

BLACKTOWN ARTS CENTRE



www.artscentre.blacktown.nsw.gov.au

JULY – DECEMBER 2010 PROGRAM
exhibitions | performances | workshops

MAYORAL WELCOME

Blacktown City Council takes a leading role in the development of art and culture both locally and across Western Sydney and our Arts Centre continues to build a significant reputation at national and international levels.

Blacktown Arts Centre aspires to empower our community through the development and showcasing of artistic excellence. The exhibitions and performances continue to amaze, inspire and challenge each of us and importantly, to connect with local communities.

Through performance and visual arts residencies as well as workshops for children, young people and adults, the Arts Centre nurtures our region's exciting and impressive talent.

In March this year we farewelled the Arts Centre's Director John Cheeseman. We extend our gratitude for John's myriad achievements. His vision and dedication have steered the Arts Centre on an exciting path for years to come.

I invite you to visit Blacktown Arts Centre to experience its engaging program and to be inspired by the wealth of creativity from our region.

Councillor Charlie Lowles
Mayor of Blacktown City

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Over the next six months, Blacktown Arts Centre (BAC) continues its commitment to developing and showcasing the best of contemporary art from Blacktown and beyond.

Experience newly commissioned intercultural music by local artists as part of the *Echo Music Series*, while those starting out in the music industry can get a kick start at the *Launch* music festival.

In our exhibitions, witness fresh and thought-provoking work by young local Aboriginal photographers alongside the work of well-known artist Vernon Ah Kee, and see recently acquired works contributing to the growth of an outstanding Council Art Collection.

An exciting array of artists are embarking on the development of new works, including a theatre work by Leanne Tobin with acclaimed mentors Wesley Enoch and Cathy Craigie, as well as a studio residency by eminent local artist Huseyin Sami who will examine the nature of painting.

Get involved at BAC. Attend a concert, see an exhibition, participate in a workshop, apply for a residency, enter our art prize or become a member. Experience BAC's dynamic program and join us on a stimulating and unique creative journey.

Sophia Kouyoumdjian
Acting Director, Blacktown Arts Centre
(March – June)

María Mitar
Acting Director, Blacktown Arts Centre
(June – September)





ECHO MUSIC SERIES 2010 :: SEASON 2

FELLOWS CONCERT The Sydney Symphony Saturday 14 August, 2pm

This popular annual event returns to Blacktown. An intimate afternoon concert from the Sydney Symphony's Fellowship initiative, the *Fellows Concert* features nine talented young classical musicians. Chosen from a national audition process, they are part of the Symphony's year long program of education and performance.

Program: MOZART String Quintet in G minor, K516 SCHUBERT Octet in F, D803

Performers: Alexandra Carson (clarinet), Chloe Turner (bassoon), Francesco Io Surdo (french horn), Claire Herrick (violin), Mariana Green (violin), Maïke-Karoline Drabe (viola), Arabella Bozic (viola), William Hewer (cello), Josef Bisits (double bass). Artistic Director: Roger Benedict

Cost: \$15 Adult,
\$10 Friends of BAC/Concession

NAFAS Saturday 21 August, 8pm

Nafas means "breath" in Farsi. This performance premieres the new work *Rhythms of Life*, by acclaimed young tabla master Yama Sarshar. An energetic and emotive journey into the cycles of human life, it draws on world rhythms and melodies from the ancient Indian instrument, the sarangi. The piece explores drumming from Afghanistan, India, Africa and Western traditions.

A newly commissioned BAC work, part of the Drumming Cultures Initiative.

Performers: Yama Sarshar (tabla), Chris Fields (Western drum kit), Philippe Lincy (African and South American percussion), Sangeet Mishra (sarangi) with Bukhchuluun Ganburged (Mongolian throat singer/horse fiddle) and Ali Sarshar (harmonium).
Musical Director: Richard Petkovic

Cost: \$20 Adults,
\$15 Friends of BAC/Concession

CROSS GROOVE Saturday 20 November, 8pm

Cross Groove is a collaborative exploration of riffs, grooves, breaks and sets, shaped by original intercultural drumming. It is an interactive explosion of live and electronic soundscapes. Audience members interact with the artists, using Wii controllers to trigger real time samples of cross grooves.

