



COLOURISE FESTIVAL 2012

...what we bring to the world

WARNING: Colourise Festival and the Brisbane City Council wish to advise that some films and documentaries screened in this program contain images of persons now deceased, and the viewing of this material may cause distress for family or community members.

Black History Month Exhibition **Media Artists - Filmmakers**

***My Country* / Drama / Dir: Odette Best / 2008 / 11mins**

An ode to the history of Indigenous peoples and the meaning and spirit of belonging. Inspired by verbal and documented accounts of Aboriginal experiences from the history of colonialism, *My Country* is the touching story of the lasting impact of one such experience of an elderly Aboriginal man. Triggered by the gift of art and its interpretation, *My Country* is a journey through time and cultural dislocation.

***Briz Blacks* / music clip doc / Murriimage / 1986 / 7mins**

Popular local Aboriginal band, Mop and the Drop Outs featured on ABC program *Beat Box* in September 1986 when Murriimage Community Video and Film Service tagged the ABC crew, recording this performance of their song *Brisbane Blacks* at Opal in Ann Street. Cut with other Murriimage footage of that time it is a poignant reminder of 1980s history, people, place and technology; one of the many documentaries in the Uniikup Optical Media Collection (visit www.colourise.com.au, Uniikup tag for details).

***Transit* / Drama / Dir: Tamara Whyte / 2009 / 12mins**

He has returned, from prison; she is young, educated and has moved on. They meet at a transit centre. Like bystanders, we become witness to a relationship in transition, drawn by the déjà vu of emotional turmoil.

Everything looks beautiful

music clip drama / Dir: Jenny Fraser / 2010 / 5mins

Edited to the song titled *Everything looks beautiful* by Shellie Morris this short was preselected for the imagineNATIVE Film and Media Arts Festival in Toronto, Canada. A father and mother agree that he can take his daughter south to a beach side camp for a long weekend. They end up on a road trip, a very long drive, around 3000km further north.



Dedicated to a better Brisbane



Multimedia Art Asia Pacific



Nguni Warrup
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Black History Month Exhibition Media Artists Exhibiting

Battle Mountain Kajabbi / Archie Moore / Photo of Artwork / 2012

Continuing his ongoing series of sculptures made from books, Moore's work for Lie of the Land alters the Lilliput Aboriginal Place Names, a dictionary consolidating Indigenous words from dozens of distinct language families into one mythic totality. Opened on to a page headed by the word 'Sauming' – translated as a 'place where a battle was fought' – Moore violently tears the page to form the timeless sculptural sign of military imperialism, an obelisk.

Batman-Robbin / Archie Moore / Photo of Artwork / 2012

Moore explores the status of landscape and language in the histories of Australian art and colonisation in another work made for Lie of the Land. Again slicing into the reproduction of an icon of Australian art – this time Tom Roberts' *The Splitters* (1886) – the hewn trees of the original faded image are repeated in the artist's slashes into the surface of the print, revealing the woody-hued fibreboard beneath the reproduction. The geometrical carving initially resembles an Indigenous dendroglyph, the ceremonial tree carvings used by some Indigenous groups to mark sacred sites, but on closer inspection, its primitivised patterns spell 'Batman', a reference to the infamous 1835 'treaty' between John Batman and a group of Wurundjeri elders that "acquired" the land that became Melbourne.

Murri Girl / Animation / Writer: Ross Watson

Animation Artist: Shane Togo / 4mins / 2005

Murri Girl is represented through a series of symbolic imagery which attempts to capture the writer's own individuality in the telling of the story.

Good Relations / MurrilImage/Unikup Productions / TV Community Announcement / 30secs / Photo of Artwork / 2012

A community relations announcement for commercial television made by MurrilImage/Unikup Productions in the Pauline Hanson era.

"12 of our own" A photographic and linguistic exploration of "A Certain Palm Island Incident" / Tamara Whyte / Photography / 2007

Vox Pops, is used in the media to make sure the status quo is maintained. We see it on the TV, in the local rag, even in the daily. The straw poll. But whose status quo is this? "12 of our own" is a series of photographs placing the power of opinion and judgement in the hands of Aboriginal people. This is a set of simple pictures; of 12 subjects; who form a jury. Each member was asked to pass judgement on the involvement of a Queensland Police officer's involvement in "A Certain Palm Island Incident". "Do you find the defendant guilty or not guilty? And Why?" Without manipulation.

With prejudice. The jury Australia will never see. Vox Prima Pops - The voice of the first peoples.

LAND BYTES: portals to place

LEAH and DUNCAN KING-SMITH / Video / 4 min / 2012

LEAH KING-SMITH finds ways around the camera's historicising functions as a means of liberating herself from the 'onus of representation.' Her Land Bytes video piece uses digital mediation in pictures and sound to disrupt the defining documentary record of place. Characteristic photographic and sound documentation is relieved of the imperative to be "true", to be "as real as possible".

Up close, this work is a meditation on non-representation. The abstract and shifting patterns of colour rich tiles rhythmically juxtaposed with digitized nature sounds (Duncan King-Smith) engage the visual and auditory senses.

A form of recognition does take place however if the work is viewed a good distance away. Knowledge, understanding and comprehension are to be gleaned only from this distance so that what "fills-in" is beyond the grasp of detail, allowing emotional, spiritual and multidimensional possibilities. The coastal and mountain forests belonging to the Aboriginal tribes of the Gumbaynggir, Gubbi Gubbi and Jaggera peoples, are brought into being as the resonance of place; a portal into the spirit of place where presence is felt.

Boy and Moth

Animation / Writer: John Graham / Animator: Rebekah Pitt / 2005

"The Boy Who Had The Magic Word And The Whispering Moth" continues the tradition of Aboriginal stories that carry culture from generation to generation. Written by award winning published poet John Graham, Kombumerri, and animated by Rebekah Pitt. Commission by the Colourised Festival 2005 – Corridors, funded by Brisbane City Council

Name that Movie / Video / Director: Jenny Fraser Pitt / 10mins / 2007

Based on cues and excerpts from popular films, this interactive trivia game invites the audience to "name that movie", while deconstructing nine colonization techniques through the lens of mainstream cinema.

I'm a Nurse / Filmmaker: Odette Best / Documentary / 6mins / 2006

A collection of six vignettes from Aboriginal registered nurses across six decades, from 1950 – 2005. The documentary presents a snapshot of what these women have done as Aboriginal women who entered the profession of nursing, some of their journeys, and what is clearly their commitment to working with Indigenous people.



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