



WOMEN

Issue #2
2012



UNSW Student Life
College of Fine Arts



O WEEK 2012

EDITORS

Kelly Doley
Penelope Benton

DESIGN

Kelly Doley
Penelope Benton

CONTRIBUTORS

Kelly Doley
Beth Dillon
Penelope Benton

FRONT COVER IMAGE

Beth Dillon
Imaginary Cities:
Central Park, June 2011
Photo by Joe Van

LOGO DESIGN

Kiera Chevell

PRINTING

Arc Office @ COFA

THANKS

Arc @ UNSW Ltd



**Thanks to everyone
who made it such a
success!!**

CONTENTS:

- 5. **LYDIA DOWMAN at Fowlers Gap**
- 6-7. **THE F WORD- A Wrapup**
- 8-9. **WHAT'S ON**
- 10-13. **ANNIE COHEN, Biographical Landscape (pictorial)**
- 14. **SRC SAYS: Womens Officer, Clare Nicholson**
- 15. **KUDOS GALLERY PROGRAM**

EDITORIAL:

So.

This issue is themed women. COFA women. COFA women doing great things, getting out there, showing everyone who's boss.

But it is also about the larger issues that face women today, things like gender inequality in the workplace, in/visibility of women in the arts and that word -yes FEMINISM!

Issue #2 features some fantastic projects by COFA students Lydia Dowman and Annie Cohen and SRC Womens Officer Clare Nicholson has a rant about gender equality at COFA. There is also a jam packed Whats On calander to feast your eyes on and Kelly Doley's review of The F Word, a day of lively debate about Feminism held recently at The Sydney Opera House.

Enjoy!

Arc@COFA xx

P.S: How cute is our O Week 2012 montage?!!

GET MORE OUT OF UNI LIFE

JOIN Arc TODAY
ONLINE OR Arc @ COFA OFFICE



UNSW Student Life
College of Fine Arts

GO OUT THERE 2012

The Green House studio residency, Fowlers Gap arid zone research station in far western NSW

APPLICATION OPEN TO ALL COFA STUDENTS
Free for COFA students who are Arc members*
(*with COFA extras)

ONLY **ONE DEADLINE** THIS YEAR!!!!
FRIDAY 23 MARCH 2012

info + appln forms at arc.unsw.edu.au/cofa
or from Arc Office @ COFA



ATC
UNSW Student Life
College of Fine Arts

Lydia Dowman at Fowlers Gap



Final year BFA (photo-media) student Lydia Dowman went out to Arc @ COFA's Green House Studio Residency at UNSW Fowlers Gap Research Station (150km inland from Broken Hill) twice last year lastsemester! We caught up with her to talk about her work and this magical place.

What's the background of your practice?

My practice revolves around practice. I am interested in the role of imagery, making images, documenting, sketching, experimenting. I am curious about communication, the subtle and performative and the relationship between self and environment.

What inspired you to go out to Fowlers Gap the first time, and what was it that attracted you to go again only 4 months later?

In June of last year I returned home from a year of study with Alfred University School of Art and Design in New York State. I was pretty broke and anxious to be back in Sydney. Ben called me the night before they were due to leave to tell me Annie had pulled out and ask if would like to go. I had no time to prepare so I just packed all my cameras, a down jacket and left. I love the cool air in the sun at that time of year and the days getting driving west and landscape there is like nothing I had ever experienced.

Seb and I had decided to apply for the residency ourselves as soon as we returned to Sydney. I think

we both wanted to make work and continue to explore the thoughts and concepts which were inspired by the first trip. I could have spent weeks out there.

What did you make out there?

The concept I began to explore in September was inspired by the first trip. A simple concept, working with the sun and a compass, I measured the degrees in which the direction my shadow was angled, at regular intervals during the day. The hypothesis involved a walk that would end at the place in which it began, walking only in the direction of the shadow. My hypothesis ended up failing due to many scientific elements I had chosen not to consider, which in itself became a part of the work.

What are your plans with this work? And what next for you?

At the moment I am mediating on this work and exploring its potential outcomes.

I am finishing my degree this semester and thinking about postgrad study. I am working at the Art Gallery of NSW and focusing on a curatorial opportunity with Kudos Gallery.

Lydia's work will be at Kudos Gallery as part of "BECAUSE WE CAN" 20-24 March.

