

part a

curriculum connections snapshot at a glance

In the constantly changing world of contemporary art, painting is a survivor.

By the 1980s it looked as if it had been abandoned by many artists in favour of performance, video and sculptural installation-based practice.

In more recent times many creative talents have been drawn to the possibilities of digital-referenced art, particularly the idea that a potential audience for any work might be only a mouse-click away!

But if painting has been impacted upon by these changes, the fact remains that new generations of artists commit to painting as a central part of art practice.

This lively and, at times, challenging exhibition, featuring many of the most interesting artists working in South Australia today, illustrates how diverse this process has been.

It also reveals that, as some digital artists draw upon painting traditions and conventions, painting is making a big comeback.



Exhibition theme

"Snapshot delves into the pulsating domain of contemporary painting in South Australia.

This large-scale group exhibition addresses the concepts, practice and roles of painting in what are by now surely post-contemporary times, treating painting once again as the most referential point in the arts.

Snapshot attempts to define our post-modern culture predominantly through the lens of painting and its techniques, but it also includes works of art that take painting as their point of reference though not themselves adhering solely to the painterly field, but including such media of installation, photography, and video".

MELENTIE PANDILOVSKI, CURATOR

Exhibition content

Snapshot consists of 23 art works in a wide diversity of styles, made recently by contemporary artists primarily based in South Australia and Adelaide. Most of the works are pictorial. There are some 3D/sculptural works.

Origins

Snapshot was developed by leading art curator Melentie Pandilovski. Melentie is Artistic Director of the Adelaide-based art organisation, the Experimental Art Foundation (EAF). For information on the EAF and its programs see: www.eaf.asn.au

Works

The art media is very diverse and includes oil, automotive paint, polyester resin or acrylic on canvas and other supports and textiles. The exhibition includes DVD works and works produced using photographic and computer ink jet technologies. Sculptural works have been made from found objects. Most works are wall-mounted. Some function as floor installations.

RACHEL MCELWEE, *URBAN BOY MYTHS EXPOSED*,
DIGITAL PRINT, 100X100CM, 2006 (DETAIL)



curriculum connections learning connections

Snapshot offers a unique opportunity for art teachers and students to:

- Expand knowledge of the diversity and content of contemporary art practice.
- Learn about:
 - different kinds of art practice
 - different kinds of art-based methods and materials
 - where artists get ideas from
 - ideas important to contemporary artists
 - the importance of media and style in communicating ideas
 - the impact of new and emerging technologies
 - the links contemporary art practice has with art of the past
 - the relationship between art and communications/entertainment media
 - issues such as media manipulation, youth culture and the role of art and the artist in contemporary society.
- Develop skills in engaging with, analysing, communicating about and responding to challenging art works, visual thinking, problem solving and using imagination.

Key Competencies

Actively engaging with artworks within this exhibition will support Key Competencies development as follows:

- **KC1 Collecting, analysing and organising information** - *Explore* tasks require students to distinguish different genres, in particular the notion of art and craft and what distinguishes the art forms.
- **KC2 Communicating ideas and information** - *Explore* tasks require students to scribe, debate and report findings.
- **KC4 working with others in teams** - some of the *Explore* tasks can be undertaken by teams.

Essential Learnings

Futures - a number of works in this exhibition offer a glimpse of the future as mediated by technologies. They ask questions about humanity's place in a world where information media constantly creates new realities.

Identity - a number of works in this exhibition explore ideas about constructions of gender. By analysing these works students will develop an informed understanding of how ideas about gender are constructed by the media.

Interdependence - Issues related to globalism are examined in a number of works in this exhibition. One key issue explored in the exhibition is that of individual alienation.

Thinking - the power of many of the images will cause students to stop and think about many things such as the role that media plays in controlling the lives and thoughts of individuals and communities. Many of the works pose creative alternatives to mainstream culture and systems. The *Snapshot* artists as a group demonstrate a high level of ability to critically evaluate, plan and generate ideas and solutions.

Communication - analysing works or reporting and debating findings related to viewing works will require students to make effective use of language and writing skills. Analysing and responding will also allow students to learn more about art as a powerful form of communication. Many works in the exhibition are concerned with print and electronic media and the way they use systems of communication to create world views of society.



curriculum connections

Learning Areas Outcomes

The following chart identifies a number of outcomes (within Visual Arts) that are particularly relevant to *Snapshot* as a learning resource.

visual arts

Key Ideas	Early Years	Primary Years	Middle Years	Senior Years
arts practice	Express feelings and ideas about past present and future	Experiment with ideas and think in concrete and abstract ways Engage in a range of techniques	Develop knowledge of different art systems and styles Engage in a range of techniques	Research different methodologies and techniques Research ideas and reflect on effectiveness of different artist's methods and ideas
analysis and response	Gain an understanding of different forms of art	Learning how to effectively respond to art works	Distinguishing between different styles and genres Communicating informed/reasoned responses to works	Using independent research to develop an informed understanding of art Exercising critical language
arts in context	Learning about art and artists in everyday life	Learning about the different kinds of artists and art forms within contemporary society	Learning to see particular art works and kinds of art within wider contexts	Understanding how exhibitions like <i>Snapshot</i> fit within an Australian (and global) contemporary context

a | curriculum connections learning area and year level-specific outcomes

Year Level suitability and focus:

SACE 1 & 2 Visual Art course work

The exhibition delivers a broad spectrum introduction to the diversity of contemporary art practice and to individual artists' styles of expression and methodologies.

