



EDITORS

Penelope Benton

DESIGN

Penelope Benton

CONTRIBUTORS

Sian McIntyre Penelope Benton Genesis Mansilongan

FRONT COVER IMAGE

Alan Chan "Fly Together" As part of IDAHO exhibition at Kudos Gallery 18-29 May 2010

LOGO DESIGN

Kiera Chevell

PRINTING

Arc Office @ COFA

THANKS

Marcel Cooper, all contributors, and Arc @ UNSW Ltd.





EDITORIAL

As we draw close to the end of Autumn, the trees warm our hearts with firery oranges and reds whilst we rug up and come together, bracing for the very cool winter ahead.

And so it goes in this last issue of COFAtopia for semester 1, our front cover sporting the installation of Alan Chan's "Fly Together" at Kudos Gallery in an exhibition tagged as Love Combatting Fear, commemorating International Day Against Homophobia.

We introduce new opportunity for COFA students via a grant and free exhibition for first time or emerging curators. This amongst the upcoming deadlines for Arc @ COFA's Art and Design Grants, Postgraduate Grant, The Green House Studio Residency and Kudos Gallery exhibition program, so many opportunities! Information and application forms available from the Arc Office, Blockhouse Reception or via cofa.arc.unsw.edu.au.

With Indigenous Week on campus just around the corner, Sian chats to Cara Bevington about The Close the Gap campaign and Indigenous Health in Australia.

Working on affiliating a new COFA Faculty Club to fill the gaps in student life left by the changes across campus for you in the lead up to the COFA Building Project, Sian talks to Kate about the benefits of Clubs.

And our newest member to the Arc @ COFA team, Genesis Mansilongan builds the excitment straight from Fashion Week to the COFA End of Session 80s Knitwear Party. It's going to be toasty!

PB





New opportunity Try your hand at being a Curator

Arc @ COFA is very excited to launch new opportunity for COFA students to experiment and get some experience as an emerging Curator with space and funding support.

The Curator Grant aims to encourage and nurture the conceptual and theoretical creative endeavours of both the theory and administration students as well as all the as the multi skilled artists as curators.

The program involves a two week exhibition at Kudos Gallery in August 2010 as well as funds to produce an exhibition catalogue and other exhibition expenses.

This new program aims to support students interested in curatorial practice at the entry level stages of their creative careers. The grant will be awarded based on an exhibition project conceptualised for Kudos Gallery, and the demonstrated ability of the applicant/s to fully realise their proposal in August 2010.

- Meaning, can you actually pull this off, no use proposing an exhibition if you can't get the artworks, so you should talk to artists you fancy with your concept first and get some commitment from them that they'll be in your show if you get the grant.
- You should also grab brief artists statement from them, or write something yourself about their works and why you have selected them for your show. The selection panel will be looking for an exhibition that says something, or at least, makes sense... so think about why you want to put on this show, what are you saying, thinking about, exposing, or bringing together and why.
- Your idea doesn't necessarily need to be deep, its just needs to be coherent, and you need to be able to write about it.

The successful applicant will be awarded:

A fully subsidised two-week exhibition at Kudos gallery (including promotion and opening costs).

Access to and assistance with Kudos' equipment and resources. Funding and assistance for the production of a small catalogue to accompany the show.

Applications from collaborating curators are welcome, but due to the nature of the program will receive no extra allowances.

There is no restriction on the thematic or the types of artwork that will be considered; however exhibitions consisting primarily of student artists from COFA are viewed favourably.

Applications to the Arc @ COFA Curator Grant are open to Arc members only and the deadline is Tuesday 1 June.

Information and application forms are available from the Arc Office @ COFA, E105, Blockhouse Reception, UNSW Kensington or online via http://cofa.arc.unsw.edu.au

Other opportunities for students interested in curatorial practice include and/or - A club for those 'and/or's who like to mix up curating and art practice. A collective of emerging curators/artists who wish to support each other in applications and projects outside of COFA. email bronandmarcel@gmail.com to find out more.

image: detail - Alan Chan "Fly Together"



Cara Bevington is the NSW – ACT Campaigns Coordinator for Oxfam Australia. In the lead up to Indigenous Week here at UNSW in week 12, we were lucky enough to chat to Cara about issues relating to Oxfam Close the Gap and Indigenous health in Australia.