There is only **ONE** chance to apply to go out to The Green House studio residency this year!!!! **deadline FRI 23 MARCH**. Don't miss it!! download appln form via www.arc.unsw.edu.au/cofa



THE F WORD: A WRAP UP

"The 2010 Global Gender Gap Report found Australia ranked as #1 in terms of educational attainment but #44 for labour-force participation of women. This shows that Australia has one of the most highly educated female populations in the world, yet we do not allow women to fully participate in the workforce."¹

Conversations have become a-buzz with statistics like this of late. A proportionate number of exhibitions, projects and articles have been focusing on the lack of female representation and participation. Despite this, and the grizzly facts above the word 'feminism' for many is still considered a 'dirty word', delegated to be a totem of the past along with images of 'hairy' and 'angry' women 'burning bras'. However, on a rare sunny Sunday, 4 March, thousands of women poured into the Sydney Opera House to face the facts and hear discussion about the dirtiest word of all- the F Word.

The F Word was billed as, 'a talk about global feminism from two of the world's most fearless feminist icons - Germaine Greer and Naomi Wolf and a forum that discusses its future'. Wolf, (who was a fantastic speaker) and Greer (who received standing ovations for both entry and exit) spoke in hour long slots. Greer and Wolf were then joined on a panel by two younger female voices, Clem Bastow, Aussie journalist and founder of the Slut Walk and American journalist and poet Eliza Griswold.

I will begin in the middle.

Germaine was Germaine. Despite her 'shock for shocks sake' statements like, 'burn the scourge of the suburbs!', I adore her for what she has done, written and stood for. She has lasted the distance, which is to be admired. So in this regard it was an invaluable opportunity to hear one of the great Feminist thinkers of our times. However I can't say I connected with what she was saying. She seemed out of touch and she rambled. During Naomi Wolf's talk I was scrawling notes constantly, in Greer I didn't write a single thing. I can't recall anything she gave me to hold onto about the future of feminism, and I was there for answers.

The panel that followed was sketchy and hard to follow. Granted, the chair Jenny Brockie (SBS's *Insight*) had a difficult job taming Germaine, but the flow of interesting conversation kept being broken by silly questions from the audience which were more like statements (ironic given the lengthy and repeated rules from the Opera House on 'what is a question'). I left with ten minutes to go, so frustrated by the conversation, only to hear that I missed a question from legendary feminist Eva Cox, apparently met with roaring applause...

The highlight for me was Naomi Wolf. She opened with the obvious- feminism has hit a plateau and had increasingly become 'irrelevant' to a younger generation. But rather leave us all dragged into the doldrums, Wolf suggested a new approach to



feminism through the lense of the Enlightenment and Mary Wollstonecraft's seminal 18th century text, *A Vindication on the Rights of Woman*. She suggested a fresh approach to feminism based on the fact that everyone should have access to universal human rights. She argued for a 'global feminism' separate to any academic language or theory because a lot of women don't claim to be feminists because they are confused about what it stands for. But as soon as you bring it back to being about everyone's right to equality, things start to make more sense.

This theory proved quite contentious in the closing panel. It seemed the panelists (mainly Eliza Griswold) had a problem with the term 'universal human rights' due to her experience in Muslim countries of conflict by which the term 'universal rights' is considered offensive, wrong and insensitive to cultural practices. By this she was referring to countries subjected to the American 'War on Terror', whereby the invasion of a nation is justified through the doctrine of protecting and fighting for the 'universal human right' to democracy.

Under this lens Wolf's argument does get a little murky. I must admit, whenever anyone starts toting a 'global' anything I get a little nervous. However, at this stage, I'll take anything to get talking about women's equality issues without younger generations freaking out at the 'F Word'.

Because Feminism is not a dirty word. It is something to be proud of, to own. We need to start the conversation again about feminism. Because women's rights are an urgent issue, as the statistics show, women are *still* underrepresented in the majority of sectors in Australia, yet they populate the universities. Women *still* receive on average \$2000 less than their male counter parts in the same roles. Throughout her talk Wolf kept saying, 'You must be free' whilst Greer loudly encouraged one and all to 'Be more difficult.' These were the catch cries I took away from *The F Word* symposium, but there were many more. What I do hope is that these words all help the women in the audience to understand how to operate as a feminist today and to fight for the future of its discourse.

Kelly Doley

¹ Rosemary Howard, Executive Director and Conjoint Professor of AGSM Executive Programs at Australian School of Business, UNSW. September 30th 2011

Images from left to right: Clem Bastow, Eliza Griswold, (a 1970's) Germaine Greer and Naomi Wolf.

