

National Artists' Book Forum: Program Synopsis and speakers
Mackay Entertainment Centre Foyer (across grass from Artspace Mackay)

Friday 6 February 2004

9.00 – 9.30am Registration

9.30- 10.00am Welcome

Cr Julie Boyd, Mayor of Mackay

Mr Robert Heather, Director, Artspace Mackay

10.00 – 11.00am Session One

Working Together: the role of collaboration in creating artists' books

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Ron McBurnie, artist and lecturer, James Cook University, Townsville

Chris Wallace-Crabbe

Chris Wallace-Crabbe, poet, essayist and critic is Emeritus Professor in the Australian Centre, University of Melbourne. His latest collection is *By and Large* (Brandl & Schlesinger, Carcanet). His prose books include *Falling into Language* (O.U.P) and the anthology *Author. Author!* He has read his poetry to audiences all around the globe, and has been Visiting Professor at Harvard and at the University of Venice. For the past ten years he has worked with the painter Bruno Leti on artists' books, those rare, beautiful objects. He is genially obsessed by trees, drawing and ball games.

Associate Professor Jan Davis, Head of School of Contemporary Art, Southern Cross University, Lismore

Jan Davis studied printmaking at Phillip Institute of Technology in Melbourne in the late 1970s. She moved to Lismore in 1988 to take up an academic position at the Northern Rivers College of Advanced Education. She currently holds the position of Associate Professor and Head of School of Contemporary Arts at Southern Cross University. She works with computer manipulated images and in 1995 won the Fremantle Print Prize with a suite of artists books produced on a bubble jet printer. She has an M.A. (Fine Arts) with distinction. Her work is in many national collections including the National Library of Australia in Canberra and the State Library of Queensland.

11.00 – 11.30am Morning Tea, in Foyer

11.30am – 12.30pm Session Two

Balancing access and preservation

Collecting, displaying and presenting artists books

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Kate Ravenswood, Head of Access, Education and Regional Services, Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane

Maryke Stagg, Public Programs Officer, Noosa Regional Gallery

Maryke demonstrates the curatorial challenge of balancing the integrity or 'sanctity' of the artists' book with the kaleidoscopic and diverse dynamics of a gallery's exhibitions program through a case study of *Books: works of imagination* an annual artists' book exhibition at Noosa Regional Gallery since 1997.

Maryke Stagg is Public Programs Officer at Noosa Regional Gallery. As an inaugural volunteer since 1983 she has seen the Gallery grow to the dynamic space it is today. Her extensive network and experience in tourism and small business was invaluable in developing the volunteer base and activating the public program. Maryke initiated and developed the

artists' book program at the Gallery. It has become a major national event and attracts national and international participation.

To (g)love and to hold: Artists' books in libraries

Helen Cole, Librarian, Rare Books Collection, James Hardie Library, State Library of Queensland

This paper will survey some of the issues of selection, acquisition, maintenance and access facing libraries that collect artists' books, and show some particular works from the James Hardie Library of Australian Fine Arts that have proved a challenge in reconciling preservation and access. It will detail the advantages libraries have as presenters of artists' books and show why libraries are ideal places to experience artists' books as their makers intended.

Helen Cole grew up in Mackay and developed an interest in art here when her only contact with the outside art world was a subscription to *Art and Australia*. Study at the University of Queensland in art history, history and Russian and at QIT in Librarianship was followed by work as Manuscript Librarian in the John Oxley Library. Since 1992 Helen has been Librarian with the James Hardie Library of Australian Fine Arts, a job that combines her dual love of art and book history. Helen's other area of particular interest within the collection is botanical art and its history.

Artists' books in the NGV Collection

Kirsty Grant, Curator, Prints and Drawings, National Gallery of Victoria

The National Gallery of Victoria's collection of artists' books was initiated soon after the institution was established in the early 1860s. Kirsty Grant will present an overview of the Gallery's holdings of Australian artists' books, from nineteenth century 'view books' to contemporary examples by artists including John Ryrie, Ruth Johnstone and Bea Maddock.

Kirsty Grant has worked as a curator in the Prints and Drawings department of the National Gallery of Victoria since 1994. Her particular focus is on the Gallery's collection of Australian works on paper, which includes prints in all media, drawings, watercolours, sketchbooks and artists' books. She has curated exhibitions on the work of Fred Williams and Ruth Johnstone, in addition to numerous collection-based surveys, and published widely on various aspects of Australian art on paper.

12.30 – 1.30pm Lunch

**1.30 – 2.50pm FOCUS ON ARTISTS' BOOKS – Artists' Talks
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Artists' Talk

Bruno Leti, artist

Bruno Leti is a painter, printmaker and artists' book maker. He has studied art at Melbourne University and RMIT University where he has gained degrees and fellowships. He has also gained workshop art practices and residencies in New York, Milan and Canberra. Leti exhibits nationally and internationally and is represented in many major collections in Australia and abroad. He lives and works in Melbourne. Two years ago he received the prestigious Pollock Krasner Foundation Grant, from New York and recently a monograph of 40 years of his work was published by the Beagle Press in Sydney. The exhibition *Bruno Leti: Survey Artists Books 1982-2003* was developed by the Geelong Art Gallery.

Artists' Talk

Ken Orchard, artist, Adelaide

Ken Orchard has held more than 20 solo exhibitions since 1987. He exhibited in the 10th British International Print Biennale, Bradford Museum, UK (1988); Australian Perspecta, AGNSW, Sydney (1989); Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art, AGSA, Adelaide (1990); Aspects of Australian Printmaking 1984-1994, NGV, Melbourne (1994) and *My Head is a*

Map, NGA, Canberra (1995). His recent survey exhibition *Image as Text – Text as Image* toured South Australia through 2001-02, and received critical acclaim when shown at UTS Gallery, Sydney in early 2003. Ken won The Pedersen Memorial Prize, QAG, Brisbane in 1988 and more recently the Fleming Muntz Prize, Albury in 2002 and the mixed media section of the Heysen Prize (Hahndorf) in 2003. He lives and works in Adelaide.

