



Program of Events : 1 - 5 October

THURSDAY 1 OCT

BIOGRAPHICAL BATHING

6.00 — 7.30pm

Newcastle Baths (Canoe Pool)

Two contrasting expressions of place and memory guide this journey into the auto/biography of thought. At this site-specific location one writer retraces her family genealogy through poetry, while the other considers the soundscape as a complete outsider. We look into the politics of habitation and un/belonging, as well as the familiarity and unfamiliarity of the experience of space as things we might all share, circumstances notwithstanding.

Featuring: Penny Duff, Lou Smith

AIR

10.00am — 4.00pm

The Lock-Up, John Paynter Gallery

See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Artist/s: Artist as Family

THE ROPE DANCER ACCOMPANIES HERSELF WITH HER SHADOWS, REVISITED. 2008

11.00am — 6.00pm

Staple Manor

See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Artist/s: Miriam Chatt

MEAT — ART YOU CAN GET YOUR TEETH INTO

12.00 — 5.00pm

Newcastle Art Space See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Artist/s: Todd Fuller, Amy Hill, Eil O'Connor, Aksara Harriram, Mel Chalker

FRIDAY 2 OCT

CRITICAL ANIMALS WELCOME (INC RISK COLLECTORS LAUNCH)

9.00 — 10.00am

Banquet Room, City Hall

The official opening of Critical Animals 2009! Come and meet fellow Critical Animals and make a home in our nest for the next three days. Served with tea, bickies and introductions, this event includes the opening of the Risk Depot, where you're invited to leave, divulge, reveal, drop, splurt or excrete an unrealised risk for artistic duo Patches to catalogue.

Featuring: Britt Guy, Aden Rolfe, Patches (Stella McDonald)

LIVING WITH THE SOUND OF MY MOTHERS PAST

9.00am — 5.00pm

Hall outside Banquet Room, City Hall

See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Artist/s: Hanif Baharin

AIR

10.00am — 5.00pm

The Lock-Up, John Paynter Gallery

See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Artist/s: Artist as Family

RISK COLLECTOR BOOTH

10.00am — 5.00pm

China Club Artshub

See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Artist/s: Patches (Stella McDonald and Anique Vered)

BURIED WITH MY RICHES, BITCHES. 2008

10.00am — 5.00pm

China Club Artshub

See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Artist/s: Miriam Chatt

UFO PANELS

10.00am — 5.00pm

China Club Artshub

See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Artist/s: Dr Jacqueline Drinkall

NO FALSE IDOLS DOWN THE YOUTUBE

10.00 — 11.30am

Banquet Room, City Hall

We all love pop culture! Shows like Australian Idol and Big Brother have managed to implant themselves within numerous facets of contemporary life across the globe. This panel questions how and why popular culture inspires and/or impacts on contemporary art practice. Does popular culture produce an accurate representation of our cultural life? Come along to quiz our experts!

Featuring: Elena Knox, Jenna Corcoran, Meredith Godley, Gerwyn Davies

Facilitator: Britt Guy

DIY PINHOLE CAMERA WORKSHOP

11.00am — 1.00pm

The Artspace, China Club

A matchbox, a coke can, a roll of film and some gaffer tape. Make art out of everyday flotsam (and fulfill your MacGyver urges) at this Pinhole Camera Workshop. Participants will make their own cameras, learn the requisite technique, and put it all into practice in a perambulation through the streets of post-industrial Newcastle. Make sure you bring a roll of film!

Featuring: Miriam Chatt

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11.00am — 6.00pm

Staple Manor

See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Artist/s: Miriam Chatt

SOUNDING THE INFRA-ORDINARY

11.30am — 1.00pm

Banquet Room, City Hall

An exploration of the sounds of the everyday, the organic and the human, in various states of documentation, mediation and reconstitution. Can a program mimic human composition? Can a recording fill the place of a loved one? How do we document the acoustic world? Critical reflection by three artists on their current sound practice and theory, across artificial compositional programs, audio installation and documented sound-walks.

