



Peter Garnick's \$5000 photography prize is music to his ears.

Picture: ADAMELWOOD N22NL102

# Piles of acclaim

ORCHESTRA Victoria's ex-managing director, Peter Garnick, has spent the past two years building a reputation for photographing building sites.

The Fairfield resident said his passion for photography went back more than 40 years but he had only recently turned it into a full-time career.

Earlier this month, Garnick won the inaugural photography prize, valued at \$5500, at Fairfield's newNorth Gallery.

His winning photo was an

abstract interpretation of part of an overpass at the West Gate Freeway construction site, which he was commissioned to document.

"I like the arrangements, textures and colours you find on construction sites and the way the materials are purposefully arranged," he said.

"You see a lot of patterns and repetitions of a theme on these sites."

Garnick said engineers and site managers were often surprised by how shooting specific aspects and remov-

ing them from context transformed the concrete piles and steel pillars into art.

"You might think these are not the type of people who would normally go to exhibitions or look at art. But to understand the work, all you need is a pair of eyes and an imagination," he said.

The student prize, valued at \$2000, went to Caulfield North's Zev Landes and the \$500 portrait prize to Fairfield's Sean O'Carroll. Prizewinners' photos are at newNorth Gallery, 15a Railway Place, until Sunday.