

McDEAN Mark & VAUGHAN Laurene (Aus)

'co-respond' - visual presentation

The proposed exhibition 'co-respond' will explore DW Winnicott's concept of the transitional object – the space between the self/internal and the other/external – as it relates to the layered perspectives of cross-disciplinary practice. This will take the form of a visual conversation between the two artists (both initially trained and continue to work within the visual arts and currently practicing as academics within the world of fashion and textiles) on how they understand and explore the diverse aspects of their current practice. That is a cross-disciplinary professional practice that embraces both image/object making with academic theory and practice through the methodology of narrative (spoken, text and image). There are many potential layers to the conversation: the nature and complexities of practice, cross disciplinary representations, explorations and inspiration, and the nature of the object/space of transition.

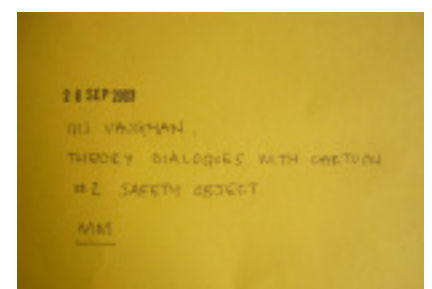


This conversation will take place through an exchange of objects, images and or text passed from one to the other. These items may be transformed and passed back with a new perspective or placed aside as a new thought emerges sparking a new train of discussion. In addition to the images and text of the conversation there will be two video

screens facing each other where the two artists talk about the items they have created – a monologue of personal meaning that sits beside the interchange of conversation.

It is envisaged that the final presentation of work will transform the gallery space into the two sides/aspects of the conversation with the viewer occupying the space between, the potentially silent, emotional or energy filled space between sentences within the conversation.

Space and facilities allowing it is possible that there could be a performance or transitioning aspect to the exhibition. Where the conversation continues in response to the conference. As part of



the performance and transitioning aspect of the exhibition we also envisage a monologue of personal meaning that sits beside the interchange of conversation.

The space required: site specific and site responsive but must have at least 2 walls and access to electricity.

Visual artists: Mark McDean and Laurene Vaughan
RMIT University
School of Fashion and Textiles

Mark McDean has lectured in Fine Art at the Monash University Centre for Art & Design and the Fashion department of RMIT University Melbourne. Along with a studio practice working in textiles, photography and installation he is an expert media commentator on fashion and popular culture. Continuing to add to his extensive exhibition history, McDean presently has no institutional affiliation.

Laurene Vaughan is a lecturer and researcher at RMIT University. Laurene's practice embraces the integrated nature of work, creation and knowledge, and this is explored across a range of disciplines. She is particularly interested in creative exploration, processes and subsequent applications and outcomes