What are the facts and figures of life expectancy, mortality and chronic illness for Indigenous people?

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people can expect to live substantially shorter lives than other Australians – up to 20 years less in some cases. Babies born to Aboriginal mothers die at twice the rate of other Australian babies. And they experience higher rates of preventable illness such as heart disease, kidney disease and diabetes.

It's a health crisis you'd associate with an impoverished nation, but it's happening right here in our own backyard.

"Statistics of shortened life expectancy are our mothers and fathers, uncles and aunties who live diminished lives. We die silently under these statistics." Professor Mick Dodson, 2009 Australian of the Year and Aboriginal activist and lawyer

Why is this an issue? How did the gap get so big?

The appalling state of Indigenous health today is a result of decades of neglect and inadequate services. Poverty caused by high unemployment, poor housing and education, discrimination, unresolved trauma and a lack of empowerment have all contributed to the situation.

A 2007 report by the Australian Medical Association uncovered evidence of inherent discrimination in our health system. It found that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders do not benefit from mainstream health services to the same level of other Australians because they either are located out of the reach of Aboriginal communities or the medical attention they receive is culturally intolerant and unwelcoming.

A 2005 Social Justice Report by Tom Calma, the Social Justice Commissioner of the then Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission, also documents the realities of Indigenous health crisis and outlines a way to address the situation.

What is the government doing to alleviate this? Is there government spending focused on closing the gap?

The Close the Gap campaign has attracted immense public support:

- More than 135,000 Australians have signed the Close the Gap pledge
- Thousands of Australians have written to the federal government demanding action
- Tens of thousands of Australians have taken part in National Close the Gap Day events held around Australia

This show of public support has contributed to a shift in political will to tackle the health crisis:

- In February 2008 came the long-awaited national apology to the Stolen Generations, a moment in time that re-energised Australians to right the wrongs of our past
- In March 2008, the Close the Gap coalition drafted a plan to address the Indigenous health crisis: Prime Minister Kevin Rudd signed it, transforming this from a popular campaign to a force shaping government policy
- In November 2008, the Australian Government announced a \$1.6 billion commitment to improve Indigenous health – the biggest ever injection of new funding for Indigenous health

What is Oxfam doing to help close the gap?

We're part of the Close the Gap coalition calling on governments to take action to achieve Indigenous health equality within 25 years by:

- Increasing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders' access to health services
- Addressing critical social issues such as poor housing, nutrition, employment and education
- Building Indigenous control and participation in the delivery of health and other services
- Getting governments at state and national level to work in partnership with Indigenous communities and

Indigenous health organisations and expert to develop and monitor a plan to tackle the Indigenous health crisis

What can we do to help close the gap?

Our challenge is to translate this public support, political will and historic mood into sustained improvements in Indigenous health to close the gap within a generation. This issue will not be solved over night, it's going to take a generation, that is, at least 25 years if we are to see a real turn around in Indigenous health equality. This means we need sustained public interest, public pressure and public knowledge. Everyone can play a really important role.

Show your support

- Sign the Close the Gap pledge. Join more than 135, 000 Australians and publically commit your support: http://www.oxfam.org.au/act/take-action/close-the-gap/sign-the-pledge
- Get involved in National Close the Gap Day. Australia's largest day of community action on this issue. http:// www.oxfam.org.au/act/events/closethe-gap-day
- Take the latest online action. As progress is made, or challenges are met we'll be asking you to come out and ask our government to keep moving in the right direction. http://www.oxfam.org.au/act/take-action/close-the-gap/2010-02-ask-the-government-to-get-it-right-on-closing-the-gap
- Learn more and talk to others about this issue. Challenge stereotypes, tackle myths and be a part of the solution. http://www.oxfam.org.au/ explore/indigenous-australia/closethe-gap/australias-indigenous-healthcrisis-in-depth

USEFUL WEBSITES

http://www.antar.org.au/ http://www.hreoc.gov.au/social_justice/index.html http://www.reconciliation.org.au/

Indigenous Week activities at COFA will be held on Tuesday 25 and Wednesday 26 May including free lunch, mural painting and film screenings on campus.