Featuring: Jim Cuomo, Penny Duff, Hanif Baharin

Facilitator: Aden Rolfe

MEAT — ART YOU CAN GET YOUR TEETH INTO

12.00 — 5.00pm

Newcastle Art Space See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Artist/s: Todd Fuller, Amy Hill, Ell O'Connor, Aksara Harriram, Mel Chalker

GIRLS GONE WILD

2.00 — 4.00pm

Banquet Room, City Hall

The notions of boundaries, or lack of, when it comes to sex and gender. Engaging with both artists and academics we seek to understand the fine lines between stereotypes, freedoms, passivity and defiance. Promising furious lashings of 'non PC' thought, we vividly engage with the bizarre society we are told is 'the norm'.

Featuring: Krissy Kneen, Marianna Leishman, Charlotte Farrell (What Makes Men Blush), Emma May Gibson (What Makes Men Blush), Lyndal Walker (Suffragette City)

Facilitator: Britt Guy

Co-presented by Critical Animals and National Young Writers Festival.

RING I

2.00 — 2.30pm

Civic Park

Launch of Fiona Lee's Ring I brick installation in Civic Park. A minimalist, site-specific installation which subtly juxtaposes ideas around place-making and consumerism. Using reclaimed kiln bricks arranged in the timeless symbol of a circle, Ring I aims to invoke an ethereal appreciation of the fragility of our environment and to define the surroundings in which it is placed. In its position within the soil we can recognise the circle as an object of nature and a framework we use to understand and describe our world.

Artist/s: Fiona Lee

STANZAS IN MEDITATION IN THE PARK

2.30 — 5.30pm

Civic Park

A public reading of Gertrude Stein's Stanzas In Meditation in its entirety, as part of Stein 09 festivities. The public, continuous audition of the work will be an act of criticism emphasising certain essential qualities: its music, its process, that it is a monument, and that it creates an environment. Audience are invited to come and leave as they please, to witness this work and participate as readers.

Featuring: Penny Duff, Stu Hatton, Derek Motion, Michael Farrell, Ella O'Keefe

RAMIFICATIONS: INTENTIONS AND ACCIDENTS IN ART

4.00 — 5.30pm

Banquet Room, City Hall

Can art really change behaviour? Does it really alter our mood? Are we really that transparent? Let these artists lead you down a well-trodden path of art and affect where mapping and understanding the divisions and collisions between art and the psyche are up for analysis and dispute.

Featuring: Fiona Lee, Danielle Bentley

Facilitator: Nic Vogelpoel

LANDSCAPING AESTHETICS

6.30pm — 7.30pm

Masons

Artists in an experimental collaborative conversation, talking across the boundaries and textures of art, performance, film, theory and the aesthetics of experience. Allowing artists to talk in the language that they think in, their artform.

Featuring: Gerwyn Davies, Hannah Kinlyside, Danielle Bentley, Hanif Baharin, Derek Motion, Dion Kagan, James Arvanitakis

Facilitator: Britt Guy

INTIMACY AMBULANCE

Various times

Various venues

See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Artist/s: 2203 Collective

RING I

All day

Civic Park

See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Artist/s: Fiona Lee

SATURDAY 3 OCT**LIVING WITH THE SOUND OF MY MOTHERS PAST**

9.00am — 5.00pm

Hall outside Banquet Room, City Hall

See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Artist/s: Hanif Baharin

CONTEMPORARY POETICS (LOOKING IN): THE PLACE OF THE EXPERIMENTAL IN CONTEMPORARY AUSTRALIAN POETRY

9.30am — 11.00am

Banquet Room, City Hall

Is experimental poetry now the norm in Australia and what does experimental mean in 2009? Who makes up the audience for experimental poetry? Does the diversity in Australian poetic practice entail a progressive, permissive playing-field? This engaging and exploratory panel discussion includes readings by the panellists.

