

MEDIA RELEASE

Australian Art to Japan

An exhibition of new work by four leading Australian artists is to be presented at the Australian Embassy in Tokyo in December. ***Bright and Shining*** includes paintings by established artists Lindy Lee and Tim Johnson, and emerging artists Victoria Lobregat and Natsuho Takita.

Bright and Shining is part of a new program designed to introduce contemporary art within the Australian Embassy. The exhibition by Gallery 4A was selected from nearly twenty proposals by a panel of prominent Japanese art critics and curators.

A forum will also be organised to co-incide with the opening of the exhibition. Participants include Australia's Melissa Chiu, curator of Gallery 4A and Japanese curators and critics.

Melissa Chiu, curator of *Bright and Shining* commented,
"This is a wonderful opportunity for Australian artists. To show their work with the support of the Australian Embassy means a lot also for the presentation of a vibrant Australian culture."

Yukiko Shikata, curator at Canon Artlab and one of the selection panelists stated:
"Gallery 4A represents a departure from the traditional style of art gallery - it's activities are not limited to simply the exhibition of artwork: it serves as an exciting communication space."

Gallery 4A is an initiative of the Asian Australian Artists Association inc. a non-profit organisation established four years ago to promote the work of younger Asian and Australian artists

Exhibition: *Bright and Shining*
 Artists: Tim Johnson, Lindy Lee, Victoria Lobregat, Natsuho Takita
 Preview: Friday 10 December 1999, 6-8pm
 Dates: 10 December 1999 - 27 January 2000
 Venue: Australian Embassy, Tokyo
 2-1-14 Mita Minato-ku, Tokyo, 108-8361, Japan
www.australia.or.jp
 Viewing hours: Monday - Friday, 10am - 5pm (closed Embassy holidays)
 Contact: (Australia) Melissa Chiu, Curator
 (Japan) Kathryn Hunyor