakespeare collide, their visions separated by more than a century, and the result is phantasmagoric, electric, a fireworks display of creativity* - Matthew Condon, Q Weekend

the photography art exhibition;  
Barcelona 1996-2010  
5 - 17 march

# Antoni Gaudí

## and Robert Shakespeare collide

69



5 - 17 march 2010, open daily 10-4pm,  
closing night celebrations 17 march, 7pm.

circle gallery, upstairs at 274 montague road, west end, brisbane qld 4101

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# group one

prints 01-19,

490x490mm framed

*metallic prints*

Limited Editions 1/25

price \$400.00 incl



\*19, 2002, Mosaic by R. Shakespeare. Commissioned by Dr. Ian and Dianne Chung.

# group two

prints 20-24,

650mm x 650mm framed

*metallic prints*

Limited Editions 1/20

price \$550.00 incl.



Robert was born in the far North Queensland town of Mareeba in 1966. After working for years as a builder and carpenter with a passion for heritage architecture, he translated his skills to fine art in 1996, taking seven months to complete the intricate "Heaven and Hell". This was followed by his epic "Hesperides" (1999), a year-long odyssey that hinted at Shakespeare's passion for Gaudi. He held his first exhibition in Sydney in 2000. He has also worked as a professional photographer since 2002 and has been published by major international and national newspapers and magazines. In 2007 he travelled to Spain to document Gaudi's work. He was recently appointed official photographer for the three-year restoration of Brisbane's iconic City Hall.



group three  
prints 25-50,  
690 x 585mm framed

*mixed metallic  
and lustre prints*

Limited Editions 1/15

price \$650.00 incl

**ANTONI GAUDI**

"Work by the late Spanish architect Antoni Gaudi is so substantial and complex words would only be wasted describing in detail the legacy that he left behind. A picture says a thousand words. My personal brief as an artist in photographing Gaudi's work was to focus on the infinite overwhelming detail he achieved in every masterpiece he created. To allow the image to speak for itself. To enable the reader to travel into a juxtaposed array of imagery revealing the complexities and incomprehensible genius of the great **Antoni Gaudi.**"

- Robert Shakespeare

**SAGRADA FAMILIA**  
Barcelona 1883-1926 (uncompleted)



**GUELL PARK**  
Barcelona 1900-1914

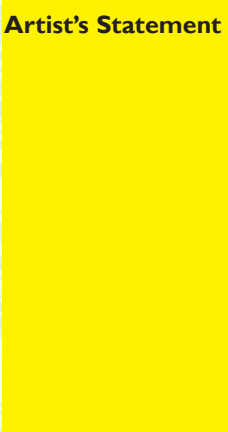
**CASA BATLLO**  
Barcelona 1904-1906



**THE GUELL COLONY CRYPT**  
Santa Coloma de Cervello 1898-1917



**Barcelona 1996-2010 Artist's Statement**



"As a child growing up in the wood and corrugated iron suburbs of a conservative Brisbane, I was fascinated with both art and carpentry. Then at age 21 I wandered into a city bookshop and discovered the life and work of **Antoni Gaudi**. From that moment on my life had changed. I applied Gaudi's abstractions, curves and perfectionism to my joinery. My art and carpentry became indivisible. I applied his intensity to everything I did, from a common floorboard to my glass and wood sculpture **Hesperides**. I married his anarchy and control with my own contemporary vision, and that inspiration manifested itself in the quiet corners of private houses, in furniture, in public photographs, in murals and on canvas.

Two decades after it all began, I made the pilgrimage to Spain to collate and document the master's work. For me, Gaudi is not fixed to any century, to a single time and place. He is across time because his work is an interior journey. It is the physical representation of one man's mind, and it is all our minds. And those minds can be simple or incomprehensible, dark or light, lost or found. I don't think Gaudi needs to be intellectualised. **Gaudi is Gaudi. It is what it is.** His work is that thing we have all attempted to comprehend and, inevitably, fallen short of achieving. It is the mystery of life itself. That to me, is Gaudi."