A newly commissioned BAC work, part of the Drumming Cultures Initiative.

Performers: Michael Atherton (Composition, percussion, SMS, prose), Ta'ane Tiputu (Tongan, Samoan & Cook Island drumming and chant), Fernando Andres (Afro-American percussion, Uruguayan Candombe), Garth Paine (electronic interactive percussion, flutes).

Cost: \$20 Adult,
\$15 Friends of BAC/Concession

How to book
For credit card bookings please visit
www.artscentre.blacktown.nsw.gov.au
or call BAC on 9839 6558

(Please note a 30 cents booking fee per ticket applies for credit card transactions)

LAUNCH FESTIVAL: MUSIC INDUSTRY TALKS Saturday 27 November, 11am

Respected music industry professionals come together for a panel discussion on the business of music. An opportunity for anyone interested in a career in the music industry to gain valuable insights into the behind the scenes management and day to day business of the music industry. Presented by TAFE Entertainment, Blacktown Youth Services Association, Blacktown City Council in partnership with Blacktown Arts Centre, Indent and Music NSW. A free event. For further information, please call 9839 6554.

PERFORMANCES





RESIDE 18 June – 28 August

An exhibition of photographic explorations by emerging Aboriginal artists that reflect an inherent connection to people and place. *RESIDE* explores how shared concepts of experience and aspiration impact on the conditions in which we survive today. Featuring new work by Darren Bell, Rosalind Gibson and Shay Tobin. Curated by Nicole Foreshew.

This exhibition is part of the *Black(s)town* initiative, a project dedicated to the long-term development and recognition of local Aboriginal cultures, communities and arts practices.

ARTISTS' TALKS

11am Saturday 17 July
Join Curator Nicole Foreshew and local artist Jake Soewardie with the *RESIDE* artists as they discuss their photographic works.

Image: Darren Bell, *Kindred* 2010.



CANT CHANT VERNON AH KEE 25 June – 21 August

Leading Indigenous artist Vernon Ah Kee is known for his incisive critiques of White Australian culture. In the *Cant Chant* exhibition he takes on the iconic subject of the beach and casts a critical eye on its special role in forming Australian identity.

Cant Chant pushes aside the common sense of the beach as a destination for leisure, relaxation, and fun, and presents it as a cultural battleground. As the Cronulla riots demonstrated, racism remains deeply-rooted in the Australian psyche. Casting themselves as Indigenous, white yobboes wearing such slogans as 'We grew here, you flew here' attacked more recent immigrants.

Cant Chant includes surfboards painted with north Queensland rainforest shield designs as well as a video installation featuring dead boards (waterlogged surfboards) blasted by guns, and Aboriginal surfers.

Cant Chant is an Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane touring exhibition.

Image: Vernon Ah Kee, from *Cant Chant*, colour photograph 2007 (detail).



2010 BLACKTOWN CITY ART EXHIBITION 18 September – 16 October

Entered by hundreds of artists, Blacktown's annual art prize showcases the best of current artistic practice. Now in its fifteenth year, the *Blacktown City Art Exhibition* has grown in popularity and reputation to become Western Sydney's premier art prize.

It features outstanding works by local artists, works from across NSW and environmentally themed works by children and young artists. Painting, watercolour, works on paper and sculpture sections are judged by industry professionals with total prize monies of \$24,000 awarded.

Get involved and cast your vote in the popular People's Choice Prize or purchase a work for your personal art collection. All works are for sale.

Open Tues – Sun 10am – 5pm

EXHIBITION TOUR

11am Saturday 16 October
Join a selection of the award-winning artists as they discuss this year's exhibition.

CHILDREN'S WORKSHOPS

Children's visual art workshops will be held during the October school holidays focussing on themes and techniques from the *Blacktown City Art Exhibition*. For more details visit BAC's website or call 9839 6247.

Image: Blaze Blazeski-Krstanoski, *Lose Yourself* 2009. Winner of the Arts Reference Group Prize, 2009 *Blacktown City Art Exhibition*.



