

GALLERY4A

181-187 Hay Street
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www.4a.com.au

Media release

CINEMA ALLEY

QIU ANXIONG

Friday 30 January, 830PM

MING WONG - VAIN EFFORTS

Friday 27 February, 730pm

PARKER STREET, CHINATOWN TRANSFORMS
INTO A VENUE FOR TWO MAJOR VIDEO ART PROJECTS

FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY
PARKER STREET, CHINATOWN TRANSFORMS INTO A
VENUE FOR A MAJOR VIDEO ART PROJECT
SCREENING THE ACCLAIMED ANIMATION-BASED
VIDEO WORKS BY ONE OF CHINA'S UP AND COMING
CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS

GALLERY 4A
PRESENTS
**CINEMA
ALLEY**

FRIDAY 30th
JANUARY 830PM

>WWW.4A.COM.AU

Please check the website for more details and
wet weather plans

CINEMA ALLEY IS A FREE EVENT - LIMITED SEATING IS
AVAILABLE PLEASE ARRIVE EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

Gallery 4A is pleased to present a major new initiative **Cinema Alley**. For one night in January and in February, Gallery4A will transform Parker Street, Haymarket (adjacent to Gallery 4A) into a venue for two major video art projects presenting work by contemporary Asian artists - Qiu Anxiong and Ming Wong.

Cinema Alley is based on the history of old-fashioned, temporary street-cinemas. These cinemas were often located in the middle of small communities bringing old and young together. Located in lively Haymarket in Sydney's Chinatown, Gallery 4A's exciting new initiative brings contemporary Asian culture to local city audiences. Timed to occur during the summer holiday period; the City of Sydney Chinese New Year Festival and the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras, these intimate community screenings, bring the cutting edge of contemporary Asian art to Sydney audiences. The **Cinema Alley** projects form a major part of Gallery 4A's offsite exhibition program for 2009 and reflect Gallery 4A's mission to promote contemporary Asian-Australian culture and dialogue within the region.

The first **Cinema Alley** event will occur on Friday 30th January at 830PM, with a screening of Shanghai-based **Qiu Anxiong's** animation-based video art work. The screening will include *The New Sutra of the Mountains and the Seas* which is based on the ancient Chinese manuscript, *Classic of the Seas and Mountains*. This work, which was presented to critical acclaim at the Shanghai Biennale in 2006 consists of over 6000 of Qiu's own original ink-wash drawings. His depiction of a world in transition - of destruction and construction is aptly themed for the Chinese New Year period, a time to reflect on the world in renewal.

Ming Wong's screening in February is timed for the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras. Wong creates irreverent works that explore slippages in language, cross-cultural experiences and gender stereotyping through appropriation of iconic 20th Century cinema such as the Malay film maker P Ramlee and Rainer Werner Fassbinder. Re-enacting key scenes within these films, Wong plays multiple roles using the films' original languages. Wong's performances in his remake of Fassbinder's *Angst essen Seele auf* draw emphasis to the film's themes of racial prejudice and economic inequality, reflecting the state of contemporary cross-cultural experiences. Wong's work has both local and international relevance making sharp commentary on cross-cultural dialogues located within local vernaculars.

Please check the website for more details and wet weather plans

Cinema Alley is a free event - limited seating is available please arrive early to avoid disappointment

Cinema Alley is an initiative of Gallery 4A. It has been supported by the City of Sydney and through the generous support of Geoff and Vicki Ainsworth and ARTCELL.

Contact **Yeewan Yeoh 9212 0380 or 0415297359 or email media@4a.com.au**
for a Chinese Language media release, more program information,
hi-res images or media interviews.



About Gallery 4A

Gallery 4A, the Asia-Australia Arts Centre was founded in 1997 as an initiative of the Asian Australian Artists Association Inc. (4A, a non-profit organization established to present and promote the work of Asian-Australian artists and a greater understanding of diverse cultures through the arts.

Our exhibition program focuses on contemporary art practice. Our exhibition program is culturally diverse, and many of the projects and artists who exhibit here reflect this diversity. The exhibition program has played a significant role in the cultural development of this region. We also run regular public programs including video art screenings and artist talks.

The Asia-Australia Arts Centre provides a vital cross-cultural dialogue through an innovative and comprehensive program of exhibitions, conferences, seminars and workshops. Over the past 10 years we have exhibited over 300 artists from around Australia as well as from India, Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, Vietnam, China, the USA, the UK and New Zealand.

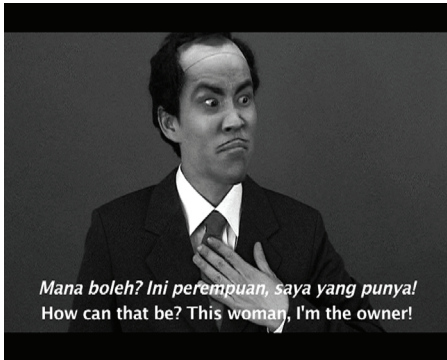
AVAILABLE IMAGES

Gallery 4A Asia-Australia Arts Centre
181-187 Hay Street Sydney NSW 2000
info@4a.com.au
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Exhibition Dates

Exhibition title Artist

Contact Aaron Seeto 9212 0380 or 0418618324 or email media@4a.com.au
for program information, hi-res images or media interviews.



Images: Artist name, *Artwork title*, year, medium, medium. Photo: credit name.
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