SACE Visual Art Stage 1

- Practical Work - ideas and models for creating works and expressing ideas
- Contemporary Practice - resourcing individual studies of aspects of contemporary practice/s
- Investigative Study - possible candidate for student's investigation of an artist.

SACE Visual Art Stage 2

- Creating - offering models and options for inventive thought and action
- Perceiving - offering resourced engagement with original art works to support the development of skills in analysing and expressing opinions about art works, understanding art in a wider cultural context, writing about art works and researching using original art works.

Middle - Senior: Years 6 - 10

- understanding why artists use different methods and styles
- learning to analyse and respond to a diversity of art works
- developing an understanding of the role of art and artists in society
- generating ideas for arts practice.

Secondary art course work (Years 8 - 10)

Snapshot has broad value in exposing students to the diversity of art practice within contemporary society. This diversity will stimulate debate about the limits of art, the place of traditional skills, the influence of new technologies and the role of the artist.

Not all works will be easily accessible to younger secondary students so teachers will need to be strategic and selective about which group of works to focus on and ask student to respond to and compare.

A few works have adult themes or contain images which may be confronting to some students. Prior assessment (website or visiting exhibition) by the teacher is recommended.

Upper Primary

Snapshot could be used strategically by upper primary teachers to expand student's knowledge of art in contemporary society, offer ideas for arts practice, arts analysis and response and resource an understanding of art in social context.

The exhibition does contain funny and visually inventive images - a number clearly sourced from contemporary entertainment media - to which students will readily respond.

A few works have adult themes or contain images which may be confronting to some students. Prior assessment (through the website or visiting the exhibition) by the teacher is recommended.



country arts SA exhibition program 2007 and 2008

The professional development and practical workshop programs for 2007 are currently being developed in conjunction with the galleries as listed below. Contact your local gallery or Country Arts SA arts officer in the first instance to express interest in participating.

BURNING ISSUES

Mount Gambier Riddoch Art Gallery May 5 – July 1
Ph: 8723 9566 pichlerlucia@riddochartgallery.org.au

Berri River Lands Gallery July 13 – Aug 24
Ph: 8582 2288 danyon.debuell@countryarts.org.au

Murray Bridge Regional Gallery Sept 1 – 30
Ph: 8531 2606 k.varga@murraybridge.sa.gov.au

Goolwa South Coast Regional Art Centre Nov 1-28
Ph: 8555 1500 leah.grace@alexandrina.sa.gov.au

SNAPSHOT

Streaky Bay Supper Room Studio Apr 20 – May 27
Ph: 8626 1926 jayne.holland@countryarts.org.au

Kadina Ascot Theatre Gallery Jun 4 – 29
Ph: 8821 2404 binnawoil@dodo.com.au

Mt Gambier Riddoch Art Gallery Jul 7 – Aug 12
Ph: 8723 9566 pichlerlucia@riddochartgallery.org.au

Renmark Chaffey Theatre Gallery Aug 27 – Sept 28
Ph: 8582 2288 danyon.debuell@countryarts.org.au

Murray Bridge Regional Gallery Oct 7 – Nov 11
Ph: 8531 2606 k.varga@murraybridge.sa.gov.au

Millicent Art Gallery Nov 23 – Jan 2008
Ph: 8733 0903 janice.nitschke@wattlerange.sa.gov.au

COLLECTANEA

Berri River Lands Gallery May 1 – June 15
Ph: 8582 2288 danyon.debuell@countryarts.org.au

Waikerie Rain Moth Gallery July 1 – 29
Ph: 8582 2288 danyon.debuell@countryarts.org.au

Maitland Bob Landt's Corner Gallery Aug 3 – 24
Ph: 8832 2383 boblandts@internode.on.net

Mannum Arnold Gallery Aug 31 – Sept 23
Ph: 8569 2733
mannumdockmuseum@baonline.com.au

Mt Gambier Riddoch Art Gallery Sept 29 – Nov 18
Ph: 8723 9566
pichlerlucia@riddochartgallery.org.au

Roxby Downs Regional Gallery Nov 30 – Jan 2008
Ph: 8671 2001 rodney.mitchell@countryarts.org.au

Snapshot, Burning Issues and Collectanea all continue throughout 2008. Teachers are most welcome to attend professional development workshops in a nearby centre in preparation for 2008 if they wish.

