



Surry Hills Neighbourhood Centre

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Major Sponsor

Surry Hills Festival presents: **(UN)SEEN SCULPTURES**



- Australia's first ever outdoor mobile 3D augmented reality art show

This year, the Surry Hills Festival on Saturday 9 April, will be playing host to (Un)seen Sculptures, Australia's first ever outdoor mobile 3D augmented reality art show.

Located at the key festival venues and sites throughout Surry Hills will be virtual digital art works; hidden from the naked eye but visible to anyone with an iPhone, Android or Nokia smartphone and an app called the Layar Reality Browser, that can be downloaded for free from iTunes, the Android Market or the Ovi Store. Once they have downloaded this app, people can simply open it up, search for "unseen sculptures", then hold up their phones at the designated locations, and they will see 3D artworks that they can walk around and explore from any angle.

The show will feature works by Australian artists and international visitors from as far afield as the USA, UK and China. The pieces themselves will traverse a wide range of styles, sizes and subjects: anything from characters from a traditional Chinese version of Romeo and Juliet lost in the metropolis; to the virus responsible for Internet addiction; to an 18th-century GPS device.

Artists include:

Lily & Honglei (China)

As a new media artist collective, Lily & Honglei (Xiyang Yang, Honglei Li) work in both New York and Beijing China. Their projects utilize traditional painting techniques and digital imaging technologies including animation, virtual reality, and augmented reality on mobile phones, which construct an in-between space reflecting Chinese cultural heritages and current social issues in the context of globalization. Lily & Honglei both studied fine arts in China and continued their education in art in the States. Lily Xiyang Yang received a Master of Fine Arts degree in Digital Media from College of Visual and Performing Arts at University of Massachusetts, while Honglei Li earned his MFA degree in Painting from the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth.

Lily & Honglei have exhibited art projects internationally, with solo exhibitions in Germany, China, Australia and United States. As members of Manifest.AR, they have participated in a series of Augmented Reality Art exhibitions including *Bushwick Augmented Reality Intervention* at Nurture Art Gallery in New York, *Gradually Melt the Sky* at Devotion Gallery in Brooklyn New York, *Boston CyberArt Festival* at Institute of Contemporary Art in Massachusetts, among others.

The piece they are showing in (Un)seen Sculptures is called *The Butterfly Lovers* and was previously exhibited in Times Square, New York.

Andrew Burrell (Australia)

Andrew Burrell is a Sydney-based independent contemporary arts practitioner, with a strong history in real time 3D and interactive audio installation.

He completed a PhD in Fine Arts by thesis at the University of Sydney in 2005. His research focused on philosophical and poetic connections between memory, the collected object and narrative.

In 2008 he was awarded the Australia Council for the Arts MMUVE-IT! grant for developing the mixed reality project 'mellifera' with Dr. Trish Adams.

Theoretical areas of interest include the construction of self with regard to the interrelationship of personal identity with memory and imagination, and the way in which real time networked virtual spaces influence these interactions.

Chris Hodson (UK)

Christopher Hodson is an artist within whose practice disparate elements collide, allowing him to take on the role of; artist, scientist and alchemist. Aspects of; Space, technology, landscape, current & antiquated science, time and dimension are explored through a range of materials and processes allowing ideas to react and combine. The work takes on the form of sculpture, installation and video and is the resulting precipitate of experiments with materials, processes and contexts.

Having graduated from MA Fine Art at the Birmingham Institute of Art and Design in September 2009 Hodson has been developing a practice based around the creation of both physical and virtual objects. Hodson's sculptural works take many forms and is often the result of an idiosyncratic logic, creating physical assemblages which are comprised of various objects and materials which through their construction become what the artist describes as 'active' sculpture; objects which through certain combinations of materials become more than static forms.

This may occur through chemical or physical reactions as in *40Mhz* (2010) - whereby a collection of Lemon batteries in series power a low frequency radio transmitter in an attempt to connect two points within a landscape. For *A Minute of Your Time* (2007) the artist transformed a sixty inch tape measure by converting the units to seconds - questioning notions of dimensionality. *Milky Way* (2008), exhibited as part of the New Generation Arts Festival in Birmingham UK, saw the swirling mass of a galaxy appear to float atop the contents of a white coffee mug.

Over the past four years the artist has exhibited in a number of high profile shows and self initiated projects including; *Above and Beyond* (Hanbury Hall, Worcestershire: Supported by The National Trust.) *Roll Up Art* (University of Architecture, Bucharest), *Ctrl-Copy* (Online) , *Close Encounter* (New Generation Arts Festival 2008, Birmingham UK) , *Mission Control* (PITT Project Space, Worcester UK) *MECA* (Malvern Exhibition of Contemporary Art) , *14°N 32°W* (Online Project curated by Hodson) and more recently *GONGOOZLER* at Grand Union, Digbeth.

What: Surry Hills Festival
When: Saturday, 9 April, 2011
Where: Festival precinct includes Shannon Reserve, Crown Street; Ward Park, Devonshire Street and other green spaces & venues throughout Surry Hills.
What time: 9.30am – 6pm

Visit our website for more information www.shnc.org/festival . Media Contact for more information, images or interviews please contact: Cathy Wills, Festival Co-Director, 0412 214 844, or cathyawills@gmail.com