

# The Wild & Sneaky Art® Festival

WildTomato sneaked up on Nickola Blunt and Craig Wilson to see what this new festival is all about before it gets exposed to the Nelson CBD and wider Nelson Tasman region.

## What exactly is the Wild & Sneaky Art® Festival (WASA!®)?

WASA!® is a fun, edgy public festival where you can roll up your sleeves and get wildly creative with a bunch of family and friends. It's really the opposite of other arts festivals where you watch and listen. WASA!® will let you learn and create... and even surprise yourself at how good you are!

## What can I do at WASA!®?

WASA!® brings together a wide range of creative workshops, social events, competitions and adventurous experiences designed to celebrate the creativity in us all with wild and surprising results.

Get socially creative at events like the Unofficial WASA!® Opening, Wild Hair Ball, the Sneaky Art of Wine Tasting and the Wild ARTs of Tying Ties and Mixing Cocktails. There will also be random acts of creativity happening in the CBD during the festival.

## So it's a festival where I become the artist?

Yes, that's right. WASA!® is about giving yourself permission to try those new creative experiences you've always wanted to try... with wild, surprising and often transformational results. Put your busy everyday life aside for a moment; grab a bunch of friends, family or workmates; get creative and step into WASA!®

## Do I have to be 'artsy' to enjoy WASA!®?

WASA!® is about the fun of letting your creativity sneak out without having to freak out. It's not about having to be perfect or worrying about whether you're 'artsy' or 'expert' enough.

Our workshop facilitators (most of whom are based in the Nelson Tasman region) have seen people arrive thinking they're uncreative or

Photography by RICKY BIGGS. Hair by DONNA JAMES HAIR



too afraid to try something new. Then they leave with a wonderful piece of work, a remarkable experience, a big smile and new friends.

## What sorts of things can I do at a WASA!® workshop?

WASA!® workshops allow participants to unleash their creativity and transform old appliances (fridges, toasters, CD players etc) in wild and funky ways. For example, it WASA!® rusty old beer fridge but now it's a hip garden sculpture!

## Where and when is WASA!® taking place?

WASA!® events, workshops, experiences and adventures are sneaking out at a surprising range of venues in the Nelson CBD and beyond. Ultimately, we'd like to think of the Nelson CBD as a live gallery. After all, this festival is about putting Nelson on the map as New Zealand's creative epicentre. The festival runs from 1-10 October 2010.

## So how much does it cost, and where can I get tickets and more information?

WASA!® offers free and gold-coin donation events, ticketed events and workshops that range from \$12-\$90.

Essentially, you can choose from a range of experiences that suit your budget and creative inclination.

For more information and a full festival programme, visit [www.wasa.co.nz](http://www.wasa.co.nz). Tickets are available from Everyman Records.