1996 Annual Report

Aims of AA

- to provide opportunities for people with disabilities to identify and develop their skills for creative self-expression;
- to promote inclusion in all arts/cultural activities, training, venues, facilities and resources;
- to communicate the creative needs, potential and artistic achievements of people with disabilities to the arts industry, disability services and the broader community;
- to act as a peak service promoting cultural democracy in NSW;
- to initiate Research and Development projects in the field and document these as resource material for the disability and arts industries; and
- to establish regional networks to facilitate the aims of the organisation at the local and community level.

Objectives

- to provide an information service on art facilities, venues, programs, training, activities and resources available to people with disabilities in NSW.
- to act as consultant to the general community, people with disabilities and the arts industry to develop appropriate art programs and projects;
- to provide resource material through the regular production of ACE magazine and other publications;
- · to support and assist regional networks;
- to conduct pilot projects in the field art activities include painting, drawing, dance and movement, drama, singing, music, performance, art and new technology. Due recognition is given to these art projects through exhibitions, performances etc;

- to provide training seminars, conferences and workshops; and
- · to provide a resource reference library.

Brief History

People with disabilities represent all sections of Australian society and comprise 18 percent of the population (Australian Bureau of Statistics). This significant group of people face extreme disadvantages in artistic participation, cultural life and on-going art skills development. As the only arts organisation in NSW focussing on disability Accessible Arts has an important role in encouraging change and inclusion of people with disabilities in definitions of cultural diversity and identity.



Accessible Arts is a community based non-profit organisation. Born of the idea to make the arts more accessible to people with disabilities, AA started out as an arts project called Artreach in 1986. Support for the aims of the project grew and in 1989 Accessible Arts became an independent incorporated association. In 1990 the organisation received financial support from the State and Federal Government to establish a state-wide service for people with disabilities. This significant change from an activities project required AA to develop a clear strategic plan.

Accessible Arts has developed dynamic partnerships to create projects that enhance the lives of those people who often have the greatest need yet least opportunity to be involved in cultural life. As an effective strategy for change and better integration, AA develops network alliances and partnerships with both arts and disability communities. The organisation has found that partnerships effectively achieve significant outcomes; are an effective use of limited finances and resources; demonstrate the market potential of people with disabilities and therefore encourage partners to take positive action for inclusion on an ongoing basis.

Chairperson's Report Holman Cook

Reflecting on 1996 has led me to reflect on my many years with AA. During this time I have seen significant change and observed the steady development of the organisation. Consideration of this development makes me realise the significant contribution made by the Executive Officer,

Helen Connors. We are so used to having Helen at AA that her hard work is often taken for granted. I therefore realise it is timely to thank Helen for her dedication and commitment to AA. It has been Helen's vision and ability to interpret AA's mission into action that has seen AA recognised as a progressive arts organisation.

I want to thank all staff and Management Committee members who have worked to get AA to this stage in its development. Today AA staff and Management Committee recognise the role and responsibilities associated with a statewide and peak organisation agenda. AA has established the mechanisms to prioritise and thoroughly plan the development of the organisation.

The 1996 and 1997 annual program demonstrates AA's skill in utilising every opportunity to achieve positive results for the many people with disabilities living in NSW. Arts initiatives continue to be utilised to establish regional networks, resource literature and advocacy/ promotional material. The services of AA are designed to resource and provide a statewide perspective as well as enhance training and professional development opportunities for people with disabilities.

If there is one disappointment in my time with AA it has been the difficulty in gaining financial

support from the disability/ health sector. While the Ministry for the Arts has recognised AA's contribution with increased funding (\$12,000 in 1990 to \$70,000 in 1997) on-going negotiations with ADD have not secured increased funding. While AA is grateful to ADD for the one-off grant to employ an administrator as a third staff member for one year it has not solved the need for at least 3 full-time permanent staff.

