



Natural world honoured in artistic display

THE innate beauty to be captured in the familiar patterns of the beach form the evocative heart of an exhibition in Geelong next week which combines nature photography and elements of graphic art.

Ben Lombardi's 'Sand and Stone on Display' derives its inspiration from the intricate patterns formed by sand, stone, shells and water.

The Belmont man's sixth solo exhibition draws on a mix of his early teaching experience in photography and his later teaching experience in graphic design.

Lombardi said the compositions emphasised the beauty of natural beach materials and their shaping by the sea.

"The final images present levels of interpretations with simple and evocative themes," he said.

Lombardi took the photographs when the sun was rising.

"This provided a low angle of light that allowed me to explore the basic colours and textures of simple and subtle beach material," he said.

Lombardi's evolution from traditional printmaking to his current use of digital imagery can be traced through his collected artworks, which can be seen at lombardiartworks.com.

The 42-piece 'Sand and Stone on Display' is on exhibition at the Gordon Gallery from February 25 to March 8.

DAVE CAIRNS