

Griffith Artworks Newsletter

Issue 1, Semester 1 2010

GUAC : Recent Acquisition

Griffith Artworks is very excited to announce one of its most recent acquisitions, *thefox* by Vernon Ah Kee. Ah Kee graduated with a Doctorate from Queensland College of Art in 2007 and was also a lecturer in the Contemporary Australian Indigenous Art (CAIA) program. Based in Brisbane, he is a member of the ProppaNow Collective and a highly respected contemporary artist whose work was included in the 2009 Venice Biennale.

thefox utilises text as an image, and draws on the idea of language as the fundament of identity and communication. The selection of words is sampled from a Malcolm X speech, and whilst the image is constructed to feel and 'sound' compressed, it reveals the gaps that can occur when subject and object remain ambiguous. This is the first work by Vernon Ah Kee to enter GUAC, and was included in the recent QCA Gallery solo exhibition by the artist titled *Waru (Innistail Waru)*.



Vernon Ah Kee, *thefox*, 2009, 180 x 240cm. Griffith University Art Collection. Acquired with assistance from the Vice-Chancellor and Pro-Vice Chancellor, Arts, Education and Law 2009, in recognition of the artist's inclusion in 'Once Removed', a major exhibition as part of Australia's representation at the 53rd Venice Biennale of International Art in 2009. Griffith University was a Supporting Partner for Australia at the 53rd Venice Biennale.

2010 On Campus Site Review

Griffith Artworks is set to review the On-Campus Exhibition Program (OCEP) in 2010. We are keen to strike a balance between extant service level demands for the 120+ OCEP sites across the

university and to plan for the growing number of new site requests and buildings, within operational capacity. A major part of the review will be to identify high priority sites that best satisfy OCEP and GUAC policies, mindful of collection visibility and asset management guidelines. The review will recommend the overall number of sites able to be serviced at any one time, and allow GAW staff to forecast and allocate resources which serve GU as a whole. If you have Griffith University Art Collection works in your area, a GAW staff member will visit during 2010 to make an assessment. Priority will be given to sites that are highly visible to students and staff, as well as those that best satisfy the environmental requirements for the assets. The GAW website has further details of relevant GUAC policies. For any queries please contact Camille Serisier, Acting Collections Manager on extension 55505.

Now Showing at QCA Gallery, South Bank

From April 10 – May 29, QCA Gallery hosts *A Bush Knot: Karaoke'ed photographs* by Gary Carsley. Globe-trotting artist Gary Carsley has returned to his home town of Brisbane and turned his gaze to the surrounds of the QCA campus.

The title, *A Bush Knot*, is an anagram of "South Bank". This playful revision sets the tone for the exhibition, which offers alternate and parallel histories of the site, from Indigenous and colonial through to its current incarnation as a landscaped consumer playground.



The QCA Gallery is open between 11am and 4pm, Tuesday – Saturday and staff are on hand to welcome you through *A Bush Knot*. The project is supported by a Development & Presentation Grant from Arts Queensland, and with funding from The Netherlands Foundation for Visual Arts, Design and Architecture.

Gary Carsley, *Tiny Tell Tales Canal* from *A Bush Knot* 2010, Lambda monoprint