



NG ART
GALLERY

- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -

NG Art Gallery presents

...OF NATURE

Six Australian Women Artists

Ann Cape, Lizzie Buckmaster Dove, Mia Ng,
Susan O'Doherty, Mariola Smarzak and Vicky White

19 May – 6 June 2009

NG Art Gallery

3 Little Queen Street, Chippendale

***"It is a wholesome and necessary thing for us to turn again to the earth,
and in the contemplation of her beauties, to know of wonder and humility."***

- Rachel Carson

NG Art Gallery proudly presents '...Of Nature', an exhibition featuring six Australian women artists - Ann Cape, Lizzie Buckmaster Dove, Mia Ng, Susan O'Doherty, Mariola Smarzak and Vicky White – **opening Tuesday 19 May**. The show depicts their unique interpretations of the Australian landscape, **the contrast between its natural beauty and the ongoing destruction it faces**.

Renowned as a figurative painter, **Ann Cape's** work has evolved to capture the silence, spirit and ancient presence of remote outback Australia. Her work is richly layered with subtle earthy colours and textural qualities referencing the uniqueness of the vegetation and landforms. **Her recent trip to Arnhem Land**, with good friends Jenny Sages and Elizabeth Cummings, continues to inspire and inform her art practice.

Eminent artist, **Lizzie Buckmaster Dove** uses cut paper from books, the very material that chronicles our written history, taking us deep into the evolution of the natural and man-made Australian landscape. A keen traveller, like Ann, Lizzie interprets the landscape through the changed eyes of a person who has spent an extended period away from their homeland, eyes full of 'the other', having returned to Australia and **experiencing feelings as if seeing it for the first time**. Lizzie's work makes reference to the **fleeting notion of the landscape as 'paradise'** and as we hurtle toward our own self-destruction there is no slowing down of the carving up and sub-division of our land.

In contrast, the delicate landscape works of **Mia Ng** seek to grasp the stillness and contemplation she has experienced whilst moving through the landscapes of different cultures and environments. The sensitivity evident in her work makes reference to the moments and memories created throughout her ever evolving personal journey. The works are particularly controlled in their physical size, **small, delicious gems of experience brought to life**.

Susan O'Doherty's paintings and assemblages comment on the precious elements we strip away from the land referencing the issues of logging and mining. The work represents **the industrial use of old growth forests for woodchips** and the **stripping of sand along our coastlines**, resulting in the destruction of huge areas of our natural human environment and animal habitats.

This body of work from **Mariola Smarzak** references her ongoing interest in the **silence and space** that can be found upon the open Australian landscape. Where there is a place for reflection and concentration - a birch wood, dream like meadows, a stony crop or colourful sandy desert. Nature is unique in itself, Mariola believes that if you should try to truly understand it, you will reach its essence.

Meditations of her own physical and spiritual experiences bring to life the work of painter **Vicki White** through images of a **highly personal sense of place and reminiscence**. In this instance, place is the Mid North coast of NSW, where Vicki grew up, a place she regularly visits to gather reference for her work. Not purely landscape paintings, these works use the rolling hills of the rich farming land of her family, as the backdrop to her figurative explorations of the human condition.

—

...Of Nature – Six Australian women artists interpret the landscape

Ann Cape, Lizzie Buckmaster Dove, Mia Ng, Susan O'Doherty, Mariola Smarzak and Vicky White

Opening reception **Tuesday 19 May 6 – 8pm**

Exhibition runs 19 May – 6 June 2009

—

All media enquiries please contact:

Robyn Wilson or Nicky Ginsberg

Ph. 02 9318 2992

robyn@ngart.com.au

nicky@ngart.com.au

NG Art Gallery & Mission Restaurant Bar

3 Little Queen Street

Chippendale 2008

Tel: 9318 2992/0815

www.ngart.com.au

www.missionbar.com.au