Not much of a theme in this issue of COFAtopia - just a whole lot of stuff to see, do, be part of, go to, read about. I guess you call that: student life.

Liz Nowell tells us about SafARI, a major alternative Biennale festival happening throughout ARIs in Chippendale and Potts Point.

UNSW SRC and NUS are holding a National Day of Action for education rights on Wed 26 March.

A COFA Design student came and asked us if we would offer a subsidy for COFA students who are Arc members to go to a new massive Design conference in Melbourne 2-4 April - we said yes!!! There’s not much time to register tho, earlybird tickets close 25 March! of course you can still register after this date and request the subsidy, but you save 50 bucks if you do it now.

Another COFA Design student, Amy Emerson, is coordinating this year’s Arc Student Cookbook, we caught up with her for a chat about imprecipes.

The COFA Mural Project is on again - we’re calling for large scale wall works, preferably for the large stack on the stairs in the courtyard. Something arty, painterly, or conceptual, or political, or designy, even decorative? Hit us! Such an opportunity! Do you know how many commissions Henry got out of the mural he did in the courtyard?? LOTS!

We chat to Anneke Pol, double degree student and head of COFA Grants Committee about opportunities to get money from us here at Arc @ COFA this year. $10,000 in Art & Design Grants, $5,000 in Quick Response Grants, $1,000 in Visionary Grants, and about $5,000 in subsidies for The Green House - by the way we didn’t receive many application for the residency so will accept late ones - talk to Penelope.

Lastly a deadline for Kudos exhibition proposals Friday 4 April - same date as cookbook entries close, mural project proposals are due, and what a coincide, the last day of SafARI. So the theme of this issue is 4 April. ha!

no really if you need help with applying for these things, come see us. x
Curated by Christiane Keys-Stratham and Liz Nowell, SafARI is a biennial exhibition showcasing the work of emerging and unrepresented Australian artists. Celebrating its tenth year in 2014, SafARI stretches across 6 venues over inner Sydney and presents the work of 14 artists and collectives from around the country. Also running is SafARI LIVE, presenting the work of 7 Sydney-based performance artists and collectives across various venues. COFA students past and present in SafARI this year include: Alexandra Clapham and Penelope Benton, Beth Dillon, Gemma Messih, Kelly Doley, Frances Barret and Paul Williams.

Kudos Gallery recently hosted SafORUM, a one-day event examining how different artist initiatives operate within their social, cultural, political and economic realities, and functioning to encourage the Australian ARI community to make connections outside its own borders.

We caught up with co-curator Liz Nowell to have a brief chat about SafARI and this year’s program.

How did you get involved with SafARI?

Like all SafARI team members, I responded to a national call-out. As someone who had only lived in Sydney for two years at the time, the chance to fully immerse myself in the local and national art scene, was an opportunity I couldn’t pass up.

What does your role in curating SafARI involve?

Everything! Coming from an institutional background meant that I was used to having certain things done for me, for example, marketing or installation. Curating SafARI is incredibly different. We operate on a tight budget within a very small team of 6, and whilst we have set roles we very much move between these. The main tasks I undertake as co-curator and share with my colleague Chris is liaising with artists, managing stakeholders, working with venues, overseeing design and programming the overall festival.

What is the best thing about working with emerging artists?

Their friendship. I feel like the difference between working with established artists and working with emerging artists, is that usually emerging artists are much more keen to get involved with the community. I’ve made so many dear friends during my time working on SafARI. When we weren’t working, we usually laughing.

How do you envision the future of this festival?

I think ARIs are changing and I think it’s important SafARI continues to moves with the times. I’ve no doubt it will expand year after year.

For me, it’s absolutely crucial that as many people as possible see SafARI and I hope future curators work hard to ensure that happens. We need the world to see how much talent exists in this country.

Events in the SafARI program in the last 2 weeks include:

SATURDAY 29 MARCH
SafARI LIVE performances:
The Cross Art Projects
LINDA BRESCIA, 3 – 6pm
The Corner
KELLY DOLEY, midday – 5pm, FRANCES BARRETT, from 12

Wellington Street Projects
OK YEAH COOL GREAT 1 – 2pm ALEXANDRA CLAPHAM + PENEOPE BENTON, 2 – 6pm

SUNDAY 30 MARCH
The Corner
KELLY DOLEY, midday – 5pm
Children’s mask-making workshop with Linda Brescia 10-1130am Sunday 30 March Darlington Street Studio

FRIDAY 4 APRIL
SafARI Closing Night! 6-9pm ALASKA Projects

For full program go to http://safari.org.au/2014/
Within the space of just four months Tony Abbott and Minister for Education Christopher Pyne have made attempts to smash Centrelink entitlements, reduce funding to universities by billions of dollars, and reinstate a feudal funding structure where only the rich can afford a university education.