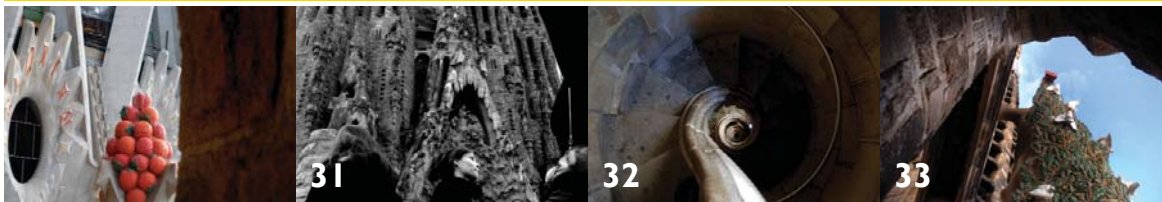
- Robert Shakespeare



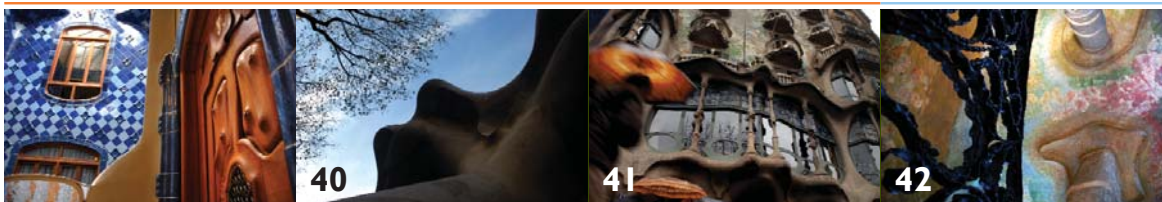
**heaven and hell 1996**

*Silver Ash & Back Bean inlay, Australian Maple, bevelled glass, gold leaf, german velvet. 1150mm x 600mm x 960mm. POA.*

*"the straight line belongs to man, the curve to god", Antoni Gaudi*



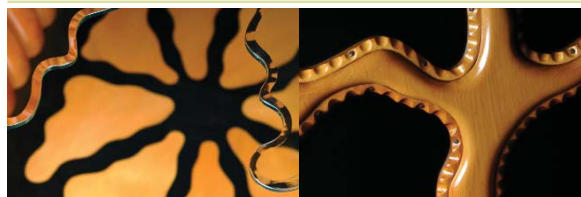
**CASA MILA**  
*Barcelona 1906-1910*



**THE GUELL PAVILIONS**  
*Barcelona 1884-1887*



**ROBERT SHAKESPEARE**  
*Hesperides 2000*



# group four

prints 51-69,

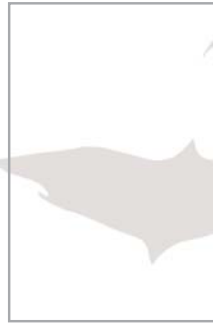
1070 x 800mm framed

mixed metallic  
and lustre prints  
Limited Editions 1/10

price \$950.00 incl

# 1996-2010

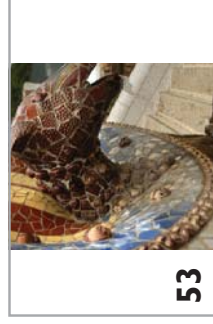
the photography art exhibition, Barcelona 1996-2010