Featuring: Stu Hatton, Derek Motion, Michael Farrell, Jill Jones

Facilitator: Aden Rolfe

AIR

10.00am — 5.00pm

The Lock-Up, John Paynter Gallery

See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Artist/s: Artist as Family

RISK COLLECTOR BOOTH

10.00am — 5.00pm

China Club Artshub

See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Artist/s: Patches (Stella McDonald and Anique Vered)

BURIED WITH MY RICHES, BITCHES. 2008

10.00am — 5.00pm

China Club Artshub

See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Artist/s: Miriam Chatt

UFO PANELS

10.00am — 5.00pm

China Club Artshub

See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Artist/s: Dr Jacqueline Drinkall

ROADKILL: COLLECTING AND STORING

11.00am — 12.30pm

Banquet Room, City Hall

A guided tour through the processes of reviving, making new, and placing the discarded, in artistic and academic practice. What do these forms say about the artist as individual and/or collective? What historical breadcrumb trail are we leaving behind and is there someone eating up the pieces? An exciting collection of artists and academics who will transform the way we think about the old, the new and indeed the post.

Featuring: Ignorance Collective (Dr Anthony Eaton, Prof Jen Webb, Sarah St Vincent Welch, Paul Collis, Dr Kavita Nandan, Assoc Prof Stephen Barrass, Dr Jordan Williams, Dr Paul Magee)

Facilitator: Scott Brewer

THE ROPE DANCER ACCOMPANIES HERSELF WITH HER SHADOWS, REVISITED. 2008

11.00am — 11.30pm

Staple Manor

See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Artist/s: Miriam Chatt

MEAT — ART YOU CAN GET YOUR TEETH INTO

12.00 — 5.00pm

Newcastle Art Space See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Artist/s: Todd Fuller, Amy Hill, Ell O'Connor, Aksara Harriram, Mel Chalker

MOLLY AND EVE

12.00 — 12.30pm

China Club Artshub

See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Artist/s: Victoria Bennett, Clare Rae

CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS: MAGICIANS OF SOUND, FILM AND THE LIVE EXPERIENCE

1.30 — 3.00pm

Banquet Room, City Hall

An opportunity for this year's exhibiting Critical Animals to explain WHAT IT ALL MEANS?! Each artist will get the opportunity to show their work and receive critical feedback. Along the way we will discuss issues currently

affecting emerging artists in the Australian contemporary art world.

Featuring: Trudy Clutterbok, Hanif Baharin, Patches (Stella McDonald)

Facilitator: Britt Guy

MOLLY AND EVE

2.00 — 2.30pm

China Club Artshub

See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Artist/s: Victoria Bennett, Clare Rae

ART AFTER THE FACT: THE PLACE OF CREATIVE PRACTICE IN TRAUMA AND COPING

3.00 — 4.30pm

Banquet Room, City Hall

Art can be good for coping. This panel is about just that. These artists and thinkers have been indulging in, and making art to cope with trauma. What constitutes trauma and indeed what constitutes 'coping' are questions up for grabs. Be prepared to access the less talked about, often hidden, and always personal crevices of these artists as they take you on tours only they know the route to.

Featuring: Lou Smith, Carly Norman, Rachel O'Reilly

Facilitator: Nic Vogelpoel

JESSICA OLIVIERI

3.00 — 6.00pm

Newcastle Mall

See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Artist/s: Jessica Oliveri

CREATIVE COMMUNITIES: MEAT ARTIST'S PRESENTATION

3.30 — 5.00pm

Newcastle Art Space

The artists that make up local art collective MEAT are drawn together by the fact that individually, they don't fit anywhere else, and neither does their work. Come and listen to them discuss, divulge and just downright argue about art, their work, and existing in a world with a tenuous grip on reality, far, far away from the suits and ties of the everyday.