The Liberal government is on the warpath and they're coming after students! Abbott and Pyne have tabled a bill in Parliament to cut $900 million from higher education and another bill to cut Centrelink start up scholarships, a vital lifeline for tens of thousands of students who already live below the poverty line.

The $900 MIL ‘efficiency dividend’ is going to Senate on Tues 25 Mar, once they gain full control of the Senate things will get a whole lot worse.

Pyne has commissioned right wing neoliberal team (inc. Amanda Vanstone) to look into raising fees and selling off student HECs debt to private investors. Not content with these neoliberal economic measures, Abbott and Pyne also want to impose their social conservatism and right wing ideas on schools and universities. Many subjects like Indigenous studies and gender studies are (further) endangered under this government.

NUS (National Union of Students) urges students to come out in a show of force against Pyne’s callous attacks on the right to education and the quality of education, demanding that the government stops the cuts, increases funding to universities and raises student welfare allowances.

In Sydney, as in every other city around the country, there is a central protest to involve all students from the area. NSW students can join in the national protest at UTS Tower on Wednesday 26 March at 1pm to march to Belmore Park to demand a free, fully-funded education.

UNSW SRC are hosting a Pre-Protest Party from 11am on Wednesday on the Village Green (or in the Roundhouse if it’s raining) prior to the rally, with bands and DJs, a BBQ, icecream and facepaint, to show that university students will not be the victims of further education attacks.

If you’re not a political person, don’t worry! We are not promoting any political party, but showing that all students from all backgrounds will be affected by these cuts, and that all students have a part to play in improving our education.

For more information or to get involved with the campaign, contact Education Officer Billy Bruffey via education@arc.unsw.edu.au.
Only those who attempt the absurd will achieve the impossible. 
I think it’s in my basement... let me go upstairs and check.

— M.C. Escher —

Arc @ COFA is offering COFA students who are Arc members a $100 subsidy to attend the upcoming Look Upstairs conference in Melbourne. Early Bird tickets are on sale until 25 March! Get in QUICK!!

Look Upstairs brings together the largest gathering of international design leaders ever seen in Australia from across 2D, 3D and digital disciplines, as a professional development resource for creative practitioners. 41 speakers from 20 nations, global leaders from across communication, product, industrial, advertising, digital, lighting, sound and the built environment will share their insights about practicing in a world where design is converging with business, society, science and technology. No longer can we isolate ourselves to single disciplines or platforms. Innovation is happening as a result of collaboration, cross disciplinary teams and multidisciplinary practitioners.

The world is looking to design for answers and Look Upstairs is the only event in Australia that brings together all design disciplines to explore global best practice.

A new event for Melbourne Look Upstairs is presented by the agIdeas team and curated by Ken Cato AO.

Presented in association with Art Centre Melbourne, the event provides three days of inspiring and informative talks, conversations and debates in the newly renovated Hamer Hall and a temporary Design Space on the Melbourne Art Centre lawn where there will be exhibitions, social events and workshops with design leaders, industry associations, scientists and business and the general public.

For creative practitioners who want to meet and make connections for future collaborations and who seek inspiration to push the boundaries of their own practice. Look Upstairs is the landmark event for creative practitioners during Melbourne International Design Week and will be attended by designers, advertisers, educators, and students from all disciplines throughout our region.

3 Day Student Pass $285*/$335
*Early Bird price, ends 25 March 2014

All 3 Day ticket holders will receive a copy of the Look Upstairs book.

