

MEDIA RELEASE

Pillow Songs: Poonkhin Khut

The Door of Silence: Di Wu

Gallery 4A is pleased to announce two new exhibitions by Asian-Australian artists.

Poonkhin Khut's exhibition *Pillow Songs* is a powerful digital sound installation that plays with the tensions between sound and silence, tactility and memory, intimate domestic rituals and public space. Inspired by the suggestive stains left on old pillow casings, Khut transforms the gallery space into a shadowy underworld of atmospheres and aural fragments. Speakers buried inside pillows on three beds, combine sounds and textures from a bank of CD players.

Khut has been working in the area of sound, installation, performance and design since 1987. He has exhibited and performed in Adelaide, Hobart and Sydney, including the Adelaide Fringe Festival, the Theatre Royal in Hobart and Tasmanian Museum & Art Gallery. He most recently exhibited at Raw Nerve in Sydney in their closing show. Gallery 4A is one of the venues on Khut's *Pillow Songs* tour, which also includes Temple Studio in Victoria and 24HR Art, Darwin.

Di Wu's paintings and drawings are a fusion of Tibetan Buddhist concerns and contemporary Western sensibility. His small-scale, meditative works incorporate images of mandalas and windows or doorways. They evoke rites of passage and allude to states of consciousness between life and death, or one world and the next.

Di Wu was born in China and migrated to Australia in 1988. He studied at the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing, and later undertook postgraduate study in Buddhist art, working with Buddhist monks in China. He has exhibited widely in China, and at Coventry Gallery and Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Sydney. He recently held a solo exhibition at Art Connoisseur Gallery in London. Di Wu has also created Mandalas for the University of New South Wales and the Powerhouse Museum, Sydney.

Gallery 1: *The Door of Silence*: Di Wu
 Gallery 2: *Pillow Songs*: Poonkhin Khut
 Preview: Wednesday 10 November 1999, 6-8 pm
 Dates: 10 November - 4 December 1999
 Venue: Gallery 4A, Level 3, 53-55 Liverpool St, Sydney, NSW, 2000
 tel/fax 02 9283 1750
 Gallery hours: Wednesday - Saturday, 12-6pm, or by appointment
 Contact: Melissa Chiu, Curator, Tiffany Lee-Shoy, Asst Curator