

ASIA AUSTRALIA ARTS CENTRE
GALLERY 4A

MEDIA RELEASE
February 2007

PIG
MY CHINATOWN ANNUAL EXHIBITION
From 16 February to 10 March 2007

From whimsical book illustrations to bold stencilled motifs, biomedical semi-living objects and the hypnotic folds of photographed skin, the pig is celebrated in art at the **Asia Australia Arts Centre** as part of the City of Sydney **Chinese New Year Festival**. In this Year of the Pig, artists from diverse backgrounds explore the nature of this snout nosed, bristly haired animal and its various cultural representations and associations.

Through history the pig is much maligned as well as associated with 'the forbidden' in Jewish and Islamic cultural traditions. However, in the Chinese imagination, the pig embodies the honourable qualities of diligence, honesty, patience and fertility. For many Chinese it also means eating well.

The artists in this exhibition challenge our thinking on themes of genetic modification, cultural imperialism, astrology, the animal nature of the human topography and the sometimes awkward but potentially fruitful communication between East and West.

Gallery 4a presents the work of one of China's leading artists, **Xu Bing**, together with **Joy Lai, Aris Prabawa, Jason Wing, Sophie Blackall, You Meng-shu** and The Tissue Culture and Art Project, (TC&A): **Oron Catts and Ionat Zurr**.

For further information please contact Imogen Yang, Acting Director on 9212 0380 or email: info@4a.com.au

Curators: **Imogen Yang, Danielle Johnson**
Assistant Curator, **Samantha Hauw**

With special thanks to

Pigs Fly Pale Ale, University of Western Australia, City of Sydney, Arts NSW, Australia Council

The Asia-Australia Arts Centre gratefully acknowledges its Principal Patrons: Geoff & Vicki Ainsworth, Patrons: Johnson Pilton Walker, Dr Dick Quan, Benefactor: Steensen Varming, the Commonwealth Government through the Australia Council, its funding and advisory body, the NSW Government through Arts NSW and the City of Sydney.

TC&A is hosted by SymbioticA - the Art and Science Collaborative Research Laboratory, School of Anatomy and Human Biology, The University of Western Australia
<http://www.tca.uwa.edu.au/>

Galery Opening Hours
11:00 am – 6:00 pm Tuesday to Saturday
Free Admission

