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Mushroom Magic detail - work in progress Pip & Pop photo by Rose Jurd

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editorial

In solidarity with the **DIY Rainbow Cross**ing action that has hit the country in the last week, since the **RTA** ashphalted over the rainbow painted across Oxford St. at Taylor Square (16,000 likes in 5 days!!!), and in response to a few drab things going on both on and off campus, this issue of COFAtopia considers and celebrates celebrates some of the many colourful things that students are doing here.

COFA student Boo Patrick launches new COFA student zine in week 6, a photocopied array of cut n paste, prose, art, ideas and recipes. Nick Fox and Rose Jurd share with us their recent experience and brush with fabulous fame, working on the Fashion Week set for local designers Romance Was Born, with WA artists Pip&Pop.

Tom Rynne discusses his current curatorial project Illusion, featuring works by 10 COFA students, and his role as a Kudos Volunteer.

We chat to Jason Phu about new student collective, Throwdown Press, and their amazing print-making residencies on campus.

Lachlan gives us an update on exciting meetings with the new Dean at COFA, and the go ahead on plans for student murals in the courtyard, community gardens, filmscreenings and a new student project space for installations and exhibitions.

And from the SRC, Cassie Harris, gives us a run down on events and activities from the COFA Queer Collective, including upcoming screening of classic doco Paris is Burning in the COFA courtyard in week 7.

As usual our what's on pages are chockblock full - hot tips, opportunities, exhibitions, events, activities. Almost everything free and open to everyone!

We're here for you Arc@COFA xxxx

Manifesto's Dino-Space Launch Party

The Courtyard

Come to my party! It's going to be T-Rexcellent!

X Face painting Dinosaur origami Moon-mellows Cupcakes and a kickass magazine! Wednesday 17th at 1230 hours



There is a long tradition of student zines at COFA. first we know of was **Xerox Positive which** began in 2000 and ran for a couple of years in limited editions with screenprinted front covers and old school b+w photocopying. Zing_tycoon sprang out of that around 2004 and enioved the colourful fun of a developing digital age and colour laser printers. Over the years the zines at COFA have taken on different formats, low-fi and hi-fi techniques in cut n paste. and been through a few different photo-copiers in the students associations office. In a year of new beginnings here at COFA. third year of the Bachelor of Art Theory student and **COFA SRC representa**tive Boo Patrick has been working on a new COFA student zine which will launch in week 6.

What is Manifesto?

Manifesto is a new magazine, created to display the many talents of COFA students. We feature artworks. articles. poetry and interactive exercises, and are an opportunity to show your work to a wider audience.

Our issues are determined by the interests of whoever contributes, as we don't set themes, or place many restrictions on content.

How does it work?

A group of contributors meet on Mondays at 5, in the E Block Learning Commons, every week. At the meetings, we discuss what we're planning on doing, and might workshop ideas together. We accept writing and visual material on everything not related to art criticism itself, (i.e. exhibition reviews). We keep in touch online, and encourage each other with our articles and art.

What made you want to start a zine at COFA?

I liked the idea of having a COFA student magazine, as we don't really aet Tharunka at our campus. I figured that with all the artists and writers concentrated on our campus, the zine would be a great vehicle for demonstrating talent. With art theory particularly, many publications require prior experience, and Manifesto is a great

way of gaining some.

How do I get involved?

Come to our meetings! It's a great way to meet people from outside your degree, and we're all pretty nice. Otherwise, feel free to email me to find out more, boo.patrick@hotmail.com or to send in submissions.

You can also drop off submissions in hard copy to the Arc Office @ COFA.

We also have a facebook page: facebook.com/ ManifestoCOFAzine

Submissions for our second edition are due on 29th April.

We're launching our first issue Wed 17th April in the courtvard along with Arc @ COFA's fortnightly free lunch. Our theme is Space Launch: Dinosaurs. so you'll recognize us by out tin foil and/or intense teeth. We'll be having homemade moonmellows and origamidinosaur making workshops, so if you would like to have fun and consume free food. please join us then!

working with

Five COFA students and recent BFA (SPI) graduates: Rose Jurd, Nick Fox, Sophie Harvey, Harriet **Robey, Miren Zarate did** a short internship in early **April working with** exciting internationally renowned Kawaii inspired artists, Pip & Pop from WA. The project was to build the set for Sydney based label Romance Was Born as part of Mercedes Fashion Week. We caught up with Rose and Nick just after the show to find out all about it...