In mentioning Helen it is also timely to thank Suzie Walker for her dedication and commitment to AA. As Project Officer Suzie provided support and encouragement to all involved in AA arts initia-

tives – artists, participants and support workers. Often as the public face of AA Suzie's ability to work with a diversity of people has seen AA expand within both regional NSW and metropolitan Sydney. Suzie's contribution to AA as Project Officer and acting Executive Officer will assist AA long after her departure. On behalf of the Management Committee I wish Suzie all the best in her future.

I must thank Neridah Wyatt-Spratt for her willingness to step into Suzie's shoes and undertake the position of Project Officer with great skill and enthusiasm.

Thanks should also be given to all the project workers – too many to list and I'm sure if I do I'll forget someone.

Thanks to my fellow Committee members for their time and effort and to our funding bodies, sponsors and supporters whose support makes the work of Accessible Arts possible. Finally, thanks to those who have shown their support for AA through their membership – we need more people/ organisations to show similar support for the aims of AA. I hope to see you all at the AGM and launch in November.

Treasurer's Report David King

Accessible Arts was born in a different era to the one we find ourselves in nowadays. Economic rationalism has seeped into most things to such an extent that perhaps any vision can sometimes be obscured by the bottom line. But our vision is strong and our commitment to an equitable socicty is not only supported by our members but our funding bodies as well. As we approach the year that 'the javelin lands' Accessible Arts is continuing to grow through our recent move, continuing innovative and empowering projects and developing a public profile. We are attracting, by our intrepid submissions writers, (a big thanks to Helen and Neridah) more than just core funding. We are being supported by project orientated grants from the Australia Council, Country Arts Support Program, LOUD and Leichhardt Council.

We wish to thank every contributor, government and private, that allows us to have a real part to



play in shaping our society and thanks to our core funding bodies, the Ageing & Disability Department and the NSW Ministry for the Arts for their continued commitment and faith that our diverse society is more than worthwhile. It's crucial!

Executive Officer's Report Helen Connors

It seems slightly uninspiring to report on Accessible Art's 1996 program in October 1997. For this reason I have chosen to focus on how the activities of AA continue to work towards the organisation's main aim – the inclusion of people with disabilities as spectators, amateurs and professionals in Australia's arts and cultural life.

The size and scope of AA's main mission can, on a bad day, seem overwhelming. AA has found that in an environment of limited resources it is essential to be guided by our 5 year Strategic Plan. AA's annual program selects projects, training and services that enhance our mission by achieving objectives identified in the Plan.

In 1996 AA undertook a number of significant projects – some providing the ground work for 1997 activities eg. House Gang, the TV series; LOUD youth arts media and festival workers; Getting it Right, the art and disability advocacy kit and Facing Today – new technology project that provided the basis for AA's Web site.

With extremely limited finances and staff numbers the establishment of partnerships and working collaborations have been essential to facilitate attitudinal change and encourage action within existing arts organisations and services. For example, by working on Facing Today with the University of NSW's College of Fine Arts participants had access to equipment usually unavailable to most people and college staff became more aware of disability and access issues.



Change and positive action are not only required within the arts community but also within the disability sector. The true value of the arts industry is not recognised or supported by key decision makers within disability services. If people with disabilities are to have access to similar opportunities as the broader community the challenge for AA - which is some-

times daunting – is to encourage significant changes within disability services.

While the arts and cultural industry is one of the largest and fastest growing areas in Australia, the disability sector continues to view the arts as a recreational activity. While projects of the calibre of House Gang and Facing Today demonstrate how these types of initiatives develop skills, competency standards and provide training and employment pathways both within and outside of the arts, there is no support for individuals wanting to participate and develop skills.

While many organisations in the disability sector look towards the visual or performing arts to provide a backdrop for a special event – launch etc. – there often appears to be no recognition of the skills required to provide this service. Generally, people acknowledge the length of time it takes to develop work to a standard suitable for exhibition/performance, yet, for some reason the same does not apply to people with disabilities – they are just expected to be able to perform/ exhibit.