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May - August 2010 - The 17th Biennale of Sydney around Sydney Harbour. including: Cockatoo Island. Pier 2/3. the Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney Opera House, Royal Botanic Gardens, Artspace and the Art Gallery of New South Wales (Grand Court).

TUE 18 MAY

12.30pm - Soup Kitchen Lunch in the Courtyard. Free for Arc Members. Get some soupy goodness in you.

1pm - COFA Soccer. Kick a few balls.

5pm - IDAHO Exhibition opening at Kudos Gallery. Conquer fear with love.

6pm - "Nesting Place": See the work of some of your fellow students at Petty Cash Café in Marrickville, 68 Victoria Rd Marrickville 2204 (opposite Enmore Park)

WED 19 MAY

10.30am - 2pm - Arc Board Elections. Vote! Vote! Vote! COFA D Block.

12-1pm - Stitch n' Bitch,

wool provided - learn how to knit, Arc Common Room

6pm - UNSWriting and Sydney Writers Festival present Yiyun Li - Word up at lo Myers Studio. Gate 2 High St.

6.30pm - Go and see the work of colourful COFA graduate Antochrist Acidparty at The Doctors on 102 Burton St, East Sydney.



THU 20 MAY

5pm - COFA Intnl Student Party

All international and exchange students welcome, some drinks and nibblies provided, but please bring a plate inspired from your home town to share. Arc Common Room.

8pm - NUTS Presents: Iphigenia 2.0 at Studio One. Gate 2. High St. Get your drama on for only \$6/\$9/\$11

FRI 21 MAY

11am - Into the oldest and most prestigious art prizes in Australia? See the Archibald and Sulman Art Prizes at the Art Gallery of New South Wales. There are concession prices!

DEADLINES

The Green House

Artist studio and research retreat at Fowlers Gap, near Broken Hill free for Arc members, and can accommodate up to three or four people. Deadline for applications today.

ADG (Art and Design Grants)

The Arc @ COFA Art and Design Grants aim to support extracurricular arts practice and theory activities by our members. We give out up to \$2000 four times per year. Deadline today.

Kudos Gallery

Kudos is run by COFA students, for COFA students and funded by the Arc. All students from first year to PhD level are encouraged to submit proposals for solo, group or curated exhibitions. Deadline today.

For information packs and application forms for any of the above three opportunities. drop into the Arc Office, D Block or go to cofa.arc.unsw.edu.au

Indigenous Week

Wk12

MON 24 MAY

9.30am - Feel like some lovin'? Up the Cross: Rennie Ellis and Wesley Stacey: A photography exhibition presenting a fascinating portrait of life in Kings Cross during the 'summer of love' of 1970-71 at the Museum of Sydney.

TWE 25 MAY

10am - 5pm Murals for Close the Gap / Sorry Day

Paint the wall to send out your message about Reconciliation. Info stalls about Close the Gap and Oxfam will be in the Library Courtyard to inspire your work.

12:30pm - Free native Australian Fare BBO.

Chow down on Kangaroo Sausages to celebrate all Australia has to offer!

5pm - Arc AGM

Annual General Meeting at the Roundhouse (Main Campus).

WED 28 MAY

10.00am - 2pm Murals for Close the Gap/Sorry Day - Finish up

10am - Art Think & Play - Culture at Work is an innovative creative art & science research institute with studios located in a set of historic cottages in inner-city Pyrmont. Family and teen workshops, artist and scientist residencies, events and exhibitions are available to the community.

12-1pm - Stitch n' Bitch,

wool provided - learn how to knit, Arc Common Room

4pm Film night in COFA Common Room, Oxfam doco + Samson and Delilah

THU 27 MAY

10am - Are vou a frock star or a fashion lover? Get yourself to the Powerhouse Museum exhibition "Frock Stars: Inside Australian Fashion Week", \$6 for concession

FRIZE MAY

Last Day of Art & About - Check out the art around the Sydney CBD.

5pm - After the Rainbow Soda Jerk's new video remix exhibition opening at Kudos Gallery

DEADLINES

Curators Award

New program supporting critical curatorial practice. Winning proposal will receive free exhibition at Kudos Gallery with funding for opening night and catalogue. Deadline today.