How did you get involved in this project?

Rose: I'm good friends with Anna Plunkett, one of the RWB designers. I've worked with them in the past. Anna asked me to find assistants to help build the set alongside artist Pip and Pop (Tanya Shultz). She needed interns for the 5 days leading up to fashion week. I rounded up all my artist friends to aet involved and created a timetable with a shift work sort of schedule from 9am-12am every day with at least two assistants on with Tanya and her partner Chad.

What were you required to do?

Nick: I was there to do anything they needed. in the morning i was asked to help clean the space, clearing away any dirt/dust and rubbish. I also assisted in organising the small trees, figures, and other decorations that were being used in the artwork. Then in the

afternoon Harriot. Miran. Sophie, Rose and I worked together making and decorating the sugar islands.

R: It was a really fun experience. In the end, Tanya really trusted us and we had a lot of artistic free reign, which was great!

Using that 'free reign', what did you each bring to the project?

N: We would be given an island to create by the artist and she would give a brief description of what she wanted the island to look like, including the colours used and what type of decorations we should use. Once she approved the colours we selected, we worked with free reign. We could decide the size and shape of the island, how the colours were arranged and how we placed the decorations. It was such an amazing experience placing and deciding how to create the islands. It was so fantastic to have that trust from the artist and be able to let your creativity run free! It was so interesting to work with the other students and see how our collaborative efforts created such diverse and wonderful results. This made each island unique and original. I loved creating the sugar islands with the small funnels and then deciding what decorations, even though at first it was a bit nerve racking!

What did vou both learn on both a practical and collaborative level?

how having a number of people working on something creates a really interesting mix of styles that do work well together at the end, especially when the materials are similar. I found that working in a team created a really fun and exciting atmosphere in the space, and it made the whole task easier. When i create work that has a common material I will definitely get volunteers and get them to help me in creating the work.

What do you think is the benefit of getting involved as interns or assistants on other artists projects such as this?

N: The best element of all is that you work with great people and learn so much from the artist. There is always something amazing that shows you a new way of working, harnessing materials and creating an idea. To also see how commissions work is of great value. There is always something great to learn no matter how simple the task.

Will this experience inform your own practice?

N: It will definitely influence my practice. It has inspired me to work with new materials that i would not of used before, and it has inspired me to continue a past project that involves sugar. This experience was also so fun and rewarding. To be involved in such an exciting and beautiful work is such a blessing and i hope i can work with the N: We discovered a lot about artist again in the future. 7



ILLUSION

Illusion is an exhibition curated by BFA (SPI major) student and Kudos Volunteer Tom Rynne which opens at Kudos Gallery, 6 Napier St Paddington, 5-7pm Tues 16 April. We caught up with Tom during install to find out about this hot mysterious show...

What is Illusion about?

The show's is about the lie that reveals the truth.

As artists we spend much of our time thinking about "The Truth". but in a world where truth depends more on what newspapers you read, what TV you watch and who your facebook friends are. the idea has lost much of its currency. As a group our works deal with a wide spectrum of ideas around truth, lies, fact, fiction, the real and the artificial. We aim to question what reality and illusion are, with stops at delusion, dreams, our own private wonderlands and the starkest of realities. Our works traverse themes from interpersonal relationships and connections to the need to escape the reality we find ourselves in. whether through dreams or through drink. We're here to question what is real and we're here to examine our illusions.

Who is in the show and what can we expect?

Katherine Rooke, Campbell Henderson, Florence Kumar, Anthony McMenamin, Kieran Butler, Brandon Rahme, Mary Jo Costache, Meng-Yu Yan, Julius Macefield and myself with a mix of digital works, photography, video, and sculpture.

Why do we need to escape reality in our daily lives? Is it the rise of reality tv?

I would argue that reality TV is an escape from reality, but more broadly we all need our escapes. Dance floors, the renaissance fair, Doctor Who, painting, the Twilight Saga, your new boyfriend, whatever. Reality is rarely what we want it to be, so we all escape in one way or another.

What role does technology play in the role of truth, lies, fact and fiction, the real and the artificial?

Technology can be a liar's best friend. It can help you lie more believably, create better artifice and spread your lie all over the planet. Technology also works as a revealer of truth, whether your iPhone tells apple where you are all day every day or CCTV catches you at an ungodly hour committing an ungodly act. Technology can work both ways when it comes to truth and lies, whether lazy journalists are

How do you escape reality?

