



WALKING THE DOG EXHIBITION

A new photo exhibition of works by respected photographer Eva Polak opening in April celebrates dogs and is in loving memory of her own dog Chucky.

The *Walking the Dog* exhibition, opening at Auckland's Te Karanga Gallery on April 4, is a collection of images of dogs taken by Polak on her walks with her long time companion.

Chucky died last May after a six-year battle with epilepsy and Polak is still grieving over losing her friend.

"The exhibition is helping me to go through the grief I still have," she said. "It's a celebration of Chucky as a great companion on my photo shoots."

All the works are impressionist photography, which like impressionist painting, captures the emotional essence of the subject rather than giving a realistic presentation. It uses camera techniques, rather than computer manipulation, to achieve its effects. Polak said she never uses computers to manipulate her images.

"Dogs are so free and joyful, always frolicking around and enjoying themselves. I aimed to capture that playfulness, joyfulness and freedom in my photographs," she said.

Up to 40 of her photos will be exhibited and available for purchase for between \$100 and \$400. Polak is donating all proceeds to the SPCA.

"I feel the welfare of all animals is so important, and because Chucky gave me so much joy, in so many ways, I wanted to give something back."

To accompany the exhibition, Polak is also publishing a book of her photographs of dogs.

Eva Polak has dedicated her exhibition of dog photos to her own dog. Her impressionist photographs will be exhibited in April

