### Research Component (250 words max)

**Research Background**
Landscape architectural research internationally has identified how conventional forms of landscape representation lack efficacy in revealing the interconnectivity between people and their landscape. Discussion in this field has articulated a dichotomy between two distinct types of landscape representation: the graphic picture on the one hand, and the 'eidetic image' or mental recollection of events on the other. The author's research has identified that this dichotomy is over-simplistic and restricts creative research into new forms of representation that might hybridize or transcend these conventional stereotypes.

**Research Contribution**
The significance of The Light of Gairdner lays in its demonstration of a method of representation which hybridizes an eidetic image - or evocation - with a graphic picture. It thus challenges the dichotomy between representation types which current theoretical discourse has articulated. In addressing the themes of biological and cultural diversity this work contributes to understandings of the role of art practice in ecologically sustainable landscape design.

**Research Significance**
The significance of this research is demonstrated by the author’s commissioning as ‘guest artist’ for the Perth International Arts Festival (2006); and the subsequent funding secured from the Federally administered Regional Arts Fund. The impact of The Light of Gairdner is evidenced by its inclusion in *Hotspot* - a two-year exhibition of galleries in Western Australia (2006-7); Its selection for publication in *Big Country: Great Arts Stories in Regional Australia* (2008); A paper presented at the International Federation of Landscape Architects conference (2006); Selection for exhibition in Foto-Freo City of Fremantle Festival of Photography (2008).

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### Additional Information

**Copyright holder(s)**
Ian Weir

**Related Publications**

**Refereed publications**


**Exhibition Catalogues**


**Books**


**Journal articles**


**Newspaper articles**


**Exhibitions of The Light of Gairdner**
Touring exhibition Western Australian regional galleries, 2006-2007
Curators: Annette Davis and Shaaron du Bignon and ‘Art on the Move’

*WA Museum, Albany* 10th February to 14th March, 2006

*Geraldton Regional Art Gallery* 21st March to 21st May, 2006

*Mandurah Performing Galleries* 30th May to 3rd July, 2006

*Esperance: The Cannery Arts Centre* 14th July to 13th August, 2006.

*Kalgoorlie: Australian Prospectors Hall of Fame* 12th January to 4th March, 2007

*Perth: The Western Australian Museum* 30th April to 3rd June, 2007

*Bunbury Regional Arts Galleries* 21st September to 18th November, 2007

FotoFreo: City of Fremantle Festival of Photography
Curators: Bob Hewitt and Jasmin Stephens

Social History Museum, Fremantle Arts Centre, 5th April – 4th May, 2008

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Other
The Light of Gairdner
Ian Weir
Digital print. 35 x 24.5 cm (frame dimensions are not included)

First exhibition, Western Australian Museum, Albany, Western Australia, Feb 2006.