Day 1
Wesley Burt USA
Luke Lucas Australia
Robbie Wells New Zealand
Studio Roosegaarde Nlands
Jason Hutchinson Australia
Björn Kusoffsky Sweden
Alla Wolf-Tasker AM Aust
David Retailack Australia
Ken-Tsai Lee Taiwan
MariVelonaki Australia
Dick Frizzell New Zealand
Paolo Tassinari Italy
Greg More Australia
Kym Barrett Australia

Day 2
Philippe Apeloig France
Mark Douglass Australia
Cordula Alessandri Austria
Jonathan Zawada Australia
Ken Carbone USA
Kelo Kubu South Africa
Agnello Dias India
Hannah Rose Robinson Aust
Charles Wilson Australia
Saeed Meshki Iran
Søren Petersen USA
Rowena Curlewis Australia
Alejandro Magalanes Mexico

Day 3
Kongjian Yu China
Anupama Kundoo India
John Bielenberg Germany
Sean Godsell Australia
Alex Lehours Australia
Alison Page Australia
Super Critical Mass Australia
Francesco Calvi Australia
Raymond Coffey UK
Giuseppe (Pino) Demaio Aus
Andre Baldinger Switzerland
Kent Sneddon New Zealand
Sandra Hill Australia
Paul Boudens Belgium

lookupstairs.com.au
FRAMESWORK
online arts journal
the SPECTACLE issue
LAUNCH
4pm Tuesday 1 April 2014
Arc @ COFA student lounge

Featuring articles by
Kieran Bryant & Lachlan Herd
Annie Murney
Olivia Welch
Maria White
Alyce Neal

arc.unsw.edu.au/cofaframework

WEEK 4
EAT LESS MEAT WEEK
Tuesday 25 March
12-130pm: Arc @ COFA Free Vege lunch + COFA Sounds,
COFA courtyard
* if you haven’t already signed up for Arc membership, you can do it whilst you’re waiting for lunch! Winner!!
5-7pm: Golden Ciphers: Three Red Herrings,
Dominic Kirkwood exhibition opening at Kudos Gallery, 6 Napier St Paddington
6-8pm: COFA Public Lecture Series - Astrid Lorange on Transnational Feminisms, EG02

Friday 28 March
1030am: Free Bread Fridays, presented by the COFA Council
11am-1pm: Brightside Mentoring Program
Un_Earthed: Manufactured Landscapes + Plan the Planet works by Edward Burtynsky and Anthropocene Observatory at UNSW Galleries until 10 May

WEEK 5
COFA COUNCIL ELECTION THIS WEEK
Tuesday 1 April
4pm
Framework launch
The Spectacle issue
Arc student lounge

5-7pm
Forgotten Faces
The Greeks Of Constantinople 1870-1920 as part of the annual Greek Festival of Sydney opens at Kudos Gallery
6 Napier St Paddington

Friday 4 April
1030am
Free bread Fridays
COFA courtyard

5pm
Deadline for Kudos Gallery exhibition proposals - for shows June - September 2014

WEEK 6
Tuesday 8 April
12noon
FREE VEGE LUNCH
COFA Courtyard

COFA Sounds

6-8pm: COFA Public Lecture EG02
Amy Emerson is a 2nd year COFA Design student majoring in Graphics and Textiles. She is currently coordinating the Arc Student Cookbook for 2014. The Arc Student Cookbook is an annual publication compiled from recipes submitted by UNSW students. The theme of this year’s Student Cookbook is “Imprecipes: Recipes to Impress”. We caught up with Amy to ask her a few questions.

Can you tell us about your role in coordinating this exciting publication? What specifically interested you about this position?

My role as Cookbook Coordinator involves bringing together all aspects of the program, from organising and recruiting volunteers, cookbook promotion, as well as working on the publication, organising the launch event, liaising with sponsors and Celebrity Judges, and everything else in between. I get a lot autonomy to be able to make the program my own and take it wherever I wish to go which is something that’s really exciting! This year I’ve selected a very talented bunch of designers, photographers, illustrators, editors and communications and sponsorship assistants and it’s going to be a really fun and exciting project!

I was interested in the role as it enables me to work on something I’m passionate about and think I might like to do in the future (publication). I get the ability to develop some really great professional skills that are transferrable into any industry, such as learning how to manage a project, producing a publication, planning and managing my time effectively, volunteer management and event planning.

The Student Cookbook would attract a wide range of recipes. I imagine these would be from various cultures, backgrounds as well as various types of food. In your view, what would a recipe to impress involve?

The great thing about a Student Cookbook is that it’s all about embracing the diversity of the students we have here at UNSW. We aim for the cookbook to have easy to follow recipes that are budget friendly. Your impressive recipe can be anything that’s ever tantalised yours, or someone else taste buds! It doesn’t need to be fancy or expensive at all to make!

