

SATURDAY 31 JULY 2004  
9.00AM – 12 NOON

## THE PLOT THICKENS: NARRATIVES IN AUSTRALIAN ART

17 July – 26 September 2004

A Heide Museum of Modern Art  
Travelling Exhibition

Professional Development program  
for teachers focusing on artworks  
featured in the exhibition *The Plot  
Thickens: Narratives in Australian Art*  
and offering practical ideas for the  
classroom.

Suitable for art teachers from both  
the primary and secondary sectors.



Polixeni Papapetrou *Riddles that have no answers* 2004 type C photograph 100 x 100cm.  
Courtesy of the artist, Kali Rolfe Contemporary Art, Melbourne and Stills Gallery, Sydney

### ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

Through the framework of 'the narrative', *The Plot Thickens* presents a broad survey of artworks by key figures in Australian art spanning from the historical to the contemporary. The stories told in these works, whether based on fact or fiction, range from the documentary to the fantastical, the biblical to the mythological, the universal to the personal and beyond. They traverse a wide spectrum of cultural, social and political issues and experiences, and many have played a role in the construction of our national, cultural and postcolonial identity.

#### Stories, myths and legends portrayed include:

Alice in Wonderland, the legend of Ned Kelly, Dreamtime stories, The Ancient Mariner, The Lady and the Unicorn, and The Fall of Icarus.

#### Artists represented include:

**Historical:** Charles Blackman, Arthur Boyd, Frederick McCubbin, Dora Meeson, Sidney Nolan, John Perceval, Tom Roberts, Albert Tucker, Henry van den Houten, Danila Vassilief.

**Contemporary:** Ian Abdulla, Gordon Bennett, Kate Beynon, Stephen Bush, Robert Campbell Jr, Julia Ciccarone, Neil Emmerson, Guan Wei, Bill Henson, Tracey Moffatt, TV Moore, Polixeni Papapetrou, Patricia Piccinini, HJ Wedge

#### Special Education Features

- **Activity stops** in the gallery for young visitors
- **Student wall labels** written by students from primary and secondary schools sharing their responses to the artworks

### ABOUT THE PROGRAM

VCE Art / Studio Art / Art CSF Art Levels 5, 6

- Presentation by Leigh Astbury, Monash University
- In his floor talk, Leigh Astbury will analyse artworks in the exhibition through various interpretive frameworks including the narrative, social/historical context, cultural issues and postmodernism.

Leigh Astbury has written two books on late nineteenth-century Australian art, *City Bushmen: The Heidelberg School and the Rural Mythology and Sunlight and Shadow: Australian Impressionist Painters 1880-1900*. *City Bushmen* won the 1986-7 Australian Academy of the Humanities-Esso Award for outstanding work on the history of culture in Australia. His most recent book is *Earth to Sky: The Art of Victor Majzner*, published by Macmillan Australia in 2002. He is currently lecturing in the Visual Culture section of the School of Literary, Visual and Performance Studies, Monash University.

#### Primary

- Presentation and demonstration by Judy Bridges, Art Coordinator, Canterbury Primary School
- Inspired by the exhibition, Judy has developed a range of practical activities which are applicable for both the artroom and the classroom.
- These activities will offer ways of encouraging students to engage and respond to artworks in the exhibition and then use them as a springboard to create their own artworks.



Leon Sonny Pole *The Village Laundress* 1891 oil on canvas 83.0 x 123.5cm. Private Collection. Courtesy of Lauraine Diggins Fine Art

#### SCHEDULE

- 8.30am Registration at main desk, Heide III.  
Refreshments provided
- 9.15am Leigh Astbury, Monash University  
The narrative in Australian art
- 10.30am Short break
- 11.00am Judy Bridges, Art Coordinator,  
Canterbury Primary School  
Practical activities
- 12.00noon Visit other exhibitions at Heide or enjoy  
lunch at Heide Café (optional)

#### EDUCATION MATERIALS

Download Education aids for *The Plot Thickens*  
*Narratives in Australian Art* from  
[www.heide.com.au/events](http://www.heide.com.au/events)

A full colour catalogue will accompany the exhibition.  
Available through Heide Retail.

#### BOOKING INFORMATION

**Venue** Heide III  
**Tickets** \$35.00 includes All Areas Pass  
and refreshments  
Bookings essential.

**Download a Booking Form**  
**(Education & Public Programs)**  
at [www.heide.com.au/visit](http://www.heide.com.au/visit)

T 03 9850 1500 E  
[education@heide.com.au](mailto:education@heide.com.au)

Louise Hall, Education Officer  
Rosalie Dance, Education & Public Programs Manager

#### FORTHCOMING EVENT

##### THE ROLES WITHIN A PUBLIC ART MUSEUM

Forum for Studio Arts Students accompanied  
by their Teachers

**Monday 26 July 2004**  
**10.30am – 12.00noon**

Investigate the roles associated with running  
a leading public art gallery and find out what makes  
Heide unique from other galleries and exhibition spaces.

##### Panel

Heide staff including the Director, Senior Curator,  
Marketing Manager and Registrar.

##### Participate

Join us for a lively and informative, student centered  
discussion. Students are asked to prepare and pose  
questions to the panel.

**Venue** Heide III  
**Tickets** \$5.00 Includes entry into  
*The Plot Thickens: Narratives in Australian Art*.  
Bookings essential.