PG Grant

Emcouraging student life on campus and community development off campus.

For information packs and application forms for the above two opportunities, drop into the Arc Office, D Block or go to cofa.arc.unsw.edu.au

WED 2 JUNE

Celluloid geek? This is for you. Sydney Film Festival is back again for its 57th year and will be showcasing a myriad of films which will dazzle, delight, make you laugh, make you cry and everything in between.

THY B JYME

5pm - End of Semester Party UNSW Roundhouse - Main Campus

THU 10 JUNE

7pm - COFA 80s Knitwear Party Name This Bar, 197 Oxford St Darlinghurst

Hit Vinnies, your parent's wardrobe, or the ultra spunky vintage clothes shops on Crown St and pick yourself up a real winner Cosby sweater, a nice knitted pencil skirt, some lavishly loud leg warmers, or a bold crocheted balaclava, smear on some rouge and blue mascara and head on up to Name This Bar to celebrate the end of session one, the mid yr break, the start of winter, whatever you're there for, let's have fun!

Arc members get a free drink on entry (get there early) and discounts all night!





SPACE AND \$\$\$ SUPPORT FOR CREATIVE GROUPS

HOW?

START A CLUB

JOIN A CLUB

Sian catches up with Kate Tanswell of Arc's Student Development Team to get the low down...

Arc has a number of grants, spaces, facilities and services available to support teams of students getting together to make stuff happen. Small clubs (which require only 3 students) are eligible for up to \$2,000 in grants, whilst bigger club can apply for up to \$10,000 for a project or event.

So what are Arc Clubs? What are they here for?

An Arc club or society is basically just a group of UNSW students with the same aims or interests, who get together, organise events and try and get other UNSW students involved. Arc supports around 120 student clubs with grants and resources. If you have a passion, chances are there is an Arc club whose members have the same passion. If there isn't, you can start one by contacting Arc! Clubs generally fall into the following categories; Cultural Societies, Academic and Professional Development Societies, Sporting

Societies, Religious Societies, Political and Social Interest Societies, Special Interest Societies and Performing Arts Societies. Many clubs will fit in two or more of these categories

Do you have to be an Arc member to be in a club?

No, you don't have to be an Arc member to be in a club. However, usually you need to be an Arc member to be on the executive of a club. You don't even need to be a UNSW student to be a member of a club, many clubs have associate members who may be UNSW Alumni, staff or random members of the public!

What have been some of the most exciting outcomes of clubs? Events? Activities? Amazing stories?

To me the most exciting outcomes are the ones where students make friends and develop themselves through being part of a club. The skills you learn and people you meet through clubs certainly have the largest impact. In terms of events, activities and amazing stories... I think it's amazing that our Ski and Board Club is pulling off a trip to the snow in New Zealand costing more than \$100,000! I think it's amazing that the Revues (musical and sketch comedy shows) pull in thousands of audience member! I think it's amazing that there are

hundreds of UNSW students who spend hours of their time a week, for free, making Arc clubs amazing!

What can students get out of Club membership? What's up for grabs? Facilities? Cash?

The most valuable things you get out of Club membership are the friends you make and the skills and confidence you gain. Arc supports the Clubs themselves with a number of different grants for events, activities, materials etc (there's a total of more than \$100,000 a year in grants available for Clubs) as well as resources like BBQs, projectors, photocopying and free room bookings. By being a member of a club you get the benefits of all those things that Clubs are eligible for.

How can students get involved? What is the club membership/ grant application process?

Students should contact Clubs directly as each club has it's own way of doing things. We have compiled a list of Arc Clubs and their contact details which can be found at http://www.arc.unsw.edu.au/Club-List-55.aspx. You can also try googling a Club as many have their own websites or Facebook page.

Why are Arc clubs relevant to COFA?

Because COFA students can be Arc club members too of course! Cofa clubs also have the opportunity to push the boarders of clubs, start a collective, hold a performance night or film screening, get an international artist to visit COFA and give a talk, or visit overseas to see a talk yourself!

What sort of clubs do we have here at COFA?