Recognition that the arts has the capacity to promote the agenda of the disability sector – through visual metaphor; positive images – must not remain so half hearted. The situation where there is no financial support or encouragement for people to develop their skills to an adequate standard must change if there is any real commitment to the DDA and the NSW Disability Services Act. AA will continue to lobby government support – in particular Ageing and Disability Department – for more adequate support for AA and people with disabilities. AA projects will continue to demonstrate the potential of people with disabilities to contribute artistically and AA will encourage support for the active involvement of people in Australia's cultural life – eg. financial support and opportunity to develop work to a professional standard for the Paralympics Cultural Olympiad 2000 and Federation Celebrations, 2001.

The success of AA's annual program in facilitating change in both sectors has relied on the concerted efforts of staff and project workers – both in providing AA services and in coordinating projects, I would like to thank all staff and project artists /workers – in particular Neridah, Suzie and Tony. Without their energy, enthusiasm and contribution our annual program would not achieve the significant results we have come to expect.

The on-going work and eventual success of any annual program relies on the involvement and input from our members. In any negotiation to encourage action from government, disability services and /or arts organisations it is important that AA demonstrates it is representative. I strongly encourage anyone interested in the area of art and disability to take action and become a AA member. Your membership will also make it a lot easier for us to contact you when events/projects in your particular area of interest come to our attention.

As many people are already aware I took leave from AA in 1996 to work as Program Manager of the Community Cultural Development Fund at the Australia Council – a rewarding experience that should resource my work with AA. During my leave Suzie Walker acted as the EO. Taking on a position in these circumstances can be difficult but Suzie dealt with the situation in her usual energetic manner. I thank Suzie for her work during my 10 month absence from AA.

Unfortunately for AA Suzie left the organisation in mid-1997 to take on some interesting project work that she hopes will be less stressful and hectic . All staff and project artists thank her for her hard work over 3 years and wish her well in her new area of work.

Finally, I hope you will be able to join us on 27 November at 6pm for the launch of Getting it Right – an exciting advocacy kit that will be useful to anyone interested in the field of art and disability in NSW. This evening of entertainment will also launch our new home at Pier 4 and give people a sneak preview of the AA Web site.

Project Officer's Report Neridah Wyatt-Spratt

Although I have been associated with Accessible Arts for a number of years being employed as the temporary Project Officer in late 1996 meant I was really able to get my teeth into the arts projects. This job is nothing if not varied and it was great to be under the wing of Suzie Walker. Her help was invaluable! Suzie, after all, initiated most of the 1996 projects and a big thanks goes out to her. Working on ACE, looking for young people to help AA with LOUD, organising a grant for the Inte-Dance project, and meeting, greeting and talking to members and artsworkers made my first four months with the organisation busy and exciting.

AA's diversity is stimulating, keeping you on your toes. At the same time I was completing my Masters at Sydney University in the area of arts and disability. This was a great opportunity to use my knowledge and gain more insight into an area in which I hope to continue working.

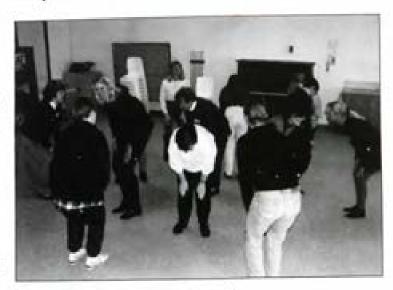
As always the regional projects were a buzz and the fact that they are gaining a strong identity within their area is fantastic. Getting bigger and better every year these projects develop and build on skills and illustrate what the arts projects at AA are all about.

Summary of 1996 Program Organisational Infrastructure

In addition to financial support from the Ministry of the Arts (core funds), AA received funds from: Ageing and Disability Department (core funds), the Australia Council, Film Australia, Dept. of Social Security, Dept. of Training Coordination and a number of Local Governments. However while AA had success at gaining project funds there was only limited core funds. This has effected AA's capacity to deliver services and achieve objectives.