ARTS MARKET

16 October, 10am – 3pm

Western Sydney artists and designers showcase their creative talent in the annual *Arts Market*. Featuring original paintings and sculptures as well as handmade jewellery, handbags and textiles, the *Arts Market* is a unique opportunity to see and buy locally made contemporary art and design products.

The market, in its third year, is part of Council's wider plans to provide ongoing economic opportunities to artists.

STALLHOLDER INFORMATION

Information for stallholders and application forms will be available from the Arts Centre website from mid July.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

5 November 2010 –
8 January 2011

From the walls of Council to the walls of the Arts Centre, *Recent Acquisitions* presents original works from the Blacktown City Council Art Collection. Each year, Council acquires exceptional works by local and Western Sydney based artists. Normally housed within the Council premises, *Recent Acquisitions* brings to light a selection of these newly collected treasures.

Inspired by the urban streets of central Blacktown, a site of Aboriginal significance or a suburban backyard in Kings Langley, the works depict local places, people and histories. They take us on a journey into Blacktown's cultural imagination.

The exhibition includes award-winning works acquired from Blacktown's annual art prize, the *Blacktown City Art Exhibition*, as well as works acquired from BAC exhibitions.

Featuring Keith Brown, Huseyin Conker, Christopher Dean, Lauren Gock, Shalini Jardin, Kate Mackay, Lynne Mak, Barbara Newton, Catherine O'Donnell, Leanne Tobin, Jason Wing.

Image: Lauren Gock, *A Public Space Pattern* 2008 (detail).

FAIRYTALES

5 November 2010 –
5 February 2011

The *Fairytales* exhibition explores tales, memories and magical moments from childhood. Artist David Funnell has created a series of suitcase sculptures and ink drawings based on his childhood growing up in Western Sydney.

"*Fairytales* tells the story of how I came to realise that life springs from within, and that my life was as exciting as any in the world. So many of our young people think where they live is boring. Yet where they live is, or can be, as exciting as any place in the world."
Dave Funnell

The interactive suitcase sculptures transform everyday childhood memories into enchanting fairytales. *Fairytales* evokes the adventure and innocence of childhood and takes the viewer on a journey of magical recollections.

A series of workshops and activities for children will accompany the exhibition. Please see BAC's website for details closer to the exhibition date.

Fairytales is a Grafton Regional Gallery touring exhibition. Curated by Jude McBean.

Image: Dave Funnell, *And Life is Still Good* 2008.

RESIDENCY PROGRAMS



Image: Lina Kastourmis and Claudia Chidiac

PERFORMING ARTS RESIDENCY PROGRAM 2011 APPLICATIONS OPEN 30 JULY

Applications are invited for the Performing Arts Residency Program 2011.

The program aims to provide professional development opportunities for individuals or small groups of artists in the development, experimentation and mentorship of new performance works.

2010 residency recipients are Jonathon Nanlohy, Claudia Chidiac and Lina Kastourmis, Katy Green and Tom Hogan, Yana Taylor.

2011 APPLICATIONS Open: Friday 30 July. **Close:** Tuesday 31 August. Decisions announced by November 2010. Application and information forms available on the BAC's website.

VISUAL ARTS STUDIO RESIDENCY PROGRAM

The Visual Arts Studio Residency Program is run in conjunction with BAC exhibitions, providing vital spaces for creative production to artists from Western Sydney.

Huseyin Sami is the current artist in residence. His work reflects a multifaceted construct of process, play and experimentation, engaging with the realms of object-making, painting and performance.



Image: Huseyin Sami, *Painting Machine No.5* (performance view) 2009. Image and artwork courtesy the artist and Sarah Cottier Gallery Sydney. Photo Koji Ryui.

ARTS & CULTURAL NOTICES

2010 BLACKTOWN CITY ART EXHIBITION: ENTRY FORMS

Entry forms for the *2010 Blacktown City Art Exhibition* are now available. If you would like to receive an entry form, please call 9839 6558 or download from the Arts Centre website.

