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BY SUBURB

  

BY MONTH

  

BY TAGS

WHAT'S ON

Born and raised in Perth, Wal started painting in 1996 and has exhibited in many cities, from New York to Broome to Hong Kong to Margaret River. He says the colours in his abstract expressionist paintings "select themselves". Not surprisingly, his hometown of Perth is an inspirational place for Wal. "Perhaps because you need to fossick to get inspiration here, it becomes more potent - as opposed to the white-wash of constant inspiration found in those cities of the world we all adore," he explains.

No fossicking is required in order to find a winner on the Hobart Deli menu however. All are humbly delightful breakfast and lunch meals designed to "make you feel good, taste good, and be good for you", such as homemade cornbread with smoked salmon, and the popular mushroom ragout. Celiacs and vegetarians are also well catered for, and if you're a yummy mummy on a play date, and the cafe's not too busy, try asking for your coffee to be delivered to the park across the street.

The fit out of Hobart Deli is stylish and creative as well as remaining homely and comfortable. Wal's vision for the cafe originated about ten years ago when he lived diagonally across from what was then a quiet corner deli selling newspapers and mixed lollies. The menu focuses on what's "fresh, colourful and delicious" and features all free-range meats from Mondo's including the bacon along with free-range locally sourced eggs.

North Perth is quietly blossoming. At the heart of this gentle revolution are small neighbourhood start-ups such as Hobart Deli, keeping the locals and their tots fed and watered and energized for another day at the playground.

Q&A

**How would you describe the vibe of North Perth?**

Laid back.

**Gallery where you would most like to see your art?**

MONA in Hobart, Tasmania.

**What did you want to be when you grew up?**

Architect, designer, musician.

**Did you ever consider moving overseas for your art?**

No, I love this city and the people in it. I love travelling regularly to get away from both.

**Best spot in Perth to find the perfect gift?**

Mariposa, Planet, Good Samaritans.

**Writer:** Kira Rikkers

**Hobart Deli**

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