

film

# Portside inspiration

By **AMY WILSON-CHAPMAN**

AFTER moving to North Fremantle nearly two years ago, Cynthia White was captivated by the sounds, smells and colours of the port.

“The port is in my back yard really,” she said, “and it was just sort of overwhelming but in a good way.

“The port never sleeps, it sort of permeates your life no matter where you are... but it really is kind of present in this part of Fremantle and really all of Fremantle is affected by the port.”

A “fabulous” subject, the filmmaker and artist began to wonder about the ships, the containers, where they were going to and where they were coming from.

Spending more and more time near the port, she soon befriended some ship spotters and instantly had the characters for her documentary that forms part of her exhibit at the Moores Building Contemporary Art Gallery. With a little production experience under her belt as well, White said she wanted to engross people in the subject. “I wanted them to be surrounded by the sounds and the experiences of (the port), which I think is such an impressive entity and fixture,” she said. “This seemed like a cool way to create a living space where people can move around and have a live experience of the port.” Also on display is a massive cardboard ship, which the artist made from shipping boxes. The exhibit is open 10am to 4pm from now until March 13.



Filmmaker Cynthia White with her ‘ship’ made from shipping boxes, part of her exhibit on the port of Fremantle. Picture: Martin Kennealey [www.communitypix.com.au](http://www.communitypix.com.au) d351023