

THE 5TH ASIA-PACIFIC TRIENNIAL OF CONTEMPORARY ART

FACT SHEET

KIDS' APT

The following artists have created interactive and engaging artworks for children for Kids' APT. The works are displayed in the Queensland Art Gallery and Gallery of Modern Art.

Khadim Ali *The Bamiyan drawing project*

Khadim Ali's homeland of Bamiyan, a region in central Afghanistan, is the subject of this project which features striking drawings of the area by local children. Collated by the artist following a series of drawing classes and workshops he conducted at Bamiyan schools, the drawings convey the children's impressions of their immediate environment and its recent history, and offer young APT5 viewers an insight into the lives of Afghanistani children.

Justine Cooper *The call of the wild*

The call of the wild is a computer touch screen game set in a natural history museum corridor lined with cabinets, like those that feature in some of Justine Cooper's art works. The aim of the game is to set the animals free from the museum and return them to their natural habitat. Elements of popular children's games such as hide-and-seek, and memory and matching activities have been incorporated, making *The call of the wild* a fun and appealing interactive for kids.

eX de Medici *Tattoo shop*

Australian artist eX de Medici is also a tattooist. It's going to be a hard task this summer to find any cooler accessory than one of eX's custom-designed, free Kids' APT temporary tattoos! Kids can choose from a crowned skull, a sweet blue bird, a cheeky monkey or a curious cat, and marvel at the detailed designs of both the tattoos and the artist's watercolour paintings in the exhibition.

Bharti Kher *Nothing is Ordinary*

In India the bindi is traditionally a symbolic mark of pigment applied to the forehead. Today it has become a fashionable and decorative accessory available in many colours and designs, and is used by Indian artist Bharti Kher in some of her art works. Children can wear one of the artist's specially designed bindis for kids and everyone will know they've been to Kids' APT!

Sutee Kunavichayanont *Classroom upside down*

School will never be the same again after children experience Sutee Kunavichayanont's 'classroom' created for Kids' APT. Turning school tables upside down and conventional ideas on their head, the artist's unusual carvings of animals, buildings and people combine different cultural sources — encouraging children to look at familiar things in new ways and to think about how different cultures might interact. Children can participate in the art work by making rubbings of all the carved surfaces.

Kwon Ki-soo *Run, run, run*

A mischievous character known as Dongguri appears in artist Kwon Ki-soo's paintings, animations and installations. For Kids' APT the artist invites children to interact with this colourful character in a playful environment. Children can manipulate hundreds of Dongguris made out of foam — creating and recreating different versions of the artist's cheeky creature.

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Eko Nugroho *Trick me please! Postcard project and mural*

Children and young people are invited to collaborate with Eko Nugroho to create postcards when visiting the exhibition. Completed postcards can be kept as a memento or sent to friends and family. For Kids' APT, the artist also worked with Queensland high school students to develop a mural called *What do you want?* for GoMA's Park Entrance.

Dennis Nona *Gitalai (mud crabs) and the witch*

Children are invited to re-tell the Torres Strait Island story of a young girl who hunts for gitalai (mud crabs) and encounters a nasty witch. Using special picture dice designed by the artist, children can create their own version of the story and gain an insight into the importance of storytelling in Dennis Nona's art and Torres Strait Island culture.

Tsuyoshi Ozawa *Everyone likes someone as you like someone*

Japanese artist Tsuyoshi Ozawa's *Everyone likes someone as you like someone* is a 'mountain-sized' pile of futon cushions installed in the Gallery — just right for climbing over or sitting on to draw pictures of your favourite people. The artist invites children to swap their drawing for one made by a child in Japan; drawings left at the Gallery may be used by Tsuyoshi Ozawa in future projects.

John Pule *Drawing words*

John Pule is an artist, writer and poet whose art works often combine words and images. For Kids' APT he will present a large-scale collaborative drawing project. Engaging with Niuean (South Pacific) legends and culture, children can draw their interpretations of words provided by the artist for display in the Gallery.

Nusra Latif Qureshi *Enchanted spaces*

Enchanted spaces highlights the quiet concentration involved in the drawing and painting of miniatures. Children can work with imagery chosen by Nusra Latif Qureshi, carefully tracing outlines of animal shapes and patterns on a backlit table to see their own unique composite drawings take shape.