Featuring: Todd Fuller, Amy Hill, Ell O'Connor, Aksara Harriram, Mel Chalker

Facilitator: Aden Rolfe

FRAME-UP: THE PLACE OF THE ARTS

4.30 — 6.00pm

Banquet Room, City Hall

Ethics, science and the academy: positioning the arts against/within these frameworks, these papers outride the disciplinary borders. What can the arts know, and what are they responsible for? This panel will range across contemporary debates on the place of creative writing in the academy, art/science interactions, the unintelligible world and artistic reciprocity, and artistic framing as violence.

Featuring: Nina Stuhldreher, James Willoughby, Keegan Eastcott, Mathew Paul

Facilitator: Scott Brewer

INTIMACY AMBULANCE

Various times

Various venues

See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Artist/s: 2203 Collective

SUFFRAGETTE CITY

Various times

Various venues

See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Featuring: Hit and Miss (Narinda Reeder and Tai Snaithe), Hotham Street Ladies (Lyndal Walker), Molly and Eve (Victoria Bennett and Clare Rae), Parachutes for Ladies (Jessica Olivieri)

FROSTING

Various times
 Various venues
 See Visual Arts Program for more info.
 Artist/s: Hotham St Ladies

RING I

All day
 Civic Park
 See Visual Arts Program for more info.
 Artist/s: Fiona Lee

SUNDAY 4 OCT**BREAKFAST POETRY COLLAGE READING**

9.00 — 10.00am
 Banquet Room, City Hall
 A selection of Australia's most interesting experimental poets read their collaged and cut-up works. Come and join us for coffee, a croissant and some radical language play.
 Featuring: Michael Farrell, Chris Edwards, Jill Jones, Jal Nicholl

LIVING WITH THE SOUND OF MY MOTHERS PAST

9.00am — 5.00pm
 Hall outside Banquet Room, City Hall
 See Visual Arts Program for more info.
 Artist/s: Hanif Baharin

AIR

10.00am — 5.00pm
 The Lock-Up, John Paynter Gallery
 See Visual Arts Program for more info.
 Artist/s: Artist as Family

RISK COLLECTOR BOOTH

10.00am — 5.00pm
 China Club Artshub
 See Visual Arts Program for more info.
 Artist/s: Patches (Stella McDonald and Anique Vered)

BURIED WITH MY RICHES, BITCHES. 2008

10.00am — 5.00pm
 China Club Artshub
 See Visual Arts Program for more info.
 Artist/s: Miriam Chatt

UFO PANELS

10.00am — 5.00pm
 China Club Artshub
 See Visual Arts Program for more info.
 Artist/s: Dr Jacqueline Drinkall

CONTEMPORARY POETICS (LOOKING OUT): TRANSLATION, PRE-COLLAGE AND UNTAPPED INFLUENCES

10.00 — 11.30am
 Banquet Room, City Hall
 Three glances at contemporary poetics and practice: pre-collage and cut-up in Christopher Brennan and Mallarme; translation as exemplary writing practice; and the untapped influence of JH Prynne and contemporary British poetics.
 Featuring: Michael Farrell, Joel Scott, Matthew Hall
 Facilitator: Aden Rolfe

MOLLY AND EVE

11.00 — 11.30am
 China Club Artshub
 See Visual Arts Program for more info.
 Artist/s: Victoria Bennett, Clare Rae

BOYS ON BOYS ON GIRLS ON GIRLS ON DYKES ON HOMOS

12.00 — 2.00pm
 Banquet Room, City Hall
 Queer literature, gay art, gender politics, girls who like boys, who like boys, who like girls.....Does anyone even care anymore? Is 'queer' a dead duck? Are we truly post-identity politics in terms of sexuality? Who are our Australian Queer arts Legends? Are we even interested anymore in specific homo, dyke, trans gay art? Whether you're in or out this panel pits those die hard queer literary and arts gurus up against those who just don't give a damn.
 Featuring: Gerywn Davies, Hannah Kinlyside, Maddy Phelan, Ianto Ware
 Facilitator: Dion Kagan
 Co-presented by Critical Animals and National Young Writers Festival.

