

ANNALIE TURNER



CATHERINE EVANS



GREG CHIN



WILL HEATHCOTE



JO DAVENPORT



2010 UCA Graduates
Alliance Française
Award Exhibition



Annalie Turner

STATEMENT

My work has evolved from an early fascination with death and the wonder that surrounds the concept of life cycles. In many other cultures and spiritual understandings, death is acknowledged and absorbed into the rituals of life. It appears to me that in our culture, death is dealt with in a quick and perfunctory manner. During the development of my work, I have broadened my view of death as a transitional stage, rather than a final point. The most obvious recognition of this occurred during my observations of wildlife within the natural environment.

BIOGRAPHY

Annalie Turner completed her Bachelor of Fine Arts at the Victorian College of the Arts in 2010. On completion of her degree she was awarded a solo show at Carbon Black Gallery and the Alliance Francaise Graduate Exhibition Award. Since graduating, Annalie has exhibited at the Brunswick Bound Gallery, Carbon Black Gallery, and is working towards her solo show in October.



Catherine Evans

STATEMENT

I have cast the femur of the Australian black swan, *Cygnus atratus*, in glass. Bird bones are light and strong. They are built with a fine network of cavities throughout them so that birds can fly, float on the water and resist the pressure of wing muscles over hours or sometimes even days. A glass bone is heavy and breaks easily; it sinks and renders flight impossible.

BIOGRAPHY

Catherine Evans is currently completing her Bachelor of Fine Arts (Honours) at the Victorian College of the Arts. In 2010 she was the recipient of the National Gallery of Victoria Board of Trustees Award and earlier this year she had her first solo exhibition, *Swan Song*, at the George Paton Gallery. Birds are a recurring motif in her work—dead, dissected and pulled apart—they operate simultaneously as a metaphor for our tenuous relationship with nature, one that is riddled with fissures, ruptures and imperfections, and as a contemporary artefact at a time when our own impact on the environment is at the forefront of public debate. She is still collecting dead birds.



Greg Chin

STATEMENT

Greg Chin is an artist in the midst of a journey to self-actualisation.

Enjoy the ride as the artist discovers himself and begins to learn more about the human condition and how to live a life truly worth living.

BIOGRAPHY

Greg Chin completed his Bachelor of Fine Art at the Victorian College of the Arts in 2010. He was awarded the Alliance Francaise Award, the Maude Glover Fleay Award and the George Paton Proud Award. He is beginning to have his work shown extensively and in May 2011 held his first solo exhibition titled "It's Time" at the George Paton Gallery.

Will Heathcote

STATEMENT

I hold a genuine fascination for the interplay between naturally occurring formations and designed space. With a particular focus on the framework people employ to construct and define their physical surroundings my work often presents common materials, subjecting them to foreboding actions such as mechanical segmentation, binding and preservation.

Drawing on the innately human and sometimes Romantic conceptions of the *touched* and *untouched* landscape, the external world becomes as much a projection of the mind as a physical entity in itself. My work seeks to operate in this space, between the notions of both the *natural* and the *synthetic*.

BIOGRAPHY

Originally from Tasmania, Will has recently completed a BFA in Sculpture and Spatial Practice at the Victorian College of the Arts.

In 2003 he completed a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Melbourne, also studying abroad at the British School of Art in Rome. His artistic practice to date is primarily concerned with natural formations and the mechanics of architectural and cultural intervention.

Will has shown in Melbourne and Canada in both group and solo shows. Most recently he was selected to be part of the PICA Hatched Exhibition of 2011 in Perth Western Australia. In 2010 he exhibited in both the VCA Graduation Show and the Wallara Travelling Scholarship at Margaret Lawrence Gallery. Earlier that year he was also part of the Victoria Harbour Young Artist Initiative.



Jo Davenport

STATEMENT

Jo Davenport's work explores the intuitive tension between line, colour, text and the natural world. Through a series of mnemonic layers, Jo's mark-making synthesizes personal narrative with symbolic gesture, creating abstracted 'maps' of emotion, time and place. Drawing inspiration from her experiences in the Australian outback, and also from an interest in Eastern aesthetic philosophy, Jo presents a holistic understanding of the world.

In this series of work Davenport traces her interest in word as image. The aesthetic quality is presented as a medley of line rather than cohesive written meaning.

BIOGRAPHY

Jo Davenport is currently completing her Master of Visual Arts at the Victorian College of the Arts. In 2010 she was awarded the University of Melbourne Shelmerdine Inquisitive Art Award and was also the recipient of the Pigment Gallery Award and the Alliance Francaise Graduate Exhibition Awards. She was a finalist in the Hume Building Society Acquisitive Art Award where she received the Peoples Choice Art Award. She is currently showing at the Flinders Lane Gallery and at Artspace Wodonga. The work presented in Alliance Francaise Exhibition is based on her great grandfathers will. She reflects on the words spoken by her great grandfather and the way in which the will was written also the implications of how the land was divided up. 'Looking Forward & Looking Back'.

Since 2003, the Alliance Française de Melbourne and the Victorian College of the Arts have developed a close relationship. With the

creation of the Alliance Française Award for VCA graduates, this relationship has been materialised. Each November, the prizewinners

selected at the Graduation Exhibition at the VCA are given the opportunity to exhibit their work at the Alliance Française Gallery.

**Official opening by Jan Murray,
Head, School of Art and Honours Coordinator, VCA**

Exhibition Dates: 1 - 24 september 2011

**Alliance Française
de Melbourne
Eildon Gallery**
51 Grey Street
ST KILDA VIC 3182
Tel: 9525 3463

Opening
1 September, 6.30pm

Opening Hours:
Mon - Thu: 9.00am to 8.30pm
Fri - Sat: 9.00am to 6.00pm
Sun: 1.00pm to 6.00pm

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