



MICHAEL EATHER

When I left Tasmania in 1984 the notion of severing my Island links remained a strong emotive decision. I travelled north and lived on the coast of the Arafura Sea, in an Aboriginal community on and off for 7 years, and these geographical polarities, notwithstanding the numerous “island mentalities” within Australia pervaded many ideas and images that I took into my art practice. In many ways this melancholic dilemma is still residual and remains at the heart of my work.

A new series *The Endless Sea* features previous photographic imagery combined with new drawing and graphic material blended into mixed media works on paper and canvas that whilst self-referential are intended for a wider, universal interpretation. (The work I have submitted is the core image for this series to be exhibited in 2014). It continues themes of the voyager (or voyeur?) positioned in the cabin of his ‘Fathership’... navigating psychological sea-scapes that are potentially fraught with obstacles and/or the allure of (cross-cultural) destinations.

Biography

MICHAEL EATHER is a painter, sculptor and writer who is also a freelance curator of Indigenous Art. In 1988, Eather co-founded Campfire group, a collective of Indigenous and non-Indigenous artists working on contemporary art projects and commissions. Eather is Director of Fire-Works gallery in Brisbane, established in 1993. Whilst Eather has exhibited solo paintings and sculpture since 1986 he has maintained a strong interest in collaborative artworks and cross-cultural projects.

1963 Born Launceston, Tasmania, Australia

1980-83 Bachelor of Fine Arts, Sculpture Major, Visual Arts Teaching

Tasmanian School of Art, University of Tasmania

1995-98 Lecturer (Contemporary Australian Indigenous Art)

Queensland College of Art, Griffith University

Currently lives and works Brisbane Australia. Represented by Heiser gallery Brisbane. Maunsell-Wickes, Sydney; Despard Gallery, Hobart; & ARTStation, Austria

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2005 At the end of the day, Heiser gallery Brisbane

2005 The Secret Chord, Despard Gallery, Hobart

2004 New Sculpture, Maunsell-Wickes at Barry Stern Gallery, Sydney

2003 Black and White, ARTstation, Kollmitzberg, Austria

1989- 2002 8 solo exhibitions, Bellas Gallery, Brisbane

1992-95 2 solo exhibitions Sutton Gallery Melbourne

1997 Skin and Division, Brisbane City Gallery

1989 Relief, Museum of Contemporary Art, Brisbane

1987 Backlog: Season of Doubt, Museum of Contemporary Art, Brisbane

1986 Recent Campfires, Studio exhibition Mactaggarts Woolsheds, Brisbane

Selected Group Exhibitions

2006 Double Take, Museum Of Brisbane, Brisbane City Gallery

two way : artists & mentors, Fire-Works gallery, Brisbane

2005 SHOOSH! The History of the Campfire Group, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane

2005 Sculpture Exhibition, Maunsell-Wickes Gallery, Sydney

2004 Sculpture, Despard Gallery, Hobart

2004 Sculpture Exhibition, Maunsell-Wickes Gallery, Sydney

2003 A few good men, fortyfivedownstairs, Flinders Lane Melbourne

2000 Flotilla, Melbourne Museum

Flotilla, Melbourne Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building, Carlton

The Art of Place (with Campfire group) Australian Heritage Commission, Old Parliament House, Canberra

1997 Wild Kingdom, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane

Interference (with Campfire group) Fotofeis, Edinburgh, Scotland

1996 All Stock Must Go! (with Campfire group) The 2nd Asia Pacific Triennial, Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane

1995 Pathways (Changes + Exchanges) Queensland Art Gallery,

Welcome (with Laurie Nilsen) Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane

1992 9th Biennale of Sydney (with Campfire group) Bond Store, AGNSW

1991 Unfamiliar Territory, Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art