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CENTRE FOR
CONTEMPORARY
ASIAN ART



**KEN + JULIA
YONETANI**
**WHAT THE
BIRDS KNEW**

3 AUGUST - 22 SEPTEMBER 2012

INVITATION

The Board of 4A invites you to the opening of

KEN & JULIA YONETANI

WHAT THE BIRDS KNEW

6pm Thursday 9 August 2012

4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art

181-187 Hay Street, Haymarket (between Pitt and George St)

4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art is proud to present *What the Birds Knew*, an exhibition featuring new large scale works by internationally renowned Australian artists Ken + Julia Yonetani.

What the Birds Knew includes new sculptural works made from radioactive uranium glass. A 6-metre long green ant will threateningly loom over visitors to the gallery, and a large scale chandelier will be visible 24 hours a day. The use of UV lights will make the uranium glow green, giving the works an ominous energy.

These new visually stunning and highly provocative works arise out of the artists' concerns over the recent nuclear tragedy in Fukushima. The title of the exhibition refers to the alternative title for Akira Kurosawa's 1955 post-war film *I Live in Fear*, in which the central character declares that the birds would flee if they knew of the impending environmental threats.

What the Birds Knew reflects on shared cultural expressions of environmental anxieties within Indigenous Australian and Japanese culture, and whether these function as either warnings or premonitions.

Launch: **6-8pm Thursday 9 August 2012**

RSVP: info@4a.com.au

Exhibition dates: **3 August - 22 September 2012**



181-187 Hay Street Sydney NSW 2000 info@4a.com.au www.4a.com.au
tel: 02 9212 0380 fax: 02 9281 0873

Open 11am-6pm, Tuesday - Saturday, closed public holidays



What the Birds Knew is supported by the NSW Government through Arts NSW.



Trade & Investment
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4A is an initiative of the Asian Australian Artists Association Inc. We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of the Commonwealth Government through the Australia Council, its funding and advisory body; the NSW Government through Arts NSW and the City of Sydney. Principal Patrons: Geoff and Vicki Ainsworth, Daniel and Lyndell Drogo, Kerr and Judith Neilson; Patrons: Grasshopper Bar, John Lam-Po-Tong, and Dr Gene Sherman AM and Brian Sherman AM; VisAsia and Adrian Williams; Benefactors: AMP Foundation, Andrew Cameron, ARNDT Fine Art, ARTECELL, Richard Funston and King Lee, Jan Manton Gallery, Lucy Hughes Turnbull AO, Lisa Paulsen, Dr Dick Quon, Andrew Rothary and The Sky Foundation; Friends: Brooke and Steve Atken, Australia China Art Foundation, Luisa Catanzara, Ari and Lisa Drogo, Choi Rapiha Figuera, Julian and Stephanie Grose, Tonee Holley Knowles and James Knowles, Annette Larkin, Susan Nathan, Becky Sparks and James Roland and Dr John Yu AC.

IMAGE: Ken and Julia Yonetani, *What the Birds Knew* (2012), Uranium glass beads, aluminium wire, and UV lights. Courtesy of the artists, Arterred Gallery, Sydney and GV Art, London.