I bleach my hair, throw on some glitter and go dancing.

Fabulous! How did you become a Kudos Vollie?

It was the second opening i went to there, I'd met the (incredibly approachable) Alex, and it was as simple as asking if she needed help doing anything. She grabbed my email and I was behind the bar the next week.

Why did you want to get involved with Kudos?

At the risk of sounding like a talking brochure, it was to "get the most out of uni life".

What is the best thing about being a Kudos Vollie?

Well I'm often found behind the bar, because pouring drinks is one of my few skills, and that's a definite plus. But it was the people I've met. Twee but true, the more people you meet at COFA, the more fun you'll have while studying.

Illusion runs until Sat 27 April

WEEK 6

MON 15 April

1 pm Stitch n Bitch COFA Common Room Level 1 E Block

3pm

COFA Courtyard Installation Collective

Second meeting to discuss ways to green and 'art-ify' the courtyard - this week with new COFA Dean Ross Harley Learning Commons, Level 1 E Block

4pm

Launch of FRAMEWORK A new online arts magazine published by Arc @ COFA supporting emerging arts writers and critical dialogue at COFA. E BLock Learning Commons

4-6pm Queer Collective

Queer Space, Room 9.21), Level 9, Chemical Sciences Building.UNSW

5pm COFA zine 'Manifesto'

contributors' meeting Learning Commons, Level 1 E Block

Call out for entries:

UNSWeetened Literary Journal - featuring poetry and prose from both undergraduate and postgraduate students. The publication is also a serious literary competition that is judged by members of Sydney's writing scene. Deadline is in June visit arc.unsw.edu.au/unsweetened

TUES 16 April 10-11am

Free breakfast Provided by R.O.C.K.E.T Club and COFA SRC COFA Courtyard

4-5pm Hot Tips

Hear from Arts Industry experts about what it takes to make it as an artist. This week NAVA will provide financial advice for artists Learning Commons, Level 1 E Block

4:30-5:30pm Yoga

Get stretchy and relax! \$5 for Arc members CB09. C Block

5-7pm

Exhibition opening ILLUSION curated by Tom Rynne continues to 27 April Kudos Gallery 6 Napier St. Paddington

6.30pm COFA Talks

All we need is art sweet art Penelope Benton, Alex Clapham, Tony Albert, Anthea Leonard EG02

WED 17 April 12:30pm

Free Vegetarian Lunch funded by Arc@COFA COFA Courtyard

Manifesto LAUNCH Dinosaur Party COFA courtyard, 12.30pm

THU 18 April All Day International Beer

& Food Festival UNSW Roundhouse

12-1

COFA Soccer Train up for the Fine Arts Cup in Sem 2 against NAS and SCA! Moore Park

WHAT'S ON WHAT'S OI

3-4pm

English Discussion Group Do you want to improve your spoken English? These are student-led groups; there are guided discussions, debates, presentations and more. The Hub UNSW

4:30-5:30 pm

Yoga Get stretchy and relax! \$5 for Arc members CB09, C Block

FRI 19 April

Brightside Mentoring East Sydney High School

2-3 pm Yoga

Get stretchy and relax! FREE for Arc members CB09, C Block

SAT 20 April All Day Roller Disco: Tiki Party UNSW Roundhouse



INTO THE FUTURE EMERGING TALENT

An exhibition works selected by arts workers, dealers and artist's agents presenting emerging artists who they believe are destined to become the future of Indigenous art Including works by COFA SRC Indigenous Officer, **Teena McCarthy** (pictured). on show at Coo-ee Aboriginal Art Gallery until Sat 20 April



NON TEACHING WEEK TUES 23 APRIL

Exhibition continues

ILLUSION curated by Tom Rynne continues to 27 April Kudos Gallery 6 Napier St. Paddington

THU 25 APRIL

1-2pm Meditation. Mindfulness and breathing CB09

FRI 26 APRIL 2-3pm

Yoga, Get stretchy and relax! CB09, C Block

WEEK 8

MON 29 APRIL

Stitch n Bitch Learning Commons Level 1 E Block

4-6pm Queer Collective Queer Space, Room 9.21), Level 9,

Queer Space, Room 9.21), Level 9, Chemical Sciences Building. UNSW

TUES 30 APRIL 10 - 11 am

Free breakfast Provided by R.O.C.K.E.T Club and COFA SRC COFA Courtyard

4-5 pm Hot Tips

Hear from Arts Industry experts about what it takes to make it as an artist. This week NAVA will provide financial advice for artists Learning Commons, Level 1 E Block