MEAT — ART YOU CAN GET YOUR TEETH INTO

12.00 — 5.00pm
 Newcastle Art Space See Visual Arts Program for more info.
 Artist/s: Todd Fuller, Amy Hill, Ell O'Connor, Aksara Harriram, Mel Chalker

MOLLY AND EVE

1.30 — 2.00pm
 Sunday Fair
 See Visual Arts Program for more info.
 Artist/s: Victoria Bennett, Clare Rae

CONSTELLATIONS: WEATHER, UFOS, TELEPATHY AND THE COSMOS

2.00 — 3.30pm
 Banquet Room, City Hall
 This is a meteorological discussion like no other, set on a cosmic voyage across the synoptic chart, from King Lear to the aesthetics of telepathy. A radical cosmology of papers investigating the universe of Carl Sagan (by a ventriloquised presentation), the effects of weather on narrative structures, as well as UFOlogy and the Weathermen. So strap in and let the interstellar wind lift your sails.
 Featuring: Dr Jacqueline Drinkall, Astrid Lorange, Jennifer Hamilton
 Facilitator: Scott Brewer

JESSICA OLIVIERI

3.00 — 6.00pm
 Sunday Fair
 See Visual Arts Program for more info.
 Artist/s: Jessica Oliveri

NEURONS, PLASTICS AND INTERVENING: ART IN THE COMMUNITY

3.30 — 5.00pm
 Banquet Room, City Hall
 We've been talking about art in communities, art as intervention, art and wellbeing, and traditional community cultural development schemes for long enough! Isn't it time we stuck our grubby little hands into melting pots, cesspools and situational comedies? Come and see how right we were — wait — how right we are. Every community needs art. Let us convince you that it's our job to intervene.
 Featuring: James Arvanitakis, Rebecca Conroy
 Facilitator: Nic Vogelpoel

DIVERSITY DINNERS

5.30 — 7.00pm

Masons

Come and celebrate the end of another Critical Animals! An opportunity to revel in our intellectual glory, enjoy a glorious meal and engage with an artwork as it happens. As we wrap up another festival, we unite to enjoy the ritualistic aspects of sharing a meal, while noting the significance of each guest's contribution to the table and indeed, to Critical Animals. Bring a plate of your favourite recipe and take part in an ephemeral performance installation which will in turn create a reflective audio work. Booze, food and art, what more could one mortal want?

Featuring: Emma Konnaris, Britt Guy, Aden Rolfe

INTIMACY AMBULANCE

Various times

Various venues

See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Artist/s: 2203 Collective

SUFFRAGETTE CITY

Various times

Various venues

See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Featuring: Hit and Miss (Narinda Reeders and Tai Snaith), Hotham Street Ladies (Lyndal Walker), Molly and Eve (Victoria Bennett and Clare Rae), Parachutes for Ladies (Jessica Olivieri)

FROSTING

Various times

Various venues

See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Artist/s: Hotham St Ladies

HIT AND MISS

Various times

Various venues

See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Featuring: Narinda Reeders, Tai Snaith

RING I

All day

Civic Park

See Visual Arts Program for more info.

Artist/s: Fiona Lee

MONDAY 5 OCT**ARTIST TALK — AIR**

11.00am — 12.00pm

The Lock-Up, John Paynter Gallery

The Artist as Family discuss their Lock-Up residency based on toxic waste and alternative closed-cycle systems, with waste becoming productive and regenerative. They will speak about their art in relation to permaculture and introduce their Shed of Interrelation, an artist-in-residence-cum-WWOOFer shack under construction in Central Victoria. They will also give a background to their own community, including their involvement with the Hepburn Relocalisation Network.

Featuring: Patrick Jones, Meg Ulman, Zephyr Ogden Jones

THE ROPE DANCER ACCOMPANIES HERSELF WITH HER SHADOWS, REVISITED. 2008

11.00am — 3.00pm

Staple Manor

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Artist/s: Miriam Chatt