BOLAND Kieran, DIMASI Susan & CARLIS Constantine (Aus)

ONCE A PONCHO...(Working Title) visual presentation

This project is collaboration between multi-media artist Kieran Boland, fashion designer Susan Dimasi and musician Constantine Carlis of the New Zealand music group, 'High Dependency Unit'. The work we intend to show would take the form of an installation comprising a DVD of approx 5 minutes in duration featuring garments made specifically for the show. This proposal is primarily a response to Theme 1.

Susan Dimasi's father emigrated to Australia as a teenager via a boat from Italy in the 1950s. His first impression of this land (which happened to be the coast of Western Australia) was that it looked like the scenery from a Western.

Guiseppe Dimasi's family moved to this country primarily for economic reasons. For the same reasons, Sergio Leone made his now classic spaghetti westerns in Spain, presenting mythic characters of the Wild West on the border of Mexico and the United States in the 19th century. These Italian/ Spanish/ German productions were originally conceived for an Italian audience and are an evocative fusion of pop culture and the european tradition of high art. This project reinterprets the Poncho garment that Sergio Leone and Clint Eastwood both claimed to have generated for the man with no name in 'A Fistful of Dollars'.

The poncho plays an integral part within the film: Stylistic and Narrative. Clint Eastwood remembered the Poncho as a simple piece of 'Do-it-Yourself' Fashion design in which he cut a hole in a blanket he purchased himself before his arrival on the film set in Spain. Sergio Leone remembered it as a part of his own far more considered conception of the man with no name (later to be known as 'blondie' in the two sequels). No doubt the truth lies somewhere between the two.

In this instance, the Pop culture resides outside localities while its meaning is generated simultaneously within and outside localities.
A film will feature non-professional actors born in Perth but resident in Melbourne.
At least 6 people are responsible for a great movie.

Kieran Boland is a multimedia artist based in Melbourne. Susan Dimasi is a fashion designer/RMIT university lecturer in fashion and NGV assistant curator. Constantine Carlis is a member of the New Zealand-based music trio, high dependency unit.