As well as co-ordinating the annual program and administering associated funds, key strategies for 1996 included:

- negotiated additional core funding from the Ministry of the Arts and Ageing and Disability Dept, and investigated potential new areas of support;
- organised the 1995 evaluation and 1996 planning day. For the first time the objectives of the Strategic Plan directly related to the outcomes and performance indicators of the Operational



Plan. Together they provide the three year Corporate Plan;

- negotiated AA's role in the delivery of the Australia Council Art and Disability Program;
- DADAA established the communications linkup of state DADAA representatives and revitalised the NSW DADAA network;
- supervised two Community Cultural Development trainces and contributed to evaluation of the trainceship and course work;
- re-established office after a major robbery of office equipment and data.

Information Resource Service

Unique in NSW the information/resource service continues to establish networks throughout NSW. Networks provide information and assist AA to provide a state perspective. In 1996 this service provided:

- Inquiry Service the 32 average weekly inquiries varied from individual art class needs to assistance in staging performances and providing artists. The service becomes more significant as the database details more regions.
- Training provided Integrated Arts Training and Disability Awareness Training to educational, disability and community organisations.
 Professional Development – increased demand for performers with disabilities meant AA facilitated a number of training sessions and acted as 'agent' for those employed, eg. the launch of Credit Union's 'Money Matters' program; video on sexual harassment by Iris Productions for the Council for Intellectual Disability; and performances by the dance group CoMotion.
- Publications (part of AA's marketing strategy) –
 Getting it Right advocacy kit will lift AA's profile. AA continues to document projects as resources eg. educational notes for House Gang, ACE magazine. Staff shortages and theft of computers meant only one edition of ACE was produced in 1996.
- Consultancy Service utilised by art, recreation and disability organisations and agencies. Artists with disabilities were part of an AA consultancy team – eg. 'Artability' and Disability Awareness Training.
- Regional Networks AA visited the Riverina and Central West to oversee projects, run training and promote local networks. Seminars included: Disability Awareness Training, Music and Drama Improvisation. With AA's assistance Arts Council (CASP) grants were successful in these regions.

Arts Program

Accessible TheatreSports – In partnership with TheatreSports Australia Inc. this major project culminated in a performance involving over 40 actors to launch the Accessible TheatreSports Manual (information and techniques to initiate courses and performance) at

Tom Mann Theatre attracting over 400 people.

Artstart – Artstart 1: Balmain High School Special Unit and a group home at Campbelltown explored new technology and the Internet as a means of communicating youth issues. Artstart 2: pilot to document the art skills of Artstart 1, includes 'Plugged In' a new technology course outline written for young people with disabilities.

Facing Today – Explored from within new technology a different form of expression - digital, malleable, interactive. While the project culminates in 1997, Facing Today will be on-going with artists from around the state encouraged to participate.

House Gang – Publicity and promotional activities were priorities in 1996 and AA resourced the Chauvel Cinema and SBS launches. Print publicity was excellent and the show that went to air on 7 January 1997 achieved high ratings. An offshoot of the show is the demand by people with disabilities to access drama at both a community and professional level. The Study Guide was published in November 1996 and is suitable for a number of courses including English, psychology, citizenship and media studies. AA continues to support Film Australia in the second series.

LOUD – AA appointed two LOUD workers (one in Sydney and one in Newcastle). The LOUD workers developed a series of integrated workshops that explored – through radio, new technol-

ogy and video – youth issues and what it is like to be young with a disability.



Cultural Exchanges – AA hosted two cultural exchanges with Japan: the Director of Bunko Ward Limby Disabled Persons, Japan, approached AA to organise an information exchange with a visiting integrated choir performing at the Opera House. While language was a barrier the afternoon of music, dance, singing and a tea ceremony brought together people with similar aims – to participate in all forms of creative expression. Similarly, a group from Chida Prefacture of Tokyo Japan visited. AA is now on the list of Thomas Cook list of consultants.

NIDA – In conjunction with NIDA and AA, the Holdsworthy Street Community Centre organised Young Actors Workshops through the Open Program that culminated in an end of year performance.

Inte-Dance – Monthly integrated dance classes at Lilyfield Community Centre were supported by Leichhardt Council. A core group of participants with and without disabilities continue to develop skills in contact improvisation.