The annual *Blacktown City Art Exhibition* features four sections – painting, watercolour, works on paper and sculpture – and also includes an environmentally themed children and young artist's section. Each year, artists are invited to submit artworks for selection and judging, with total prize money and acquisitive funds of up to \$24,000 on offer.

Entry forms due: Tuesday 17 August, 4:30pm

FRIENDS OF BLACKTOWN ARTS CENTRE

Belong to an exciting group of arts supporters – the Friends of Blacktown Arts Centre. Keep up to date with future exhibitions, performances and events in Blacktown and beyond. Membership forms are available from the Arts Centre website at www.artscentre.blacktown.nsw.gov.au.

Please call 9839 6247 for more info.



SUMMERTIME STORIES Saturday 11 December, 1pm

FREE FAMILY EVENT

Join us at Blacktown Arts Centre for the annual *Summertime Stories* celebration of books, stories and pictures.

Celebrate the end of another year and the beginning of a new summer with your favourite children's authors and illustrators. Stories, drawing, lucky door prizes and hands-on activities for kids five years and up.

Afternoon tea will be served and books by the visiting presenters will be available for sale.

Presented by the Western Sydney Young People's Literature Project.

EDUCATION & WORKSHOP PROGRAMS



VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS SCHOOL HOLIDAYS WORKSHOPS

Discover how much fun art and performance can be. BAC's children's visual and performing arts workshops allow children to experiment with an exciting range of mediums and techniques including drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, acting and music. Regular workshops are held every school holidays with experienced tutors for young people age 5 - 17 yrs.

To keep updated about workshop details, please join the children's workshop mailing list by calling 9839 6558.

YOUTH DRAMA CLASSES

The National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA) in partnership with Blacktown Arts Centre is running Youth Drama Classes throughout 2010 for young people in Western Sydney. The classes are facilitated by industry-experienced practitioners.

DRAMA FOR 9-11 YEARS OLD

- Term 3** Saturdays 31 July - 11 September,
10:30 - 12:00pm
- Term 4** Saturdays 23 October - 4 December
10:30 - 12:00pm
- Cost:** \$190 (earlybird \$180) per term.

DRAMA FOR 12-15 YEARS OLD

- Term 3** Saturdays 31 July - 11 September,
12:30 - 2:30pm
- Term 4** Saturdays 23 October - 4 December
12:30 - 2:30pm
- Cost:** \$250 (earlybird \$230) per term.

SINGING STREETS CHOIR WORKSHOP

If the streets of Blacktown could sing, what stories would they tell? If you chose songs that say something about your neighbourhood, what would they be?

A series of vocal workshops will be led by Linda Marr, acclaimed a cappella and world music artist. The workshops will establish community vocal ensembles. They will culminate in the *Singing Streets* performance in 2011, a series of street performances in each Blacktown ward, presenting songs of meaning to participants.

- Dates:** Monday evenings 2 August - 20 September, 6:30pm - 8pm
- Cost:** \$10 per class or \$60 for the entire course

PICTURE BOOK ILLUSTRATION AND DESIGN

A workshop for visual artists about the art of illustrating and designing children's picture books. The workshop is led by award-winning picture book illustrator and designer Donna Rawlins.

Donna Rawlins' illustration credits include the classics *My Place* and *My Dearest Dinosaur*. She has won numerous design awards from the Australian Publishers Association and has taught a course in children's book illustration at the Centre for Continuing Education at the University of Sydney for more than 15 years.

Presented in partnership with the Western Sydney Young People's Literature Project.

- Date:** Saturday 7 August, 10am - 4pm. Lunch included.

Image L to R: BAC Community Open Day, photo Matthew Vasilescu, NIDA's open program, Linda Marr

Bookings are essential for all workshops, places are limited. For bookings, program information or to join the mailing list visit our website or call BAC on 9839 6558. Please note: Classes and workshops will not be offered if insufficient enrolments are received.

