

Bates takes smart art over to Asia

BEN FALKENMIRE

NORTHBRIDGE resident and painter Gabrielle Bates has gone international with her latest series, called *In-Pattern-Nation*.

Bates received exciting news the collection of works will feature in the India-Malaysia arts festival in Singapore later this year.

It is welcome news for the 41-year-old artist, who weathered controversy for one of the pieces of art that depicted the Lord Krishna "giving the finger".

"The curator said she had received death threats for less," Bates said.

She accepted the curator's decision to not hang the piece.

Other paintings in *In-Pattern-Nation* continue the

her satirical political and religious themes.

Bates worked on the pieces in Kuala Lumpur last year where she was completing a one year residency.

"Malaysia chose me," she said of her relationship with the nation.

"I have fallen in love and since being there I met someone which adds to the appeal."

Her relationship with the region will deepen when she heads back this month for a six-month residency in Penang, a mountainous island isolated from populated areas.

"I'm looking forward to it, but there's no transport in and out. I guess I will have to get a motorbike," she said.

Bates is set to return to her Sydney home early next year to exhibit work from her Penang sabbatical.



CONTROVERSIAL: Gabrielle Bates.

Picture: BRAD HUNTER PP156409

School plans to move and lift numbers

PLANS to relocate Wahroonga's Proulle Primary School are on exhibition at Ku-ring-gai Council until Monday, June 23.

The Catholic Church has submitted a development application to relocate the school from Water St to church-owned lands at 39 Chilton Parade, Warravee.

Traffic will enter the school through Chilton Parade and there will also be a major traffic entrance via a modified church car park in Billyard Ave, Wahroonga.

The application for a 420-pupil school represents a 53 per cent increase on the school's current size and would include a multi-purpose hall, two class blocks and an administration block.

Wahroonga resident Karen White said she was concerned there had been no community consultation about it.

"The development is expected to generate an extra 757 traffic movements per day including three buses both morning and afternoon," Mrs White said.

"More than 150 trees between the Chilton Parade site and the Billyard Ave car park will also need to be removed, including some areas of Blue Gum High Forest."

The existing site would be sold by the church for development.