

# Inner West Courier

THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2011

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INNER CITY EDITION

PHONE 9018 3500

\$1.20 INCL. GST

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NEWS

## Otto rises from the canvas to sell some of his art

LAUREN MURADA

SPENDING hours in front of a canvas is what Barry Otto loves to do.

Although most people know him better as an actor, the Petersham resident spends all his spare time painting in his studio out the back or, when there's no space, in his lounge room.

The Otto house has hundreds of his paintings of whimsical and beautiful women, so Otto is holding an exhibition, *A Romantic Obsession*, to make space for more of his work.

"I'm biting the bullet thinking I have to sell some of them if I want to keep painting, and I do to the day I die," he said.

"At 70 years old I still enjoy it as much as I did when I was five.

"So I'm selling some of my best because I'm hoarding too much."

The exhibition opens at the Artsite Gallery, Camperdown, on Saturday and will feature 40 original works for sale from \$3500-\$4500.

Otto's work shows his love of women, celebrating the beauty and romance of the female form using elegant traditional methods.

"I have a great eye for beauty, it's my homage to female beauty," he said.

Taking his queues from Neo-Classical and Pre-Raphaelite art, Otto will have some oil and water colour pieces, on 2m canvases and smaller head shots.

A *Romantic Obsession* also gives art lovers and Otto fans the opportunity to see his passion for painting and life-long obsession.

"I knew as a kid I would paint my whole life," he said.



### WHERE & WHEN

- **What:** *A Romantic Obsession* by Barry Otto.
- **Where:** Artsite Gallery, 2-6 Probert Street, Camperdown.
- **When:** Saturday to June 5.
- **Details:** [artsite.com.au](http://artsite.com.au)

Barry Otto is preparing for an exhibition of his paintings.

Picture: DANNY AARONS