COFA has Kulture Klub- for social COFA activities, For the Love of Type- a typography club, Bababa International- an artist collective, The And /or Collective- an artist/ curator club, Dirty Hands- a Printmaking club, Rococo Alliance- publishers of Das Super Paper and COFA Film Crew Club to name a few... but we are always excited about new ideas and Clubs to get started on campus.

What is a Constituent Club? What can students get out of Club COFA?

A Constituent Club is the official student club of a UNSW faculty, school or college. For example, the UNSW Law Society is the constituent club of the Law Faculty, which means that every student who studies a law subject is automatically a member of the club. COFA having it's own constituent club is a great idea! All COFA students would automatically be a member of this club which means that all COFA students could reap the benefits of club membership. This means support to run events as well as opportunities to meet like-minded people. Every club is different, Club COFA will give you what you put into it, so dedicate some of your time to making it awesome and you will benefit ten-fold.



What is your favourite club on campus? Why?

Spocksoc, the UNSW Science Fiction and Fantasy Club! Because I'm a huge trekkie, I was President of this club for two years and I learnt so much from the experience.

Thanks for your time Kate, it's great to hear about all the amazing opportunities that Arc club membership has to offer.

Gemma O'Brien
President
For The Love of Type
fortheloveoftype.blogspot.com

UNSW Bike Club are hosting a Cycling confidence course

Ever been in a situation where you were unsure where you should be on the road, what was the best way to take the corner or just had a few wobbles as you rode along? This series of cycling courses may be what you need to make your life that little bit easier and to give you the confidence to get out on your bike more often.

We are offering a free cycling course to staff and students of UNSW. This course will be run by a Austcycle certified cycling teacher and will prepare you for riding on Sydney's roads. We will be meeting at Centennial Park

Dates: Saturday 22 & 29 May

Time: 2pm-5pm (try to arrive by 1.45 if possible)

To book a place contact: Jacqui Hicks by phone 0404 176981, or email jacquelinehicks@gmail.com

http://unswbikeclub.org.au





How Wool You Work It?

The models are dressed, the designer is running around frantic and the front row are anxious. Hi it's Genesis reporting from front row at Fashion Week where there are rumours that the Eighties revival trend is not dead yet. Vogue, Harper's Bazaar and Marie Claire are hanging by their threads in expectation of what this young, fresh but must – see designer known as Woolly Mammoth is going to send down the runway.

Okay so the show is half an hour late, nothing new in terms of Fashion Week and the glitterati wait with bated breath. Oh wait something is happening. There is music. I believe it's Madonna...hold on I think it's Wham...no wait it's MC Hammer. Yes, it's Wham and their song Last Christmas, remixed! The front row are in hysterics and they are finally letting general admission in. People are rushing to fill in the last available seats. Fashion enthusiasts here we go...

First face is Myf Shepherd in an... eighties Cosby sweater. It is so ugly but yet so beautiful. The sweater is embellished with sequins and there seems to be epaulettes of crochet on the sweater. Here come some more girls; Chanel Iman in a golden wool Cosby sweater, Naomi Campbell in a stunning ivory Cosby sweater and last face Twiggy working a crochet needle headpiece. The photographers are going crazy, the fashion magazine editors are mocking up covers and there is... raucous applause.

And then when I went backstage (I was fighting Belinda who rushed to the designer so she could stock it in her stores) to ask the designer who refuses to be named except by their label, they told me their initial inspiration was a COFA end of session party happening on the Thursday 10 June at Name This Bar, 197 Oxford St Darlinghurst. Now even Anna Wintour has RSVP'd.



4x7 the hard hitting drama inspired by the real life events that occur in the COFA Arc office.

Oh my, it has been a crazy first semester at 4x7 this year... so much has happened, so much has grown and alas, as we grow, we shed leaves, grow bark and stretch out our twigdy little arms to reach up towards that blue abyss that is the neverending pastel swipe created by the sweeping gesture of a great painter or designers brush (one of those good ones with animal hair) sky.

Hooley Dooley: My dear family, my friends, my compatriots, I have reached the summit. I am standing atop of a rocky mountain looking at my surrounds and I like what I see. I feel that my work here is complete. I have taken students on Gallery Tours, I have informed them with Thinking Minds Panels and I have shared my creative brilliance with the Arc @ COFA family. I must continue to share my activities with others.

