

# Green light for fresh concept



Rebecca Pierce has transformed an old commercial building into a gallery with dramatic open spaces, large quirky sculptures and an ultra-contemporary decor.  
 PHOTO: DAVID SWIFT



Check out more photographs of the new Traffic Jam Galleries.  
[www.trafficjam.com.au](http://www.trafficjam.com.au)

A BOLD contemporary gallery has opened at Neutral Bay and has been aptly named Traffic Jam Galleries.

It will be officially opened on February 17 by NSW Governor Marie Bashir.

The raw, New York-style gallery has been christened Traffic Jam Galleries by virtue of its location - at the eastern end of the residential island surrounded by Falcon St and Military Rd at Neutral Bay. It's opposite Big Bear complex but accessible by pedestrian crossings.

Artist Rebecca Pierce and her son Sotiris Sotiriou have reinvented an old commercial

building into dramatic open spaces with concrete floors and ceilings, large quirky sculptures and ultra-contemporary decor.

The gallery is located on street level, plus there is a studio and upstairs residence. Pierce said the gallery was designed to be "provocative and challenging".

"It's a very exciting concept for the area. We wanted to bring something fresh and new to the North Shore," she said.

Pierce said the gallery had already lived up to its name as customers caught in traffic jams had spotted the new gallery. "They've then parked in sidestreets and hot-footed it

back to the gallery," she said. The gallery will represent a stable of artists, host solo exhibitions and artists' dinners, plus there is a stockroom of sliding display racks.

Pierce also wanted the gallery to be a great space for sculptors.

Woods include Ian Swift's full-size pony made of recycled chairs and his charming wooden dogs made out of recycled "bits". Other sculptures include the bold abstract work of Clouster sculptor Jenny Green and the whimsical wooden boats, submarines and singing oarsman of Ross Miller.

Pierce said while the gallery

had some artwork that would appeal to more traditional tastes, her son Sotiriou had ensured the gallery had a "good buzz" for young people - it's somewhere they can find their first art purchase.

Some years ago Pierce was well-known in Sydney for her business Momentum, based in Mosman Village, which featured artworks and accessories in her own colourful designs.

Traffic Jam Galleries is at 41 Military Rd, Neutral Bay. Open from Monday to Sunday between 10am and 6pm.

• **Details:** 9953 2832.