CoMotion – the dance group to emerge from classes in 1995 continues to flourish and will be involved in a joint project with Ausdance in 1997. They are now paid to perform, eg. Mission Theatre, Newcastle; Dance Week, Bondi Pavilion; Australia Museum for Kaleidoscope. Photographs of CoMotion won a place in the NICAN competition 'Celebrating Disability' and toured nationally as part of a photographic exhibition. The images taken by Comotion member Helen Clarke Lapin were also chosen to illustrate the Commonwealth Department of Health and Family Services 1997 calender

1997 Outlook

Staffing continues to be a critical issue. While AA has received a one-off grant for an administrator for one year this has not solved the on-going need for adequate staffing levels.

Accessible Arts relocated to Pier 4. The Wharf, Hickson Road, Walsh Bay in August 1997 and AA is grateful to the Ministry of the Arts for the larger space and the new opportunities it will potentially offer to members.

In 1997 Accessible Arts will continue to be managed under the following structure: (1) Organisational Infrastructure; (2) Information/Resource Service; (3) Arts Program.

(1) Staff remains a valuable, cost effective resource. They provide the services/programs of each component of AA's structure. It will be extremely unfortunate if in 1997 AA is unable to respond to the ever increasing demand for services and is placed in a position where it has to reduce services to below 1996 levels. It is essential that staff (a minimum of three) be available to deliver the services, oversee projects and negotiate financial support.

(2) The Information/Resource Service is vital for both the arts and disability communities. AA encourages change and integration through providing information and developing models and resources to illustrate 'best practice'. With adequate resources AA will continue to provide the inquiry and consultancy services, publications (Facing Today training material, ACE magazine etc), training programs, professional employment

opportunities and support for regional networks.

We had planned to complete the Getting it Right (GIR) project by late 1996 or early 1997, however, relocation to new premises has led AA to putting off the publication until the new postal, phone and fax numbers were established. As a major advocacy initiative, GIR will provide the basis for the 1997/9 marketing campaign to promote

the aims of AA more effectively.



(3) The 1997 arts program will reflect the priority of promotion and marketing. In partnership with the University of NSW's College of Fine Art (COFA) we continue to co-ordinate the on-going outcomes of Facing Today, ie. Web site info and gallery updates. In 1997/8 AA will further investigate the potential of the Internet for rural, isolated communities. In association with regional areas – Riverina, Central West, Western and Metropolitan Sydney, and Hunter – AA will be involved in establishing ongoing training and infrastructure support in local regions.

In 1997 AA continues to visit regions, negotiate a better working relationship with other state-wide organisations and establish partnerships with key stakeholders in regional areas to secure resources that enable projects to operate efficiently and within budget. Aboriginal participants and people from non-English speaking backgrounds will continue to be targeted and involved in regional initiatives.

The Paralympics and Cultural Olympiad have consulted with AA on arts initiatives for the 2000 Games. Recent changes to the structure and program of the Olympiad will require AA to re-establish its relationship with CO staff and committees. AA will negotiate to have its skills and expertise (and the national network) recognised. We will seek funding to resource the Cultural Olympiad/Paralympics cultural program, eg. choir for opening ceremony.

Conclusion

Accessible Arts' demonstrated ability to negotiate initiatives, partnerships and new premises means in 1997/8, AA will be in a strategic position – within the arts community and at the cutting edge of technology. In 1997 these collaborations mean artists have access to resources and skills training generally not available to community organisations.

Page Harrison & Co

Chartered Accountants 15 Northcliff St, Milsons Point NSW 2061

Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Accessible Arts Incorporated.

Scope

We have audited the financial statements of Accessible Arts Incorporated, as set out on the following pages for the year ended 31 December 1996. Our Audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the accounts are free of material misstatement.

Audit Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly the financial position of Accessible Arts Inc. as at 31 December 1996 and the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with applicable Statements of Accounting Concepts, applicable Accounting Standards and the Association Incorporated Act.