4:30-5:30 pm Yoga

Get stretchy and relax! \$5 for Arc members CB09, C Block

5-7pm

Exhibition opening WALKING MOUNTAINS: RESPONSES FROM THE HEART A pilgrimage through the Kumano Kodo Trail, Japan continues to 4 May Kudos Gallery 6 Napier St. Paddington

6.30pm COFA Talks

Art in the Aftermath of War Bonita Ely, Warwick Heyward, Ben Quilty, Alex Seeton EG02. COFA

7-11pm Sydney Comedy Festival Showcase UNSW Roundhouse

WED 1 MAY

12:30pm Free Lunch COFA Courtyard

6pm PGC Trivia Night UniBar, Roundhouse UNSW

THU 2 MAY

12-1pm COFA Soccer Train up for the Fine Arts Cup in Sem 2 against NAS and SCA! Moore Park

4:30 – 5:30 pm Yoga Get stretchy and relax!

\$5 for Arc members CB09, C Block

7pm Postgraduate Drinks with your COFA PG Officer Arts Bar, Oxford St. Paddington

FRI 3 MAY 2-3 pm Yoga, Get stretchy and relax!



CB09. C Block

show at Coo-ee Aboriginal Gallery until Sat 20 April



Australia Council will be giving us HOT TIPS on how to apply for their grants and residency opportunities

Arc

COFA







Throwdown Press are a new COFA collective running print-making residencies on campus. We caught up with one of the collective members Jason Phu to find out more about them...

What are you studying at COFA?

I'm currently studying my Master of Fine Arts. Mv research aims to provide a satirical perspective on the nature of Australia/ Asian identity in contemporary, white Australian society. Central to this research is a fictitious construction of an alternate history: What if the Qian Long Emperor (1711 - 1799) from Qing Dynasty China (1368-1644) colonised Australia in 1758. three decades before Arthur Phillip's First Fleet?

What is Throwdown Press?

Throwdown Press was conceived by Ben Rak and I to offer artists an encounter with a new medium. A not-forprofit residency program, Throwdown Press targets 3 post-graduate students a semester with no printmaking experience. Our aim is to build relationships that are critical in a contemporary artistic environment and to plant the seeds of curiosity, experimentation and open dialogue. We facilitate the invited artists' creation of a body of work that addresses both the restrictions of a new language and the possibilities and limitless pathways of multidisciplinary artwork.

How did it start?

As multidisciplinary artists we frequently found ourselves outside the printmaking studios. On many occasions we had difficulty accessing appropriate equipment and acquiring the technical knowledge we required to realise our artistic ideas. After a day of griping about this we decided that we didn't want other students to feel this way about the printmaking studios. So we started the program. We chose a few artists who were from varying artistic communities across the campus and helped them realise prints they might never have done because of the lack of electives or time.

What was the premise of the exhibition at COFAspace recently?

The title Mirror Mirror referred to the curation of the show. Artists were asked to bring work from their familiar studio practice and we curated these works along with the prints they made during the residency. This way the audience could identify how each artist responded to the technicalities and restrictions of the medium from their practices in painting, photography, video, performance and sculpture.

What is the long-term vision for the program?

Ben and I both realised that it wasn't only the invitees that learnt something from this experience, so we would like to get more printmaking students involved in helping the program. Hopefully in the future we'll be able to hand over Throwdown Press to another couple of students.

For now we would like to have the program continue to run on an ongoing basis, we're grateful to Michael Kempson, Head of Printmaking for allowing us use of the printmaking studios.

You can find more info on Throwdown Press at

throwdownpress.wordpress.com

Jason Phu can be found at www.jasonphu.com

PARIS IS BURNING

Wednesday April 24 - 6pm Courtyard

> Come and see this brilliant documentary about the 80's African -American Ball scene, a must-see queer classic, in the courtyard. Nibblys provided.



The COFA courtyard is about to undergo a huge makeover transformation into a welcoming space alive and buzzing with art and activity. As a result of the Courtyard Collective's meeting with the new Dean, Professor Ross Harley yesterday, we have been given the go ahead for a community garden, rotaing student murals, and installations.

