EDITORIAL

As we draw close to the end of Autumn, the trees warm our hearts with fiery 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.

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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, it 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 aunts 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 intense 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 $16 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 overnight, 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
• 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

USEFUL WEBSITES

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.

SM
WHAT’S ON

WK12

THU 20 MAY

5pm – COFA Intnl Student Party
All international and exchange students welcome, some drinks and nibbles 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/$3/$0!

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

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.

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

5pm – Arc AGM
Annual General Meeting at the Roundhouse (Main Campus).

WED 26 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

WK13

THU 27 MAY

10am – Are you a frock star or a fashion lover? Get yourself to the Powerhouse Museum exhibition “Frock Stars: Inside Australian Fashion Week”. $6 for concession

FRI 28 MAY

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

TUE 1 JUNE

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 50th year and will be showcasing a myriad of films which will dazzle, delight, make you laugh, make you cry and everything in between.

THU 3 JUNE

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

WK14

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! Free entry for all!
**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 220 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, 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 the Quoals (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 is a Constituent Club? What can students get out of Club membership? What’s up for grabs? Facilities? Cash? 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 want out of it, so dedicate some of your time to making it awesome and you will benefit ten-fold.

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-SS.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, Bababula 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 your favourite club on campus? Why?**

Spokcosc, 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 Auscycle 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 176891, or email jacquelin.hicks@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 Darlington. Now even Anna Wintour has RSVP’d.
Arc office.

events that occur in the COFA

inspired by the real life

4x7 the hard hitting drama

Oh my, it has been a crazy first

4x7 this year… so much

4x7 has happened, so much has grown

draws out our twiggy

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.

activities with others.

COFA family. I must continue to share

creative brilliance with the Arc @

Minds Panels and I have shared my

I have informed them with Thinking

have taken students on Gallery T

ours, I have

reached the summit. I am standing

atop of a rocky mountain looking at

my friends, my compatriots, I have

My dear family,

Hooley Dooley:

Black Widow:

Dooley, we will miss

guide you back to us.

Schools Past on your journey; it will

in this little office. Take the Staff of Art

have been like a little ray of sunshine

greatness cannot be held back. You

sorely. But we understand that

you cannot be held back. You

be 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

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 80'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 film

screenings with the Christofonator

On Wednesdays and Stitch and Bitch

and Soccer and a National Sorry

Day spectacular! It would absolutely

ease my worried soul to have your

pizza2z 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

luck!

As Genalicious begins his journey

to the Yowie cave we hope and

pray 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

4x7…

KUDOS GALLERY

6 Napier St Paddington NSW 2021

Wed to Fri 11am - 5pm, Sat 11am - 4pm

Mon + Tue by appointment only

T: (02) 9326 0034
cofa.arc.unsw.edu.au
kudos@arc.arc.unsw.edu.au

Kudos Gallery is run by

COFA Students and funded

by Arc @ UNSW Limited

JULY - AUGUST 2009

Continues to 12 June 2010

Opens 5-7.30pm Tuesday 1 June

Continues to 29 May 2010

Library 12-2pm Sat 22 May

Break the Silence Living

Opens 5-7.30pm Tuesday 15 June

Continues to 19 June 2010

Opens 5-7.30pm Tuesday 1 June

Continues to 12 June 2010

Curated by Nick Baldas and SRC@COFA Queer officer

Genesis Mansiloongan

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

www.idahosydney.org

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

TBA

Curated by Kudos Gallery Intern Emma Pike

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.

GENESIS MANSiLOOgAN

KUDOS GALLERY

Continues to 19 June 2010

Opens 5-7.30pm Tuesday 15 June

Continues to 19 June 2010

Kudos Gallery is run by

COFA Students and funded

by Arc @ UNSW Limited

ART DEPARTMENT.

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

TBA

Curated by Kudos Gallery Intern Emma Pike

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

TBA

Curated by Kudos Gallery Intern Emma Pike

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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!

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