WHAT'S ON WHAT'S ON

WEEK 4

MONDAY 19 MAR

**12-6
Careers Expo**
Shuttle buses operate from Gate 2 & Gate 9 High St., UNSW

**2-4
Queer Soc Meeting**
Rm 9.21 Chemical Science UNSW

TUESDAY 20 MAR

**12-1
Soccer**
Meet in Moore Park, balls etc provided

**2 pm
Volunteer Army Info Sessions**
Wurth Room, Level 1 Roundhouse, UNSW

**5-7
"BECAUSE WE CAN"
Members of the 2011 Kudos Management Committee Tully Arnot, Alexandra Clapham, Lydia Dowman, Benjamin Holdstock, Bridie Moran, Stella Rosa McDonald, Zoe Robertson**
Exhibition opening
Kudos Gallery, 6 Napier St, Paddington
Continues to 24 March

WEDNESDAY 21 MAR

**4-5
Nintendo 64 Tournament**
Too good to be true!
Come play and win prizes.
COFA Common Room, Level 1, E Block

**5-7
Mid-Week Social**
Games, prizes, booze and food. COFA Common Room, Level 1, E Block

THURSDAY 22 MAR

**11 am
Arc@COFA presents Oxfam Close The Gap Morning Tea**
Free. Join us for pasties and information session on the issues facing Indigenous Australians.
COFA Common Room Level 1, E Block



**2-4
Sketch Club@Kenso**
BYO sketch stuff.
Model provided.
Level 1 Blockhouse. UNSW

International Beer Festival
Roundhouse, UNSW

FRIDAY 23 MAR

DEADLINE!
Kudos Gallery Exhibition proposals, Art & Design Grant's and Green House residency applications close! Get forms at www.arc.unsw.edu.au/cofa

WEEK 5

MONDAY 26 MAR

**2-4
Queer Soc Meeting**
Rm 9.21 Chemical Science UNSW

TUESDAY 27 MAR

**12-1
Soccer**
Meet in Moore Park, balls etc provided

**5-7
"Mad Object"**
Cladia Bagnell, Kyle Christie, Rosanna Davies, Beth Dillon, Zachariah Fenn, Nick Fox, Sarah Gallagher, Sophie Harvey, Joy Long, James McDonald,

Kyle Morgan, Tamara Muzikants, Pat power, Harriet Robey, Samara Shehata, Jessica Stewart Jackie Terrett, Lizzie Thomson, Miren Zarate
Kudos Gallery, 6 Napier St, Paddington
Continues to 31 March

WEDNESDAY 28 MAR

**3-4
Crafternoons with COFASoc!**
Come make fingerpuppets with COFA Society.
COFA Common Room, Level 1 E Block

**4-5
Nintendo 64 Tournament**
Too good to be true! Come play and win prizes.
COFA Common Room, Level 1, E Block

**5-7
Mid-Week Social**
Games, prizes, booze and food. Oh plus cool peeps. What more can a student ask for?
COFA Common Room, Level 1, E Block

THURSDAY 29 MAR

**2-4
Sketch Club@Kenso**
BYO sketch stuff.
Model provided.
Level 1 Blockhouse. UNSW

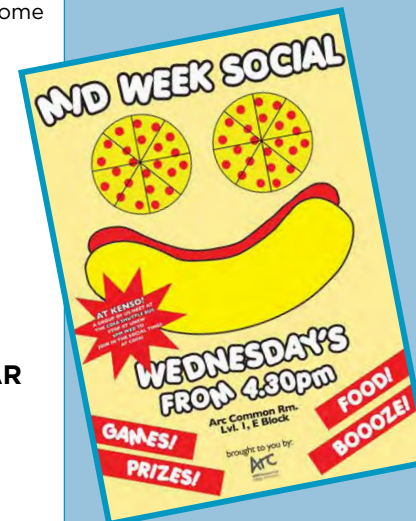
FRIDAY 30 MAR

Nominations for Directors on the Arc Board will close TODAY!
This year there is a CoFA Director position up for election! www.arc.unsw.edu.au/about-us/arc-board/elections

WEEK 6

MONDAY 2 APRIL

**2-4
Queer Soc Meeting**
Rm 9.21 Chemical Science UNSW



TUESDAY 3 APRIL

**12-1
Soccer**
Meet in Moore Park, balls etc provided

WEDNESDAY 4 APRIL

**4-5
Nintendo 64 Tournament**
Too good to be true! Come play and win prizes.
COFA Common Room, Level 1, E Block

**5-7
MID SESSION PARTY!**
Venue TBC! Stay tuned to Facebook: Arc at COFA...

THURSDAY 5 APRIL

**2-4
Sketch Club@Kenso**
BYO sketch stuff.
Model provided.
Level 1 Blockhouse. UNSW

**From 5 pm
TOGA TOGA!
Mid Session Party**
Roundhouse, UNSW

**WEEK 7! WEEK 7! WEEK 7!
DEADLINE! DEADLINE!**

GROUP WORK GRANT
applications are due 20 APRIL! Get forms from www.arc.unsw.edu.au or come into the office, E105, Level 1, E Block COFA



The Biographical Landscape

ԼՄԵ ԲՅՈՃԼՆՅԻՄՐՍՅԱՅ ԼՅԱԳՁՇՇՆԵ

Annie Cohen

Biographic Landscape explores the historical potential of objects and places to contain physical memory, playing with explorations into remnants, excavations, evidence, the philosophy of the past and the interplay of time... and memory.

