

## Campbelltown Arts Centre and 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art partner to present *EDGE OF ELSEWHERE* for Sydney Festival 2011

Sydney, Australia: Leading Sydney contemporary arts institutions Campbelltown Arts Centre and 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art will present the second installment of the three-year *Edge of Elsewhere* visual arts project from 15 January until 13 March 2011.

Part of the Sydney Festival program, *Edge of Elsewhere* was launched in January 2010 as a partnership between the two Sydney-based institutions that saw contemporary artists from Australia, Asia and the Pacific commissioned to create new works in partnership with Sydney communities.

Campbelltown Arts Centre Director, Lisa Havilah said: "Through engaging Sydney's diverse communities, *Edge of Elsewhere* is a bold commitment towards artistic collaboration, testing and presenting new ways in which art can give voice to collective experience, suburban stories and contemporary ideas."

The thirteen artists who will exhibit work in the exhibition have each chosen to collaborate with a different local community throughout the Greater Sydney region in order to create their work.

"The artists in *Edge of Elsewhere* are working with local residents and community groups in order to extrapolate some of their individual stories into the artworks. In doing this the exhibition places Sydney's cultural diversity within a wider Asia Pacific context," explained Aaron Seeto, Director, 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art.

Visitors to *Edge of Elsewhere* will be able to view works first commissioned in 2010 for the first time in the 2011 exhibition. The artists exhibiting in *Edge of Elsewhere* are: Brook Andrew, Arahmaiani, Richard Bell, Dacchi Dang, Newell Harry, FX Harsono, Shigeyuki Kihara, Jun Nguyen-Hatsushiba, Lisa Reihana, Khaled Sabsabi, Phaptawan Suwannakudt, Michel Tuffery and YOUNG-HAE CHANG HEAVY INDUSTRIES.

The exhibition will again be presented across two venues at Campbelltown and in Sydney's Chinatown, the home of 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art. A series of free shuttle buses will be scheduled on Saturdays between the two centres throughout January 2011, for the duration of the Sydney Festival.

New works that will be presented for the first time in 2011 include a series of large-scale still images by Melbourne-based Australian artist **Brook Andrew** that are the result of a creative development between the artist and Japanese anime studio Tokyopop. Andrew is completing a residency in Western Sydney as development for a short animation film that tells the story of the adventures of 'Banjo', a young boy who grew up in that region. The animation stills will be presented in 2011, with the final film work to be presented in the 2012 exhibition.

Internationally renowned Seoul-based artist duo **YOUNG-HAE CHANG HEAVY INDUSTRIES** will present a new large-scale projection text-based work that incorporates an original score. The artists will travel to Sydney in November 2010 to conduct two-day workshops at Campbelltown and 4A with local residents based around personal stories that will form the basis of the final artwork. In the workshops the artists will teach participants how to use their stories to generate Flash animations.

Vietnamese-born artist **Dacchi Dang** is working with Cabramatta's Vietnamese community in order to create a new three-channel video work that explores issues of migration, identity and memory. As part of this process, Dang is conducting workshops in which local residents create hundreds of traditional Vietnamese paper boats that incorporate the stories of refugees and migrants. Dang will then film a performance of these boats being launched into the ocean, to become part of the final artwork presented at Campbelltown Arts Centre.

Indonesian artist and social activist **Arahmaiani**, known for work that explores issues around gender, religion and politics, and for representing Indonesia at the 50th Venice Biennale in 2003, is working with an eclectic mix of community groups on explorations of the idea and responses to 'home' in a large-scale textile-based installation.

Auckland-based artist **Shigeyuki Kihara**—of Samoan and Japanese descent whilst also being a *fa'afafine* (or third gender)—will present a performative poetry slam at Campbelltown Arts Centre. Kihara is working with established MCs in a series of workshops in Campbelltown that will invite members of the public to express themselves through spoken word. The artist is interested in connecting young people with their cultural roots by using everyday experiences and cultural artefacts as sources of inspiration for poetry 'riffing'.

New Zealand artist of Samoan and Palagi descent **Michel Tuffery** will conduct a residency at Campbelltown Arts Centre working with local Pacific communities as part of his new work for ***Edge of Elsewhere*** inspired by the history and stories of German colonial heritage in Samoa. Tuffery will collaborate on a number of other projects for the Sydney Festival including Festival First Night for which he is creating a large-scale outdoor video projection work with performances by local Campbelltown-based Cook Islands group Echoes of Polynesia.

Sydney-based Australian artist **Newell Harry** will continue his work with local Tongan women's tapa making groups in Western Sydney to create tapa works that will incorporate traditional and contemporary designs and motifs. As part of this project Harry recently traveled to Tonga with one of the country's best-known hip-hop artists Charles Lomu (known as 'Six Pound'). Lomu acted as cultural guide to Harry on the research trip that included meetings with elders and relatives of the women's group with whom Harry is collaborating.

***Edge of Elsewhere*** is produced for Sydney Festival by Campbelltown Arts Centre in partnership with 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art, and is supported by the Australia Council for the Arts, through Community Partnerships and the Visual Arts Board, and the NSW Government through Arts NSW.

**EXHIBITION DATES:**

**Campbelltown Arts Centre**

15 January – 13 March 2011, 10am – 4pm daily

Exhibition launch: Friday 14 January, 7pm

Artists In Conversation – Community Engagement: Saturday 15 January, 10am – 4pm

**4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art**

14 January – 12 March 2011, 11am – 6pm (closed Sun/Mon)

Exhibition launch: Thursday 13 January, 6pm

**MEDIA CONTACT:** To request artist interviews and high resolution imagery please contact Kym Elphinstone on [kym@articulatepr.com.au](mailto:kym@articulatepr.com.au) or 0421 106 139.