



Margi the queen of pop . . . art

Adam Harvey
in New York

A SOUTH Australian artist who left Whyalla for a better life has brightened the dark halls of New York's famously private National Arts Club.

A colourful exhibition by millionaire artist Margi Lim is currently on display.

It's quite an achievement for self-taught painter Ms Lim, who says several of the pop art paintings have already sold for about \$20,000.

The National Arts Club is an invitation-only institution whose members once included presidents Woodrow Wilson and Theodore Roosevelt.

It's a long way from here to the dusty, working-class streets of Whyalla, says Ms Lim.

"We lived in the suburbs - my dad worked for BHP," she said.

"At 17 I thought, there's got to be more to life than Whyalla, so I left and went to Townsville. I never went back and I don't really think about Whyalla very much any more."

Ms Lim ended up leaving Australia and funding her travels through modelling work. She lived in Europe before coming to the US, where she met her husband, "international investor" Patrick Lim.

Ms Lim, 41, paints about 30 works per year.



COLOUR MY WORLD: Margi Lim with one of her pop art paintings in New York. **Picture:** Stuart Ramson