



Shaynna Blaze-Vaughan's paintings are on show at the Brunswick Street Gallery.

Picture: ANDY DREWITT N04MM108

Female body image sets tone of new exhibition

USING the title *Hear. Me. Raw.* Ringwood North artist Shaynna Blaze-Vaughan explores female body image through her paintings.

Blaze-Vaughan has five pieces exhibited in the Brunswick Street Gallery's *The Body Show* until August 3. The exhibition showcases artists' interpretations of the human

form. Blaze-Vaughan's works in the exhibition are oil paintings that have been giclee printed on canvas with text.

The pieces depict women exploring their body image and considering virtues such as hope, faith, courage, modesty and chastity.

Blaze-Vaughan said her works

were about women empowering themselves and the main theme was about women accepting their bodies.

"I think as women we treat ourselves too harshly and we need to be nicer to ourselves," she said.

She said she was inspired to create her *Hear. Me. Raw.* series after reading an interview with a cancer

survivor who spoke about hope. She is half way through the series, and is selling limited-edition prints of her work. Blaze-Vaughan hopes to exhibit the entire series early next year, and plans to link the exhibition with a women's group or issue.

Blaze-Vaughan's work can be viewed at blankcanvasint.com.