

EMBARGOED TO FEBRUARY 2012

ACCA'S NEW series turns 10

NEW12

The next gen

2012 marks the tenth year of ACCA'S NEW series, Australia's only commissions exhibition offering artists-on-the-rise the chance to make a career-making new work and have it shown in one of the country's finest exhibition spaces.

NEW has a canny knack for finding the art stars of tomorrow. A prestigious annual event, it has seen artists such as Daniel von Sturmer, David Rosetzky, Anastasia Klose, Emily Floyd, Darren Sylvester, Laresa Kosloff, Stuart Ringholt and Agatha Gothe-Snape rise to the challenge and subsequently achieve new levels of success within the local and international visual arts scene.

Presented by the Balnaves Foundation, the 2012 installment features guest curator Jeff Khan, co-Director of Sydney's Performance Space, and big, bold new works from his choice of Australia's most interesting new artists - Angelica Mesiti (NSW), Matthew Bradley (SA), Katie Lee (VIC), Bennett Miller (WA), Kate Mitchell (NSW) and Charlie Sofo (VIC), and if past years are an indication, represent the next crop of sought-after Australian artists.

THE CURATOR

Jeff Khan is a curator and writer working across the visual arts, performance and dance. Currently co-director at Sydney's Performance Space, from 2006-2010 he was Artistic Director of Melbourne's Next Wave Festival, overseeing the development and delivery of the 2008 Next Wave Festival ***Closer Together*** and the 2010 Festival, ***No Risk Too Great***, as well as Next Wave's acclaimed Kickstart development program. Previously Jeff has held roles at Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces, Melbourne, PICA and John Curtin Gallery, Perth, and the Guggenheim Museum, New York, as well as Guest Curatorships including *Primavera 09* at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney.

THE ARTISTS

Angelica Mesiti (NSW)

Angelica Mesiti is a video artist and a member of renowned artist collective 'The Kingpins'. Her emerging solo practice incorporates detailed studies of diverse human subjects in heightened states of rapture, reflection and performance, through the use of cinematic filming devices and a rich and beautiful aesthetic treatment.

Matthew Bradley (SA)

Matthew Bradley's work is formally and conceptually influenced by ideas of DIY engineering, invention, Sci-Fi and the search for "proof". Bradley's often large-scale sculptures and installations explore and stretch the limits of our known reality and incorporate a strong sense of narrative.

Katie Lee (VIC)

Katie Lee works across sculpture, performance, and installation. She is a current studio artist at Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces. Her work explores the relationship between the body and its environment via the mediating structures that shape our movement through space.

Bennett Miller (WA)

Bennett Miller works across sculpture, installation, video and performance. A continuing interest of his work is the incorporation of live animals into his artistic process and, in some cases, the finished work.

Kate Mitchell (NSW)

Centered on performance, Kate Mitchell's work explores the relationship of art and life through experiments involving manual labour, duration and everyday gestures.

Charlie Sofo (VIC)

Charlie Sofo's work can be viewed as an accumulation of small and quiet actions that collectively imbue everyday life and routine with a sense of wonder, mystery and curiosity.

NEW12 - 17 March to Sunday 20 May, 2012

Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, 111 Sturt Street, Southbank.

Gallery hours: Tuesday-Friday 10am-5pm, Weekends and Public Holidays 11am-6pm. Mondays by appointment.

Tel: 03 9697 9999. Admission: Free. www.accaonline.org.au

For further media information: Katrina Hall on 03 9697 9999, mobile 0421 153 046 or email kathall@ozemail.com.au

The Balnaves Foundation supports eligible organisations that aim to create a better Australia through education, medicine and the arts with a focus on young people, the disadvantaged, and Indigenous communities.



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