BLACKTOWN ARTS CENTRE

78 Flushcombe Rd, Blacktown NSW 2148 | PO Box 63, Blacktown NSW 2148
T: (+612) 9839 6558 | F: (+612) 9831 8730 | E: artscentre@blacktown.nsw.gov.au
www.artscentre.blacktown.nsw.gov.au

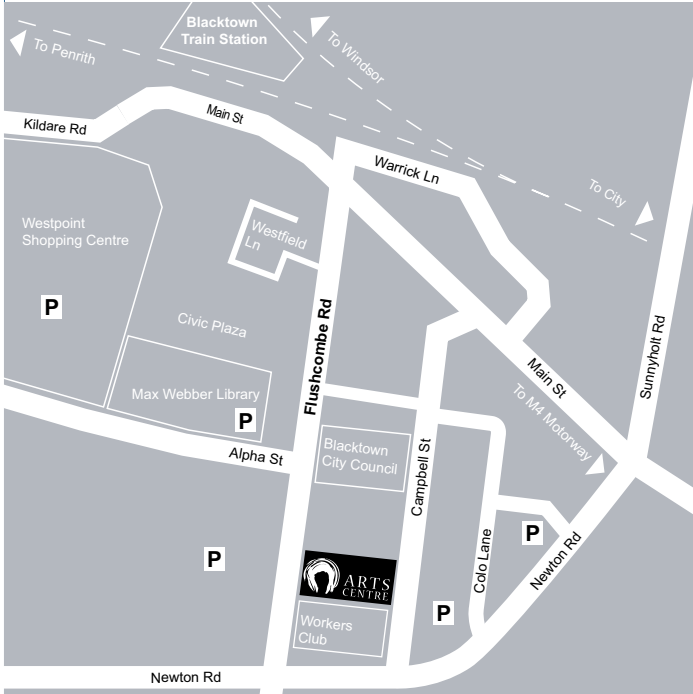
Tuesday – Saturday 10am – 5pm (closed public holidays) | General admission free
Closure dates 25 December 2010 – 3 January 2011.

Program details are correct at the time of printing.

blacktown



ARTS
CENTRE



Access information

Entry to Blacktown Arts Centre is via the front of the building at 78 Flushcombe Rd, Blacktown. BAC welcomes all visitors and is committed to making its programs and services accessible to everyone. Visitors with restricted mobility can enjoy all public areas of the Arts Centre.



Public Transport

Blacktown Arts Centre is within five minutes walking distance (south) from Blacktown station.

Parking P

On-street parking available in the surrounding area. Car parking stations are within walking distance to BAC, located at Colo Lane, Westpoint Shopping Centre, Max Webber Library and K-Mart. The Council car park (adjacent to the Arts Centre) is open to the public evenings and all day Saturday.

Blacktown Arts Centre is an initiative of Blacktown City Council supported by Arts NSW and project-funded by the Australia Council for the Arts.



Communities
arts nsw



ARTS & CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT STAFF

Manager
Cultural Planning Coordinator
Western Sydney Young People's
Literature Officer
Administration Officer

Jenny Bisset
Monir Rowshan
Judith Ridge
Dayna Coyle

ARTS CENTRE STAFF

Visual Arts Project Officer (Curator)
Performing Arts Development
Audience Development &
Community Engagement
Administration Trainee
Project Officers

Sophia Kouyoumdjian
Maria Mitar
Miguel Olmo
Harleigh Murphy
Paul Howard, Robert Colman,
and Symmon Natour

The Centre is guided by a Program Advisory Committee chaired by Cr Alan Pendleton.

PROJECT PARTNERS

Accessible Arts
Arts NSW
Australia Council for the Arts
Blacktown Advocate
Blacktown Workers Club
Blacktown Youth Services Association
Coroboree Arts and Craft Co-op Ltd
Department of Education and Training, NSW
Dubbo Regional Gallery (WPCC)
Fordland Company
Grafton Regional Gallery
Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane
Musica Viva
Mt. Druitt Standard
NIDA
Powerhouse Youth Theatre
Riverstone Neighbourhood Centre
Rouse Hill Times
SydWest Migrant Services
TAFE NSW
University of Western Sydney
Western Sydney Young People's Literature Project
Westlink M7