

Life Forms Sculptures

Man and nature combine in harmony



Designed and constructed by renowned sculptor - Christopher Trotter - this sculpture is an amazing and unique feature of the Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens. The sculpture is located on the Sugar Cane entry wall on Lagoon Street.

Can you see the fungi and toadstools? About a year previous to the opening in May 2003, landscape architect Lawrie Smith and Chris visited Finch Hatton Gorge, Eungella and The Leap to get a feel of the area and develop ideas. The artist wanted his work to have a relationship with the community, the environment and the culture of Mackay. Nature has been linked to man by the forms being constructed of

the pieces of discarded farm machinery - a link to the cane fields. With the Pioneer River flowing down the Cane Wall and ending in the cane paddocks on the coast, Christopher thought of symbolising the rainforest with his sculptures, in a way representing Eungella - through the delicate fungi found in the rainforest.

One of the frogs has been placed on one of the poles in the Eungella Cloud Garden to recall the major sculptured feature outside. A few tips from the artist to appreciate better the design: look at it from your height and then start bending down until you are in a sitting position and basically at the height of a child standing up. You will notice that the "picture" changes and you



see many details by viewing things from a new angle. The platypus is unique to the artist's work. It is Mackay's very own, the first, one and only so far that Christopher has ever created. The artist always uses 'found' pieces' - rather than creating the forms. It is a time consuming method - but one that creates authenticity and realism to these fantasy pieces.

Should you require further details of this and other pieces by the artist Christopher Trotter he is happy to correspond via e-mail and there are more images of his works on his web site.

**E-mail: chris@trotter.com.au
Website: www.trotter.com.au**

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For more information
phone the Mackay
Regional Botanic
Gardens on
(07) 4952 7300
or visit the website -
[mackayregional
botanicgardens.
com.au](http://mackayregionalbotanicgardens.com.au)