Talvin Singh *I am Talvin Singh*

I am Talvin Singh will unearth budding young DJs! By activating a range of sounds and images in this touch screen interactive, children can experiment with virtually endless music patterns and sequences. Featuring traditional Indian instruments and contemporary technology, kids can mix it up with synchronised synth loops, bass lines and percussion samples to make their own blend of music and video.

Yang Zhenzhong *Light and easy (Brisbane)*

Chinese artist Yang Zhenzhong recreates the visual spectacle of his *Light and easy* series of photographs — but this time with APT kids in the picture! Using a little behind-the-scenes technological wizardry, participating children look like they are balancing a huge object on just their fingertip. This illusion can then be captured on camera and emailed home or to a friend.

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APT5 images: www.asiapacifictriennial.com/mediacentre

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CHILDREN'S ART CENTRE

The Queensland Art Gallery's Children's Art Centre (CAC) had its beginnings in 1998 when the Gallery initiated its children's programming. The programs aimed to promote children's meaningful interactions with contemporary art and were an important innovation within art museums nationally.

With the opening of the Gallery of Modern Art (GoMA) on Saturday 2 December 2006, the Children's Art Centre will have a permanent base with an exhibition space, resources and facilities, allowing the introduction of a range of new initiatives.

While based at GoMA, the Centre will operate across both buildings and, under its outreach strategy, will conduct regional programs and develop interactive media for children throughout Queensland.

The Centre specialises in artist-run, activity-based programs which foster the creative and learning potential of children working directly with contemporary artists. Programming informs and is informed by the Gallery's Education and Curriculum programming.

Since 1998, the Children's Art Centre has presented nine children's exhibitions (including a travelling exhibition), two Kids' APTs, two summer festivals and hundreds of creative workshops. With the opening of GoMA, a number of new initiatives will be introduced to the existing range of children's programs offered by the Gallery.

Current Children's Art Centre programs:

- Children's exhibitions, including the annual children's exhibitions over the Christmas holiday period and Kids' APTs.
- Children's festivals and events staged in association with major exhibitions, including Kids' APT Summer Spectacular.
- Toddler Tuesday, which introduces young children to the Gallery's Collection. From February 2007 there will be two sessions weekly of this popular program.
- Sunday at the Gallery, a workshop program for children and their families, with local and exhibiting contemporary artists (two Sundays monthly).
- Kids' activity books and labels for exhibitions.

New Children's Art Centre initiatives:

- An exhibition program, in addition to the annual children's exhibition, of commissioned major artists' projects for children for display in the Children's Art Centre at GoMA.
- From February 2007, kids' tours of exhibitions in both buildings will be conducted by specialist guides who will engage children in enquiry-based explorations.
- A Children's Art Centre Archive of programs and exhibitions materials will be accessible to educators, tertiary students and museum professionals undertaking research.
- Resources such as education kits, children's activity books, video documentation and publications will be available for educators' research.
- Professional development and internships will be provided for industry professionals and postgraduate researchers.

- Children's Art Centre on Tour: the first of these regional programs will be the tour of Olafur Eliasson's *The cubic structural evolution project*, which involves children in creating and re-creating an ever-evolving metropolis using white Lego blocks.
- Online interactives, the first of which was Yayoi Kusama's award-winning Kusama's World of Dots, an online version of the artist's popular interactive art work, *The obliteration room 2002* (www.qag.qld.gov.au/kids/online_interactives).
- Cinémathèque programs for children, which will be presented in conjunction with major events in the Australian Cinémathèque cinemas in GoMA. The first program, focusing on Japanese animation, will be presented during Kids' APT Summer Spectacular in January 2007.

Children's Art Centre programs aim to:

- create a foundation for a person's lifelong engagement with the arts
- nurture children's creative sensibilities, enjoyment, awareness and understanding of contemporary art
- develop a child's familiarity with the art museum environment
- create an interactive and sensory environment which promotes a child's understanding of the rich cultural contexts and meanings in the world around them
- enable young visitors to articulate their own artistic insights with enthusiasm and confidence
- provide children with opportunities for individual and group learning.

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