Opens 5-7 pm, Tuesday 3 April

Exhibition continues to Saturday 14 April

Kudos Gallery, 6 Napier St. Paddington

11am-6pm Wed to Fri, 11am - 4pm Sat







This year COFAtopia is giving over its naughty back page to the COFA Student Representative Council (SRC). The SRC @COFA are a bunch of students who represent YOU! They are there to campaign for your needs to the larger university body as well as make sure your student voice is heard when it comes to national affairs. In this issue we hear from SRC @ COFA Womens Officer Clare Nicholson and in keeping with the theme, Clare talks womens issues on campus. If you want to get involved in the conversation, friend them on FB at COFA Src.



What do you think?

Thursday, 8th March 2012 saw the 101st International Women's Day - a day to celebrate the extraordinary achievements by women all around the world. The United Nations message for this year was "Empower Women-End hunger and poverty".

To say we are fortunate to live in a country that has legislation to prevent discrimination against women is an understatement, especially when you consider how women and girls are treated in many countries. But despite this legislation, massive inequities still exist here-just ask any exhibiting female artist! Sadly, even the most cutting-edge contemporary galleries, which pride themselves for their ability to tease out the nuances of current cultural life, perpetuate the archaic patriarchal cannon of sexism and division, through massive under-representation of women artists. But what to do about this? Are 'Women Only' shows the answer? To use my best academic artspeak, I believe any sort of discrimination totally sux and by having gender based shows that exclude anyone who doesn't identify as being female, are we not perpetuating ongoing discrimination and division? Or is this a legitimate way of redressing the representational imbalance and a way of highlighting the inequity on the whitewashed walls? Do 'Women Only' shows improve the position of women or belittle the importance of their art through the adoption of special compensation?

To me it is a conflictual argument, but what is totally clear is the clarity that it is a dismal societal statement of the 21st century in Australia that women still require special consideration in many areas in order to fight for an equal voice and place in public life. Personally I look forward to the day when gender difference is dismantled by eradicating the concrete male/female binaries. Maybe then absolute equality will take place.

*Clare Nicholson.
COFA Women's Officer.*

BECAUSE WE CAN

The 2011 Kudos Gallery Management Committee

Tully Arnot, Andrew Burford, Alexandra Clapham, Lydia Dowman, Benjamin Holdstock, Bridie Moran, Stella Rosa McDonald, and Zoe Robertson

Opens 5-7pm Tuesday 20 March
Closes Saturday 24 March 2012

Image: Benjamin Holdstock

MAD OBJECT

Claudia Bagnall, Harriet Robey, Jacqueline Terrett, Beth Dillon, Jessica Stewart, Joy Long, Kyle Morgan, Lizzie Thomson, Madeleine Lesjak-Atton, Miren Zarate, Nick Fox, Patrick Power, Rosanna Davies, Samara Shehata, Sophie Harvey, Tamara Muzikants and Zachariah Fenn.

An exhibition of Sculpture, Performance and Installation students investigating the status of objects in contemporary multidisciplinary practice.

Opens 5-7pm Tuesday 27 March
Closes Saturday 31 March 2012

Image: Samara Shehata

BIOGRAPHIC LANDSCAPE

Annie Cohen

Biographic Landscape explores the historical potential of objects and places to contain physical memory.

Opens 5-7pm Tuesday 3 April
Closes Saturday 14 April 2012

Image: Annie Cohen



KUDOS GALLERY

6 Napier St Paddington NSW 2021

11am-6pm Wed to Fri, 11am-4pm Sat

T 02 9326 0034
E kudos@arc.unsw.edu.au
W arc.unsw.edu.au/kudos

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



UP TO
\$10000

DUE
WK 7
20 APRIL



ARC
**GROUP
WORK
GRANT**

START
A **NEW**
COLLEC
TIVE!

A RADIO STATION!
A READING GROUP!
A MAGAZINE!
AN ARTIST RUN
INITIATIVE!

For inspiration & application forms check out our clubs and collectives page at arc.unsw.edu.au/cofa

