

# Oil and sugar do mix

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ARTIST Sebastian Di Mauro will use oil and sugar to create his new installation artwork at the Cairns Regional Gallery — the choice of materials, he says, reflecting his personal links with the Far North.

With his new installation, the artist returns to the place of his childhood, both literally and metaphorically. The title, Pane e Zucchero, translates literally as “bread and sugar” and the two staples have resonance with Di Mauro’s family history.

In the sugar cane farming town of South Johnstone, the artist’s migrant grandfather worked in the sugar industry and his father owned a bakery.

The artist will create the installation in 53 mountains of raw sugar (supplied by Mulgrave Mill) covered with olive oil and utilises Sicilian

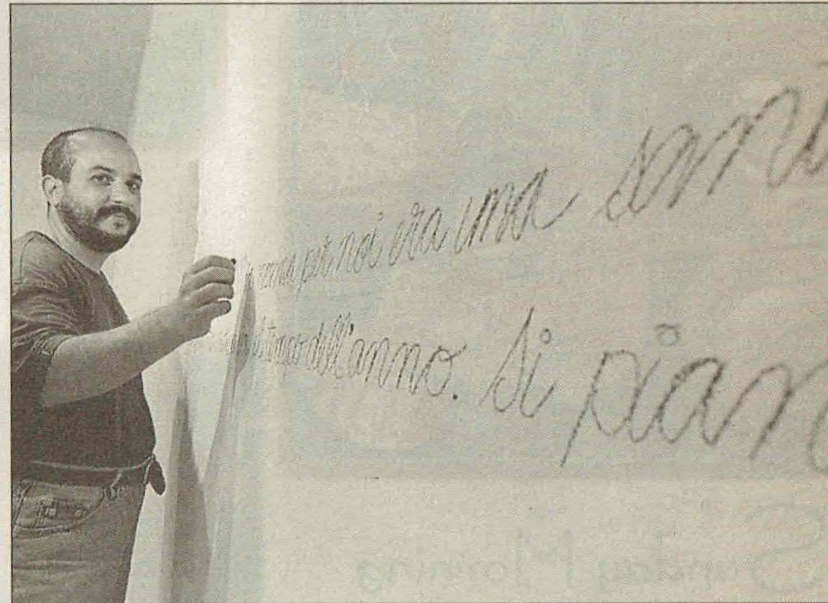
writings in charcoal to embrace his Italian heritage in the form of a beguiling and intriguing narrative.

Sebastian Di Mauro holds a Masters of Arts (Visual Arts) from Monash University and is a lecturer at Griffith University in Brisbane.

Di Mauro has created a number of limited edition artists books. Between Material, a book about his art and work, written by Timothy Morrell, curator of Australian art at the Queensland Art Gallery, was released at the Brisbane Festival.

Sebastian Di Mauro is also one of the Australian artists selected by Cairns Regional Gallery for the coming exhibition Enjoin being held in Manila in The Philippines.

His work has been exhibited in numerous solo exhibitions including



**STAPLE installation:** Sebastian Di Mauro at work. Picture: Mike Watt

Brisbane City Gallery, Ipswich Regional Art Gallery, and group shows at the Queensland Art Gallery, Toowoomba Re-

gional Art Gallery, Noosa Regional Gallery and the National Library of Australia.

To launch his new

installation, Sebastian will be holding an artist’s talk and afternoon tea at the Cairns Regional Gallery tomorrow at 2pm.