Black Widow: Dooley, we will miss you sorely. But we understand that greatness cannot be held back. You have been like a little ray of sunshine in this little office. Take the Staff of Art Schools Past on your journey; it will guide you back to us.

Mak and Black Widow: Farewell Dooley, continue to conquer and create and do the amazing things

that you do. Travel safely and let the Arc sages guide you safely back to us often.

Mak: What happens now Widow? What can we do to cheer ourselves up?

Black Widow: Mak. We paint. Like crazy.

As Mak and Black Widow paint the common room they feel a sense of reflection, reminiscing about times passed (this could perhaps be the solid rock hits from the 70's 80's and 90's playing in the background). What can we do? What can we give to the students now? How can we pay tribute to this amazing place? Suddenly, there is a flourish in the door, a whiz of colour and form appears like a vision from the Fashion Week Catwalk.

Genalicious: Hello ladies, I am here, I want to continue my youthful fountain of youth by working in the 4x7 office. I want to give all I have and make this office, university, world sing! I think it can happen!

Mak and Black Widow: Hurrah!

Mak: This is so fantastic Genalicious, we have an amazing fashion themed COFA party coming up at the Bar With No Name on June 10 and Free

Soup every second Tuesday and minimal screenings with the Christoffonator on Wednesdays and Stitch and Bitch and Soccer and a National Sorry Day spectacular! It would absolutely ease my worried soul to have your pizzazz and eclectic enthusiasm engaged with these activities. Could it be true that you could be the answer we have been waiting for?

Black Widow: Yes Mak, I believe
Genalicious could be the one.
Genalicious, there is only one final
test you need to pass to become a
4x7 member. There is a cave, deep
deep in the forest. In that cave there
lives a Yowie. He makes the most
amazing Anzac biscuits. You need to
return to us with one of these fabled
treats and when you do, we will know
for sure that you are the inheritor of
the mini desk.

Genalicious: I'll do it. Wish me

As Genalicious begins his journey to the Yowies cave we hope and prey that he will return safe and sound (and perhaps with some little treaties to share at Stitch and Bitch).

P.S. Buy some 80's knitwear while you await the next instalment of



KUDOS GALLERY 6 Napier St Paddington NSW 2021

Wed to Fri 11am - 6pm, Sat 11am - 4pm Mon + Tue by appointment only T: (02) 9326 0034 cofa.arc.unsw.edu.au kudos@arc.unsw.edu.au

Kudos Gallery is run by COFA Students and funded by Arc @ UNSW Limited







AFTER THE RAINBOW Soda_Jerk

This work was commissioned to screen at Melbourne's Federation Square, but was pulled due to concerns over the work's deliberate copyright infringement. The new 2-channel video remix investigates the temporal dimensions of cinema through a reimagining of the initial sequence of The Wizard of Oz (1939). Instead of taking Dorothy to Oz, the twister transports a young, hopeful Judy Garland into the future where she encounters her disillusioned adult self

OPENS 5-7.30PM TUESDAY 1 JUNE Continues to 12 June 2010



IDAHO

Curated by Nick Baldas and SRC@COFA Queer officer Genesis Mansilongan

A community exhibition to commemorate International Day Against Homophobia featuring works responding to homophobia and violence and promoting messages of acceptance. www.idahosydney.org

OPENS 5-7.30PM TUESDAY 18 MAY BREAK THE SILENCE LIVING LIBRARY 12-2PM SAT 22 MAY CONTINUES TO 29 MAY 2010



TBA Curated by Kudos Gallery Intern Emma Pike

A selection of video works from the COFA Honours Time Based Art Department.

OPENS 5-7.30PM TUESDAY 15 JUNE Continues to 19 June 2010

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Hit Vinnies, your parent's wardrobe, or the ultra spunky vintage clothes shops on Crown St and pick yourself up a real winner Cosby sweater, a nice knitted pencil skirt, some lavishly loud leg warmers, or a bold crocheted balaclava, smear on some rouge and blue mascara and head on up to 80s knitwear party at Name This Bar, 7pm Thursday 10 June to celebrate the end of session one, the mid yr break, the start of winter, whatever you're there for, let's have fun!

Arc members get a free drink on entry (get there early) and discounts all night! Free entry for all!

