



YIN YANG: CHINA IN AUSTRALIA

08 August - 28 September 2008

Yin Yang: China in Australia demonstrates where the influences of Chinese culture have played in the history of Australians, in their everyday life and aesthetically in art. The exhibition celebrates cultural heritage and reinforces the National Trust's core mission to embrace our multi-cultural society.

PUBLIC PROGRAM of Guest Talks SUNDAYS @ 3pm

Sunday 24 August: Michael Esson

Michael Esson is Senior Lecturer, UNSW College of Fine Arts and Director (Australia) International Drawing Research Institute. Esson's engagement with contemporary China began in 2000, when he travelled to the Great Wall with Professor Ian Howard artist and Dean of the UNSW College of Fine Arts. As a consequence, a relationship between COFA and CAFA (the Central Academy of Fine Arts, Beijing) was fostered between these two leading art institutions. Esson now travels frequently to China for exhibitions and works with leading Chinese artists and students with appointments of Guest Professor, China Xi'an Academy of Art, Consultant Professor, Dong Hua University, Shanghai and Guest Professor, Lu Xun Academy of Fine Art, Shenyang. Esson is currently exploring his practise through drawing, textiles and fashion. Michael Esson's talk will be accompanied by a powerpoint presentation.

Sunday 31 August: Joanna Capon

Exhibition floor talk with *Yin Yang* associate curator, Joanna Capon. Capon will pay particular interest to renowned artist, Ian Fairweather. Fairweather travelled to China to work and paint and learn Mandarin, living in Shanghai (1929) and Beijing (1935) with lasting influence.

Sunday 07 September: Mark Mordue, Tom Langlands and Jasper Knight

Writer Mark Mordue and artists Tom Langlands and Jasper Knight, discuss their time spent in China with the Red Gate Gallery Studio Residency Program. Red Gate offers artists, curators, writers and academics the opportunity to live and work in Beijing - with facilities to start projects and a cultural community in which they can participate.

Sunday 14 September: Tim Johnson in conversation with Ian Milliss

Often described as "floating worlds" Tim Johnson's paintings adapt the spiritual iconography of a range of cultures including those of Aboriginal Australia and imagery from Chinese embroideries & weavings. Tim Johnson will discuss his influences from punk music to Buddhism to animation in conversation with artist Ian Milliss.

Sunday 21 September: Roger Law and Michael Kempson

Roger Law masterminded the award-winning UK series *Spitting Image*. After lampooning the British political and cultural climate for eight years through his caricature puppets, Law transported himself to Australia where he hoped to live in semi retirement. An introduction to contemporary Chinese art and friendships with leading Chinese Australian artists opened new paths for Law to explore his practice. He now travels frequently between Australia and China documenting his travels for UK television and publication. Roger Law is currently working on a series of ceramic works with artists in China.

Michael Kempson's extensive background in drawing and print related practice informs his individual studio based research, exploring the concept of 'Beauty and Banality' through the medium of printmaking. As the Director of the custom printmaking Cicada Press, UNSW College of Fine Arts, Kempson encourages practising Australian and Chinese artists in a variety of conceptual approaches to the medium of printmaking. COFA and Kempson's dialogue with Chinese arts institutions has presented exchange exhibitions in Australia and China, with Kempson now travelling frequently to China.

S.H. Ervin Gallery Sunday Talks are free with exhibition admission: \$6 / \$4 National Trust members & concessions

Public Program subject to availability & may change without notice.

National Trust S.H. Ervin Gallery, Watson Road, Observatory Hill, The Rocks, Sydney

Gallery Front Desk: 02 9258 0173 www.nsw.nationaltrust.org.au

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