How can students get involved in providing recipes and being involved with the new publication, Imprecipes: Recipes to Impress?

We are currently looking for recipe submissions from students so please email your recipe to cookbook@arc.unsw.edu.au or you can also submit by filling out a form on Orgsync orgsync.com/81028/forms/100973

Submissions close in Week 5, Friday 4 April 2014.

Stayed tuned for details about our launch event on 4 June!

Chef's Tip: Unlike cakes, you don’t want a skewer inserted to come out all clean. The brownies should be slightly springy on the outside but gooey in the middle.
Mural.

Whether they are garden scenes enshrouding the interior of a pre-school, religious frescoes adorning the walls of caves or immense narrative scenes encouraging the emancipation of the working class...murals are of distinct importance. By the relatively simple act of bringing art into the public sphere, individuals are visually enticed by the world around them. This basic precursor flares the potential to: stimulate discussion, communicate viewpoints and attract public attention. Or simply, just make the world appear aesthetically exciting.

The Arc @ COFA mural project was successfully inaugurated by 2nd year BFA student, Henry Curchod. Henry constructed a bright, geometric painting to frame the new COFA courtyard.

In lieu of this success, Arc @ COFA in collaboration with COFA, Eckersley’s and The Art Scene are inviting proposals for students to develop large scale wall works around campus. Works that are politically engaged, showcase the skills you have acquired through your years of creative development, meaningfully engage with the architecture and surrounding environment of COFA or conceptual painting projects are welcomed.

This is an opportunity for immense exposure of your work to the thousands of students on campus as well as the numerous industry professionals who visit.

A clear proposal indicating what you want to do, where you want to do it and why is desirable. Visualisations and images of past work as well as indications of the benefits of the project should be included.

In the first round for 2014, we are looking for someone to mark the stack on the stairs, just on the perimeter of the courtyard.

That said, there are actually several sites that have been identified as possibilities with the Dean, Prof Ross Harley and Facilities Management at COFA, and we will accept proposals for those sites in this round also. They include:

- The stack on the staircase of the courtyard (next to the student garden)
- The far wall that you see when entering the loading dock - basement G Block
- The courtyard side of Elwyn Lynn Conference Centre (G Block facade)
- The wall down the stairs outside The Art Scene
- Under the awning outside Arc @ COFA's student lounge
- The walkway of D block to get to the stairs to basement and upper levels

You may submit more than one application, and both individual and collaborative proposals are encouraged. We also encourage both artists and designers to apply. Works can be narrative or decorative, realist or abstract.

Ideas for large scale wall works that aren’t necessarily painting will also be accepted, such as paste-ups.

Applications are assessed by a committee of current students and an academic member of staff from the COFA Faculty.

A site-specific design must be submitted. This includes:

- A sketch or digital image of the design including the dimensions of proposed work.
- Images of relevant past work.
- A budget for materials.
- A proposed timeline for completion.
- A brief explanation and concept of the design.

To apply, follow the links to the online application form by going to arc.unsw.edu.au/cofa and clicking on top right where it says: All Arc@COFA and Kudos application forms are available via OrgSync HERE - you need to login with your Arc membership to get to the form. If you have trouble come see us in the Arc office @ COFA, back of the student lounge off the courtyard.

Deadline: Friday 4 April
What is your background and what draws you to visual arts?
I previously studied commerce for 2 years, which I thoroughly disliked so followed my passion, Art Theory. I did art in high-school, where I was taught the theory and practice of both classical and contemporary artists, and I completed an oil-painting short course at COFA where I developed a love for the colour, texture and smell of oil-paints. I am passionate about the Visual Arts and believe it is an area for not only displaying true creativity but is an expression of the essence of the human spirit.

Art and Design Grants are a key feature of communities that foster creative arts and community development. In Australia, NAVA, as well as the Australia Council of the Arts are vital platforms supporting creative professional development. In your view, what is the function and purpose of art and design grants in the context of Arc@COFA?
The Grants Committee will be offering three key Grants this year; the Art and Design Grant, the Quick Response Grant and COFA Visionary Grant. Grant’s play a massive role in the Fine Art world. The development of the arts is a way in which societies around the globe mark themselves. This artistic development is normally supported by Governments internationally and at a domestic level. The grant application process will make up a large part of any Fine Art students life after graduation, due to the pure fact that both galleries and artists alike apply or review grant applications. As you said, it is easy to get lost in the process of developing a unique vision for yourself or group. What draws you to visual arts?

