

Aspiration through photography

Samuel Spurr

Sixteen-year-old Relmi Damiano's inspiring photographic images of people, architecture and the wider environment are evidence of an arrived talent.

At a recent Argentine Tango night sponsored by the consulate general of Argentina, Mr Pedro Colombi, and organised by Norman Stein of Bogart's, the young photographer's works were on display.

"My favourite topic is to show elements of culture such as children, neighbourhoods and traditional dance. At the moment I am focused on sharing images from Argentina, where I come from, but my intention is to grow my collection taking more cultural photos from other countries."

Born in Argentina, but spending the majority of her youth in Australia, Relmi has recently exhibited her work at the Melbourne Affordable Art Show and earlier in the year, donated one of her pieces to aid tsunami relief.

Completing a dark room course at the tender age of 12, Relmi continued to pursue art and photography classes at school. Capturing the world through a camera lens and sharing her images is the best way she can represent foreign cultures.

Through her travels she said she has been inspired to share what she had experienced and seen in other cultures.

"In the case of Argentina, for example, Caminito is a very unique suburb, where the Italian migrants from Naples arrived. When building their houses, they tried to duplicate the atmosphere from their place of origin. They developed this simple but colorful architecture that



Caminito at bloom, by Relmi Damiano

probably helped them not to miss their homeland so much.

"I have the view that sharing what is important to each of us increases awareness and understanding in people. I think it helps everyone to become more open and accepting," she said.

Relmi's next showing of work will be this week: with an opening night on Friday October 7, from 7-9 pm at Melt, 12 Kellert Street, Kings Cross. Her work will remain on show throughout October.