Unfortunately at the moment the university is trying to address the 4000 construction defects the building contractors have left us with. which means we can't paint murals on the walls yet but this can happen as soon as the defects are resolved. Installation works can start happening a little earlier. As soon as the furniture is put in which should be the start of next semester we can explode our art all over the place.

On the other hand, the community garden is happening now! Over the next few weeks you will start to see strange Daleklike plant pods popping up around the area outside the library. These pods will boast beautiful flowers, aromatic herbs and delicious veggies that will be managed and reaped by us, the students.

Movie nights are also happening now! The giant white wall of C-Block is a perfect surface to project films onto, the COFA Queer Collective has been the first to grasp this opportunity and will be screening the documentary 'Paris is Burning' on Wed 24 April from 6pm.

The most exciting development is that the Dean handed over his offices on the ground floor of D-block to the student body as exhibition spaces. These glass walled rooms look out on the courtyard and are an amazing place to conduct performances, live art production, and to exhibit installations.

We are currently coming up for a name for this new student project space, and are taking suggestions - so send 'em in! These spaces will be open to any students who want to use them, all you will need to do is send a proposal to the Courtyard Collective via the Arc Office at COFA and if it doesn't involve anything problematic like a raging bonfire or litres of sulphuric acid, we'll slot you in!

Stay tuned for more updates, or if you have any questions/want to be involved come up to the Arc office and say hi!! or search for the Courtyard Installation Collective on facebook.



The SRC @COFA are a bunch of students who represent YOU! They are here 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 one of the SRC @ COFA Queer Officer's Cassie Harris

If you want to get involved in the conversation, friend them on FB at COFA Src.



Mine and Edison's job is to support, advocate for and create events for LGBTIQ students at COFA. We have had three successful events at COFA since O-Week, including a trip to the Mardi Gras Museum, a tea party and a sushi and origami lunch, yes that's our origami hanging up in the E Block learning commons. Next up we have a screening of the queer classic documentary Paris is Burning in the courtyard at 6pm on Wednesday 24 April.

I'm also putting together a zine for International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia, submissions are due May 6th and you can send them to c.harris@arc.unsw.edu.au. Both writing and artworks of printable varieties are very welcome. Edison and I also have a close relationship with the Queer Officers at Kensington campus, where Queer Collective meetings are held twice a week, on Mondays 4-6 and Thursdays 2-4 on Level 9 of the Chemical Sciences building. The collective also holds various workshops, games and movie nights and parties, to be added to email list, you can email me at the address above as well.

> We look forward to meeting more students throughout the year and we would be interested in hearing your ideas for future events.

ILLUSION

Curated by Thomas Rynne

With the rise of internet technologies the idea of truth has lost much of its currency. This exhibition will deal with a wide spectrum of ideas around truth, lies, fact, fiction, the real and the artificial.

Opens 5-7pm Tuesday 16 April Closes Saturday 27 April 2013



WALKING MOUNTAINS:

RESPONSES FROM THE HEART

Daniel Antkowiak, Melissa Beowulf, Meredith Christie, Marissa Dale-Johnson, Donna Eddie, Amanda Farquharson, Jade Gunn, Wenhui He, Lachlan Herd, Joanne Meligonitis, Toshiko Oiyama, Katya Petetskaya, Chloe Platt, Spider Redgold, Anna Russell, Renae Swann, Rachel Waters, Christine Wiltshier

A group exhibition featuring works created as a response to a pilgrimage through the Kumano Kodo Trail, Japan; an International Special Elective, taught and organised by Louise Fowler-Smith.

Opens 5-7pm Tuesday 30 April Closes Saturday 4 May 2013

MORPHOLOGY Ainsley Wilcock, Anitta Smith, Louise Zhang, Mathew Purchase. Emma Davey Jenkins

A multi-disciplinary exploration of art forms in nature playing with the phenomenal aspects of the seemingly irrational natural world and the imperial/ rational world of natural sciences.

Opens 5-7pm Tuesday 10 May Closes Saturday 18 May 2013



KUDOS GALLERY 6 Napier St Paddington NSW 2021

11am-6pm Wed to Fri, 11am-4pm Sat T 02 9326 0034

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

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



FRAMEWORK

#1 | the renewal issue new online arts journal online now arc.unsw.edu.au/cofaframework