JAKE JOHNSTONE

A partner of Page Harrison & Co Chartered Accountants Sydney

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 1996

1995		1996
	CURRENT ASSETS	
0,407.51	Cash	111,338.49
3,082.00	Receivables	0.00
4,667.42	Other	3,357.40
8,156.93	TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	114,695.89
	NON CURRENT ASSETS	
16,139.52	Property, plant and equipment	10,114.52
16,139.52	TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS	10,114.52
94,296.45	TOTAL ASSETS	124,810.41
	CURRENT LIABILITIES	
55,745.20	Creditors and borrowings	75,358.01
29,151.12	Provisions	36,705.55
84,896.32	TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	112,063.56
	NON CURRENT LIABILITIES	
84,896.32	TOTAL LIABILITIES	112,063.56
9.400.13	NET ASSETS	12,746.85
9,400.13	THE ! ! ! ! ! !	
	SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY	
9,400.13	Retained earnings	12,746.85
\$9,400.13	TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY	\$12,746.85

Statutory Profit and Loss Account for the Year Ending 31 December 1996

		1996
1995		12050000
(19,666.79) 0.00	OPERATING PROFIT / (LOSS) Income tax expense	3,346.72 0.00
(19,666.79) 0.00	Operating profit after tax Abnormal items-net of tax	3,346.72 0.00
(19,666.79) 29,066.92 0.00	Operating profit and extra items Retained earnings brought forward Add: transfers from reserves	3,346.72 9,400.13 0.00
9,400.13 0.00 0.00	Total available for appropriation Less: transfers to reserves Less: provision for dividend	12,749.85 0.00 0.00
\$9,400.13	RETAINED EARNINGS CARRIED FORWARD	\$12,746.85

Profit and Loss Statement for the Year Ending 31 December 1996

1995			1996
	Incomes		
83,824.97	Grants received		113,941.81
6,893.72	Trainee wage subsidies		23.552.51
555.00	Membership subscriptions		1,860.00
38,544.41	Project income		40.257.73
3,828.95	Interest received		5.646.91
123.00	Resource sales		TANGE OF THE PARTY
1,130.00	Training and seminar income		1,866.00
420.00	Consultancy fees		7,886.80
340.20	Donations 1995		556.50
270.10	Sundry income		10.00
270.10	Sundry Income		2,759.09
\$135,867.35			\$192,337.35
	Expenses		
0.00	Accountancy		
1,999.92	Asset replacement provision	1,276.00	
910.00	Audit fees	2,214.25	
131.28	Bank charges and govt tax	0.00	
293.00	Computer expenses	162.20	
630.00	Consultancy expenses	2,305.00	
6.280.00	Depreciation of fixed assets	0.00	
172.34	Documentation	4,643.00	
0.00		408.40	
7,777.1	Freight, cartage and couriers	14.00	
1,357.58	Fringe benefits tax	0.00	
52.76	General expenses	786.00	
1,185.17	Insurances	0.00	
0.00	Interest paid	5.40	
0.00	Loss on desposal of assets	1,782.00	
1,531.09	Management Committee expenses	4,267.54	
2,097.43	Motor vehicle expenses	1,844.54	
0.00	Office supplies	271.80	
1,712.28	Printing, post and stationary	2,813.55	
8,825.24	Project expenses	15,732.86	
143.45	Publication expenses	17,964.45	
1,747.20	Rent	1,922.00	
553.94	Repairs and maintenance	905.78	
114,071.99	Salaries and wages	120,221.13	
740.00	Seminars and staff training	0.00	
635.93	Staff expenses	408.44	
75.00	Subscriptions and donations	125.00	
4,233.46	Superannuation contributions	4,758.94	
3,171.65	Telephone and telex	3,268.86	
2,983.43	Travelling expenses – local	888.60	
\$155,534.14	TOTAL EXPENSES		\$188,990.63
70.4 C 0.0 C 00.0			remarka de

(\$19,666.79)

\$3,346.72

NET PROFIT / (LOSS)

Annual Report figures cont.