Burning Issues in 2008: Streaky Bay, Millicent, Naracoorte, Pt Augusta, Kadina.

Snapshot in 2008: Pt Augusta, Pt Lincoln, Pt Pirie

Collectanea in 2008: Millicent, Murray Bridge, Goolwa, Naracoorte, Jamestown, Wudinna, Pt Lincoln, Streaky Bay, Whyalla (2009 - Pt Augusta and Kadina).

| the workshops

Learning Connections Teachers' Workshops

These workshops are designed to provide teachers across year levels and learning areas with an introduction to the exhibition content and themes and relevance as teaching/learning resources. **The workshops include:**

- Demonstrations on how to make effective use of the Education pack
- Interactive activities using problem-solving and art games components from the Education Pack
- Suggestions for creative and successful teaching strategies
- Behind the scenes insights into exhibition design
- Learning to 'unpack art' activities using selected works from the exhibition

- An overview of art-historical contexts related to the exhibition
- Information about forthcoming Country Arts SA / Learning Connections exhibitions throughout 2007 - 2008.

cost: FREE

bookings: required (contact local arts person)

venue: These workshops are conducted in the exhibition.

duration: 90 minutes. The workshops are usually scheduled 4.30pm–6pm but are negotiable at each regional venue

participants receive: a copy of the Education Pack and a PD participation certificate.



Learning Connections School Student Workshops

A number of school group workshops will be offered as part of the Learning Connections Teachers' Workshop package.

These sessions will be conducted by one of the Learning Connections team presenters, in the exhibition and scheduled during school hours.

Sessions are 60 minutes in length (45 minutes core activity with LC presenter plus debrief/close-out tasks).

Content and focus of each session is negotiable according to year level and learning area/key competency focus. Teachers making bookings are encouraged to check out the on-line Education Packs (for year level/learning area guidelines) and to specify areas of particular interest when making a booking request.

Where scheduling allows, teachers organising a group visit are encouraged to book in for a Learning Connections Teachers' Workshop.

These sessions are specialised teaching/learning experiences designed to engage student's curiosity and imagination and to support structured learning. They incorporate learning to learn strategies. Students will be introduced to a variety of methods that can be successfully used to engage with and derive meaning and relevance from art works. The value of this session is enhanced when it is incorporated within a school-based learning program which makes strategic use of pre and post-visit activities rather than sees an exhibition visit as a 'one-off' activity.

Art Connections Community Workshops

These workshops are designed to get members of the local community really connected with Country Arts SA touring exhibitions (and Learning Connections exhibitions in particular) and through this with the wider world of art. Gallery staff and volunteers are encouraged to participate. **These workshops (presented by one of the Learning Connections team) include:**

- A guided tour through the exhibition, exploring the underlying themes and ideas

- An in-depth look at selected works
- A demonstration of 'learning to look' techniques
- Informal discussion about ways of looking at modern art
- Some art-historical insights into ideas and styles relevant to the exhibition
- Art Games – for all ages

These Art Connections workshops are presented in the exhibition. Duration 90 minutes.

cost: FREE

bookings: required (contact the gallery or local Country Arts SA arts officer)

venue: in the exhibition

duration: 90 minutes. The workshops are usually scheduled 7.00pm – 8.30pm (negotiable per regional venue)

Workshop Presenters:

The Learning Connections team consists of John Neylon and Anne Keast.

These high-energy art educators are skilled in engaging children and young adults with art and in supporting teachers in the development and delivery of art-based learning programs.

Both have worked at various times as Education Officers at the Art Gallery of South Australia and are currently registered teachers.

In presenting these workshops Anne will be drawing on her extensive experience as a secondary visual arts educator and John as an arts educator, and prominent art critic and curator.

Art Connections Practical Workshops

Country Arts SA is hosting **public workshops** around the state to coincide with *Snapshot* and *Collectanea*. Artists who are represented in the exhibitions will provide practical workshops in a variety of media. Whilst these workshops are aimed at people of all ages and will be held on weekends, young people, particularly those who have been engaged with the exhibitions through their school work, will be encouraged to participate. Register your interest with the Country Arts SA arts officer or gallery staff in the first instance.

WHO TO CONTACT

General Information: contact Jo Pike, Senior Project Officer, Statewide Initiatives Unit 8444 0400 or learningconnections@countryarts.org.au

Workshop bookings and school visit bookings:

contact your local gallery at the number listed on page 8, or your Country Arts SA arts officer

Country Arts SA 2 McLaren Parade, Port Adelaide 5015 **T** 8444 0400

E learningconnections@countryarts.org.au **www.countryarts.org.au**