

# Public Art Fact Sheet

## Cargo

Mike Nicholls and Jonathan Leahey



Hobsons Bay  
CITY COUNCIL



### Cargo

**Year:** 2009

**Location:** Cyril Curtain Reserve, Williamstown

**Material:** Steel

#### About the artists:

**Mike Nicholls** is a multi-talented artist who creates a variety of works from paintings to large scale sculptures. Based in Victoria, Nicholls work has been exhibited in galleries across Victoria and NSW along with various public art commissions.

[www.mikenicholls.com.au](http://www.mikenicholls.com.au)

**Jonathan Leahey:** [www.extremeleahey.com](http://www.extremeleahey.com)

**Cargo** is a contemporary sculpture that references the ongoing and historical maritime links Williamstown has to transportation, industry and navigational aids. **Cargo's** rusty hull suggests a raw state of construction, relating to the ships under construction in the nearby BAE shipyards.

*"Its geometric proportions allude to early shore based warning signals such as the Time Ball Tower on Point Gellibrand. Mirroring and complementing the owner's vertical profile, the sculpture acts as a sister land based object which could become another navigational marker used by fishermen to take sightings from sea."* Jonathan Leahey and Mike Nicholls

At four meters in height **Cargo** makes a strong statement as it is vertically anchored to its site on Cyril Curtain Reserve. Rising above its natural setting, its up-right position juxtaposes the freighters sitting on the horizon line at sea waiting to unload their containers. The sculpture creates a visual ambiguity that enables the viewer to reflect on the Port of Williamstown's association with the transportation of goods, the shipyards and the history of Hobsons Bay as a safe harbour.

Part of the Hobsons Bay Coastal Trail. For more information regarding the trail visit:

[http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Experience\\_Hobsons\\_Bay/Hobsons\\_Bay\\_Coastal\\_Park/Hobsons\\_Bay\\_Coastal\\_Trail](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Experience_Hobsons_Bay/Hobsons_Bay_Coastal_Park/Hobsons_Bay_Coastal_Trail)