1995	CURRENT ASSETS	1996
	CASH	
10.370.00	Cheque account	12,173.47
59.936.00	Cash management account	99,065.02
100.00	Cash on hand	100.00
\$70,407.51		\$111,338.49
	RECEIVABLES	
3.082.00	Trade debtors	0.00
3,002.00	Tigoe debiors	0.00
	OTHER	
4,667,42	Prepaid expenses	3,357.40
	TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	
\$78,156.93		\$114,695.89
	CURRENT LIABILITIES	
	CREDITORS AND BORROWINGS	
590.00	Members fees in advance	0.00
7,429.65	Trade creditors	0.00
9,628,28	Wage subsidies in advance	0.00
0.00	Accrued expenses	3,377.90
38,097.27	Grants in advance	71,980.11
\$55,745.27		\$75,358.01
	PROVISIONS	
15,292.26	Provisions for annual leave	19,904.59
6,758.94	Provisions for long service leave	7,700.96
7,099.92	Provisions for motor vehicle replacem	ent 9,100.00
\$29,151.12		\$36,705.55
\$84,896.32	TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$112,063.56
	GRANTS RECEIVED	
	MOA – Core program	57,000.00
	Adjustment grant	400.00
	DOC's	56,541.00

What's On & Info

Text(Aisles)

An Exhibition exploring Textile Art

Text(aisles) is a proposed exhibition looking at several themes of textile practice and will be staged at the Tin Sheds Gallery throughout March 1998. The aim of the exhibition is to explore the diverse and often overlooked or marginalised practice of 'textile art' in many of its forms and manifestations. The exhibition will also seek to address

The exhibition will also seek to address that age old (and unresolved) debate of 'Art vs Craft.' While fashion has long been accepted in the realms of 'art,' textiles so often the foundation of fashion remains curiously marginalised in the area of 'craft,' both theoretically and in curatorial practice.

This exhibition hopefully will place the area of textile practice firmly within the realm of art or at the very least further blur the margins that seperate the areas. The installation if this exhibition is also intended to contribute a peripheral dialogue concerning 'the viewer' and the experience of the gallery or museum space.

Curator Diana Robson

For further information about the exhibition of to forward an expression of interest please contact:

Diana Robson

1/274 Stanmore Rd

Stanmore NSW 2048

Ph: (02) 9568 5874

Your expression of interest should include some example of recent work, preferably in slide form, your CV, and some information about the type of work you would like to exhibit, if it is different from your recent work.



\$113,941.81

What's on & Info

Artsinfo

An initiative of the Commonwealth Department of Communications and the Arts, Artsinfo is a new Web site and telephone inquiry service billed as the 'One Stop Arts Shop.'

The site provides information on all manner of cultural and industry support programs being offered by Government and non-government agencies as well as grants and other services available. You can access on-line publications and helpful resources from the arts community.

Go to www.artsinfo.net.au or phone 1800 241 247



The Sky is the Limit

The NSW Recreation Network presents its third conference 'The Sky is the Limit' taking place at The Fairmont Resort, Leura on 27-28 November. Emphasis is on sport and leisure activities for people with disabilities with workshops and activities including abseiling, bushwalking, kite flying, as well as issues of sexuality and leisure education.

For cost and info contact: NSW Recreation Network Inc. PO Box 1398 North Sydney NSW 2060 Further inquiry names: Brian Wright (02) 9902 4848 Carolyn Bruce (02) 9580 6345 Darani Monck (02) 9890 0100 Scott Grant (02) 9971 2931

High Beam Festival

May 1998 will see the inaugural High Beam Festival celebrating the creative talents of people with disabilities. Taking place in Adelaide the festival runs for ten continuous days of performances, exhibitions and seminars.

This innovative and exciting festival will provide a rare opportunity for individual artists and companies from all over Australia to profile their talents across the full range of artistic expression.

For further information contact:

Arts in Action 101 Halifax St Adelaide SA 5000 Ph: 8232 6391

Fax: 8224 0709

Travelling Scholarship

If you are an artist you have until Friday, 31 October to apply for the 1998 Marten Bequest Travelling Scholarship.

\$18 000 is to be awarded in the fields of Acting, Instrumental Music, Painting, Poetry, Prose and Singing.

Entry forms available from: Arts Management Pty Ltd Station House Rawson Place 790 George St NSW 2000 Ph: (02) 9212 5066