Artists' Talk

Sandra Ross, artist, Brisbane

Sandra's love of art began as a child and has grown to become a life long career. She sees herself as an artist and teacher who considers that her art practice is ultimately consolidated by her teaching. After studying Art Teaching during the early 1980s and majoring in painting she returned to study her Masters in Visual Arts in 2002. Her continued interest in the human form provoked her to explore the connection between the human form and architectural structure. Her recent work in the 'presence' exhibition directly explores this relationship using a combination of printmaking and photography.

Artists Talk

Dianne Longley, artist and Lecturer, Adelaide Central School of Art

Dianne Longley created her first limited edition book as a student at Newcastle College of Advanced Education in 1978. Since then Dianne has continued to make a wide range of artists' books and folios, some as discrete works and others which intersected thematically with her print and mixed media works. Her books have been included in many national and international exhibitions and in 1994 she won the Fremantle Print Artists' Book Award for *Night Sea Crossing*.

Glen Skien, artist, Mackay

2.50 – 3.30 pm Afternoon Tea

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3.30 – 4.15pm Session Three

Panel Discussion

In Focus: Current directions in artists' books

Akky van Ogtrop, Executive Director, Sydney Art on Paper Fair

Categories of artists' books

Noreen Grahame, Director, Grahame Galleries + Editions and The Artists' Book Fair, Brisbane

Since the 1980s interest in artists' books has led to a mini-explosion in the production of these artworks. Artists have been experimenting with the size, shape and form of the book. But has the artist book changed? By examining some recent works we may find the answer.

After ten years as a print dealer in Europe, Noreen Grahame returned to Australia in 1987 to establish a gallery specialising in works on paper including artists' books. The Gallery mounted the first exhibition of Australian and international artists' books in 1991 and Grahame encouraged artists represented by the gallery to undertake their first artists' book for this show, which was accompanied by an important catalogue. Comprehensive catalogues have also been prepared for the four artists' book fairs organised by Grahame since 1994. With over 500 Australian and international artists' books as well as reference documents Grahame's collection, The Centre for the Artists' Book is one of the most important in the country.

Dianne Fogwell, Lecturer in Charge, Editions + Artists' Book Studio, School of Art, NITA, Australian National University, Canberra

This presentation will be discussing the role of the Edition + Artist Book Studio at the Australian National University as a place for research and creative thinking within the broader learning environment of an art school. Developing and maintaining a workable philosophy, the

changes in approach since 1996 and the current directions. The paper will also discuss a brief history of the publications and the artist in residence program which the Centre runs.

Dianne Fogwell has been an exhibiting artists since 1979. An invited artist to international biennial for print and the artist book in Poland, Belgium, Belgrade, France and London. Her work is represented in national and international collections. Her involvement in print collaboration with visual artists, musicians and writers spans two decades where she has been the master printer for over 200 editions for prominent Australian artists and curator/co-curator for major exhibitions in the field of print and book. Her dedication to printmaking and the artists' book led her to be co-founder of Studio One and Founder/Director of the Criterion Press and Fine Art Gallery. From 1996 she has been Lecturer in Charge of the Edition + Artists Book Studio (EABS) within the School of Art, NITA, the Australian National University, Canberra.

4.15-4.30pm General Discussion

4.30pm National Artists' Book Forum closes

7.00pm FOCUS ON ARTISTS' BOOKS

**Combined Exhibition Opening
ARTSPACE MACKAY**

**MC: Robert Heather, Director, Artspace Mackay
Exhibition opened by: Tim Mulherin MP, Member for Mackay
Poetry reading: Chris Wallace Crabbe
Music by: Friends of Pedro
Drinks and nibblies provided**

Saturday 7 February 2004

**8.30 - 3.00pm Mackay Writers Group Poetry Workshop with Chris Wallace Crabbe
Gordon White Library, Mt Pleasant**

The workshop will be from 9 a.m. til 3 p.m. with 8:30 a.m. registration and one hour lunch. The cost is \$40, including morning tea, or \$30 for students/pensioners. Early registration is important as numbers will be limited. For more information and to register please contact Brooke directly on 4944 0734.

**10.00am – 5.00pm Workshop 1:
Artists' Book making and collaboration
Masterclass with Bruno Leti**

Mackay TAFE Art & Design Studios, 42 Wellington Street, Mackay
Limited places available contact Tracey Heathwood at Artspace Mackay on 07 4957 1775 to book.

**10.00am – 4.00pm Workshop 2:
By the river...
Photopolymer Printmaking & Artists Books workshop with
Dianne Longley**

Studio Space, upstairs Mackay Town Hall, 63 Sydney Street, Mackay
Limited places available contact Tracey Heathwood at Artspace Mackay on 07 4957 1775 to book.

**2.00- 3.00pm FOCUS ON ARTISTS' BOOKS – Artists' Talks
GALLERY & FOYER > ARTSPACE MACKAY**

Elizabeth Lamont, artist

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Glen Skien, artist, Mackay**Sunday 8 February 2004**

10.00am – 4.00pm **Workshop 2:**

By the river...

**Photopolymer Printmaking & Artists Books workshop with
Dianne Longley**

Studio Space, upstairs Mackay Town Hall, 63 Sydney Street, Mackay
Limited Places available