



CHAIRS IN WONDERLAND

Keith Cameron

The Peter and Judy Budd Foyer and Bruce Chick Gardens

Friday 2 October – Sunday 15 November 2009

“Like most people interested in art and especially sculpture, I have studied Albert Giacometti’s work. I found his method of elongating figures fascinating, but it was his brother Diego who enabled me to look at furniture as art.

At the time I was making tables and chairs out of steel and timber, generally one-off designs, as well as doing sculptural work, but I viewed the furniture as craft not art. In Diego’s work I saw that furniture can be sculpture, as indeed his work was. Using both Alberto and Diego as inspiration I started to think of elongated or exaggerated chairs. My first chairs, made from steel, were about 1.2 metres high with a small seat about 150mm square. They proved very popular but I became a little bored with them, so the chairs became larger and more decorative. When *The Famous Dancing Chair* was acquired by Thursday Plantation it provided me with incentive to continue to push the boundaries. My largest chair to date stands over 5 metres high and has a small chair on its seat to enable people to sit in it and use the armrests and look down with an imperious air.

People of all ages love sitting in the chairs and I guess there is a degree of playfulness involved. Chairs are an important part of our lives and I think we connect in many ways with these pieces of furniture – on which we sit, reflect, read and even dream.”

Keith Cameron, 2009

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Large silver chair 2007

painted steel

200 x 150 x 150cm