51



52



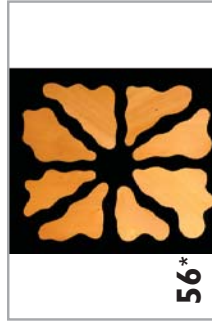
53



54



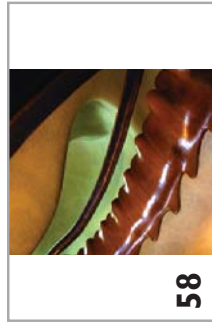
55



56\*



57\*



58



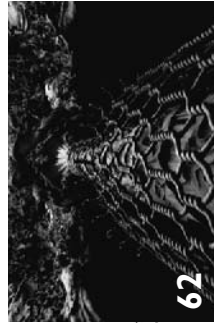
59



60



61



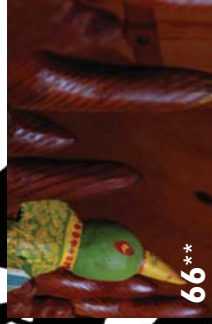
62



64



65



66\*\*



67

\*56 and 57, 2000, Hesperides sculpture, created by R. Shakespeare.

\*\*66, 2002, Bird and cave sculpture by R. Shakespeare. Commissioned by Dr. Ian and Dianne Chung.

# group five

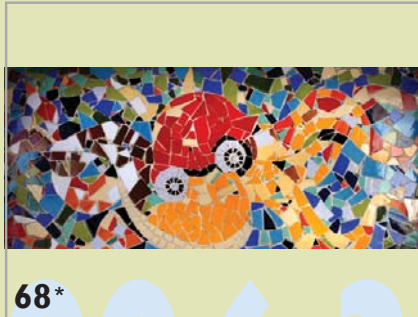
print 68 and (69 Front Cover),

(68) 1300 x 770mm framed, (69) 1060 x 840mm framed

metallic prints

Limited Editions (68)1/5, (69)1/8

price \$1,250.00 incl



\*\*68, 2002, Mosaic by R. Shakespeare.  
Commissioned by Dr. Ian and Dianne Chung.

## the photography art exhibition; Barcelona 1996-2010

### hesperides 2000

Tasmanian Huon pine, Black Ebony, bevelled glass  
1560mm x 1100mm x 550mm. POA.



photography: Nick Cubbin, The Australian 2000

The conceptual thought behind the creation of Hesperides demanded a fusion of organic complexity with absolute control and perfection within its symmetrical form. Hesperides became an infinite body of curves to reveal the fluid metamorphosis of life. It was Shakespeare's intent to get as close as possible to the realms of how Gaudi may have executed such a project and to cross every possible boundary of conventional design. Over a 12 month period, Shakespeare reconciled his desire to work within Gaudi's philosophy and to leave "no stone unturned" in the pursuit of perfection.

end

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**Cornerstone Press**

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### acknowledgments

Robert Shakespeare gratefully acknowledges the financial assistance of: **Major Sponsor, Northbuild Constructions**; Able Framing; Canon Australia; The New Homes Shop; Kim Crawford Wines; and Streets Imaging.

Robert Shakespeare also gratefully acknowledges the following for their support of this exhibition, Barcelona 1996-2010 event: M.C., Mathew Condon; Vanessa Rusch, de\_interaktiv design studio; Prue Leng, media; David Young, Cornerstone Press; Australian artist David Usher, Ceramic pots; Emilie Lemasson, Performance; Matthew Wilkie and Geordie Smith, The Little Larder Cafe, catering; Jennifer Langridge, cake; Afra Mullins, sales; Gary Colquhoun, Barford and Holloway Glass, bevelled glass; The Circle Gallery; Melissa Mammana, flowers; Leigh Buchanan.

Particular thanks to: Matthew Condon, Afra Mullins; Brad Jelfs; Juanita Davis; Dimity Dornan; John Vigliante; Mike Bowers; Julie Sundberg; Peter Kessler; Sharon Grealley; Russell and John Shakespeare; Ian McCorkell; Michael Coghlan; Linc Bass; Ian and Diane Chung; Hayes Gordon; Troy Davies; John and Suzanne Brooks; Handley and Margaret Shakespeare; Xavier Grevet.

Thanks also to all my dear family and friends.

© **Robert Shakespeare photography 2010**,  
the photography art exhibition; Barcelona  
1996-2010; a document of my life's inspirations

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