

## Kathy Watt: Between The Spokes Tour de France Exhibition



What: *Between The Spokes*— an exhibition of photographs by the Olympic Gold medallist, Kathy Watt.

Where: Mercure Ballarat Hotel & Convention Centre,  
613 Main Road, Ballarat ,VIC 3350  
Tel (03) 5327 1200

Free entry; [www.mercureballarat.com.au](http://www.mercureballarat.com.au)

Open: 7am-10pm

Restaurant Meals: Mon-Sun 6pm-10pm

Special Deal with Exhibition: 50% Off Meals in Mercure Hotel Restaurant  
or Two drinks for the price of one

When: 19<sup>th</sup> August-18<sup>th</sup> September, 2011



Mercure Ballarat Hotel & Convention Centre is pleased to present *Between the Spokes*, an exhibition of photographic works from the Tour

de France by the Olympic, World Cup and Commonwealth Gold medallist Kathy Watt.

Kathy Watt is best known to the Australian public as the first Australian female to win a Gold medal at the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona. Watt also won an Olympic Silver medal in the track 3k individual Pursuit. Kathy has a career of many firsts, being the first Australian woman to win a medal at a World Championship when she won Bronze in the Individual Road Time trial at Columbia (1995) and the inaugural Commonwealth Games Road race (1990) after gaining Silver on the track.

Kathy has won World Cups, Commonwealth Games, Oceania and Australian Gold medals as well as many International cycling competitions. She has held the Leaders Jersey in the Tour of Italy, won the Points Jersey and placed 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> on GC as well as winning stages.

In 1988, the Women's Tour de France was held in conjunction with the men's race and in her first major International Tour Kathy placed 7<sup>th</sup> in the General Classification. Kathy is unique in the fact that she has experienced the Tour de France from both sides of the lens- this year as a photographer and six times as a competitor, with a true understanding of how difficult the climbs and race routes really are.

Less known is the fact that Kathy Watt is also an Award winning photographer. An image she took of Andre Agassi won a Silver Award with Australian Institute of Professional Photography. Her photographic works featured in a number of exhibitions and photography prizes, including Kerala gallery's B&W Nude Exhibition as well as their Landscape Exhibition; and have appeared in a number of websites, magazines as well as other printed publications.

Kathy is quite versatile in her choice of photographic subjects – B&W nudes, landscape, portraits, and – of course – documentary sports photography.

At the Mercure Hotel Restaurant, Kathy presents over seventy photographs taken by her at the 2010 Tour de France.

These photographs show Kathy's abilities and imagination behind the camera lens as well as the intimate knowledge of the competitive world of cycling.

Her camera captures some of the most classic moments of the 2010 Tour de France and goes behind the scenes of this world-famous and prestigious cycling event.

The exhibition is remarkable for the numerous photographic portraits of Australian and international cycling champions. Alongside of photographs capturing the jubilant winners her images also capture the feelings and emotions of the Tour atmosphere with the fans that line the route, publicity caravans, riders race preparations, and sport injuries resulting from crashes.

Kathy's inquisitive eye also seeks the humorous element within the Tour de France, such as provocative antics of the publicity caravans; the Leader in the Green Jersey Points competition distracted by a curvaceous female fan while climbing a Hors Category climb while the other riders concentrate firmly on the road ahead; a little boy fully decked out from head to toe in gear from the Race Publicity Caravan blissfully asleep by the road side, unperturbed by the race taking place just inches away from him.

All works in the exhibition are for sale.

For further enquiries, exhibition images and interview request, contact Kathy Watt on 03 95894544 or [info@kathywatt.com](mailto:info@kathywatt.com), or Therese Dodd on (03) 5327 1290