This year I will stimulating the promotion of grants, making them more accessible to COFA students and working with student to begin a club or society on campus. Joining with fellow students to bring vibrancy through providing additional financial support is a rewarding process that I look forward to.
What makes a good application?
A good application is anything but dull. It should address the questions, clearly show that you have a clear vision for your project and how it will practically work. It is important to think outside the box and really gives financial support for those last minute opportunities i.e being called in to have an exhibition in an empty slots in a gallery. It is a grant specifically set up for COFA students and was designed to work around their needs and the constantly adapting and shifting life of an artist. The COFA Visionary Grant provides funds to students who work together to really develop an innovative and creative idea on campus that contributes to student life at large. It is exciting as it allows people to think outside the box and really gives financial support to groups wanting to get ‘that brilliant idea’ of the ground.

What does your role as COFA grants committee convenor involve?
My role is to convene the COFA Grants subcommittee and to sit in on four other student boards both at COFA and Kensington Campus. This is to provide me with a breadth of understanding as to what the COFA Student body needs and wants. I attend meetings, draw up documents, work with the COFA Grants Committee to review applications and talk to students about their ideas and vision for projects, clubs and societies.

Who is the committee made up of, and what is their role?
The Committee is made up of three dynamic individuals; Jordan Fleming, Rebecca Gallo and Laura Burnet-Smith. I’m really lucky to have such a great team and we are looking forward to working with students over the coming year to provide additional funding as they realise their vision. Together we review grants and work towards developing the COFA student body at large.

When can students apply?
And, what makes a good application?
Students can apply for the Art and Design Grant before each round deadline as listed below and for the Quick Response Grant at any stage. If you are have any questions when filling out the forms feel free to shoot anyone on the COFA Grants committee an email. All of the Grant application forms can be found on the Arc@COFA Orgsync homepage.

ADG Deadlines
Round 1: Friday 21 March
Round 2: Friday 16 May
Round 3: Monday 11 August
Round 4: Monday 26 Sept
Round 5: Friday 31 October
A good application is anything that addresses the questions, clearly show that you have thought about the project and finally describes your vision and how it will practically work. We look forward to meeting, hearing from and reading your applications very soon. Enjoy the start of semester, university and in particular art school is a fantastically unique place to be.
CALL OUT: KUDOS GALLERY
EXHIBITION PROPOSALS
DEADLINE: FRIDAY 4 APRIL

APPLY ONLINE AT:
www.arc.unsw.edu.au/kudos

GOLDEN CIPHERS / THREE RED HERRINGS
Dominic Kirkwood
Dominic Kirkwood’s dual-screen installation is at once comfortably iconic to the eye in its filmic milieu and uneasily displaced to the ear in its sonic sub terrain.

Opens 5-7pm Tuesday 25 March 2014
Closes Saturday 29 March 2014

FORGOTTEN FACES: THE GREEKS OF CONSTANTINOPLE 1870-1920
The popularity of portrait photography in the later 19th century has preserved an intimate window into the lives of the Greek community of Constantinople (Istanbul). Created as a means of recording family and social life, these early images attest to a dynamic, prosperous and robust urban community, which generally lived well within a multi-ethnic setting. These previously unpublished photographs are made all the more poignant by the fact that, in most cases, the identity of their subjects is unknown.

Opens 5-7pm Tuesday 1 April 2014
Closes Saturday 12 April 2014

ONE HUNG BITCH
Ramesh Mario Nithiyendran
One Hung Bitch presents a panoply of deified Dickheads and Shitheads through painting and sculptural media. In this quasi-spiritual site, the tyranny of western phallocentricism (perceived as: the judo-christian, eurocentric regulation of ‘culture’ and ‘civilisation’) is rejected. While the phallus is the central motif in the works, the sphincter, as depicted in various literal and metaphorical forms is presented as a significant agent, birthing and gilding the turds of life.

Opens 5-7pm Tuesday 15 April 2014
Closes Saturday 26 April 2014

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
ARC UNSW Student Life

Flea Markets

Tue 25 Mar S1W4
Tue 29 Apr S1W8
Tue 27 May S1W12

10am - Dusk
Arc Precinct (near the Blockhouse)

Bargains * Clothes * Craft * Vintage * Jewellery * Food

For information, email: markets@arc.unsw.edu.au