

## **Artist in Residence Program at Australia House**

(Full translation from *the Tokamachi Shimbun*, 30 May 2010)

The Australia House in Urada, Tokamachi, will provide opportunities for cultural exchange between Australia and Japan through the Artist in Residence Program, in which artists from Australia will stay at the House from 1 June to 8 August 2010 to create art works. The Australia House is an art project which was established with the support of the Australian government, and the House attracted much attention at the fourth Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennial.

An artist selected from among the public, Maude Bath, and her partner and playwright Chris Tugwell, will come to Japan under the program. Bath is a textile artist based in South Australia, and she will make shoji screens using felt, reportedly the oldest textile created in the history of humankind.

Workshops with local primary schools and exhibitions will be organised while the two are in Urada, and Tugwell will support his partner throughout these activities and events.

The Australia House will also play host to the Japan Australia Art Musings Project between 10 and 31 August. In this project, three art students from the University of Newcastle in Australia and three students from Tama Art University will stay at the Australia House and create art works through exchanges among themselves and with the local community.