

The South Project

a cultural highway linking the countries of the South

South 1

The Gathering July 2004

South 1 (1–4 July 2004, University of Melbourne) was a unique gathering of artists from more than 16 countries brought together to discuss what it means to live in the south. There were 48 presentations designed to cover the breadth of southern cultural activity, including shared histories of struggle and displacement, current programs of cultural development and ideas for future collaborations across the latitude. Despite great differences of language, colour, culture, economics and history, one element brought everyone together – the condition of living in the south. What is normally a condition of isolation, has now become an opportunity for collaboration.

South 2

The Journey 2005–2007

The second phase of the South Project is feeding off of the creative energy sparked at South 1 and is developing ways to enable, stimulate, challenge and celebrate south-south dialogue and creative exchange.

RESIDENCIES

To lay the ground with artistic exchange

In this sense the South Project is working primarily as a vehicle for artists to explore ways of linking different countries of the south, and furthering a dialogue on engaging art production away from the epicentres of the art world. Artistic creation is very much dependent on experience of cultural difference.

GATHERINGS

To bring artists and writers of the south together

The South Project Gatherings which see the project expand its visual presence from Australia to the South Pacific, South America and Africa are designed to facilitate open and critical cultural dialogue as well as confront and question pertinent issues facing the peoples of the south in a local context. In not being prescriptive the South Project has

the potential to create a space in which artists are free to develop new visions of the south, and ultimately affect a shift which will reposition the countries of the south as dominant and vital cultural and artistic capitals –from Wellington 2005 to Santiago 2006 to Johannesburg 2007.

EXHIBITIONS

To showcase what south-south exchange can produce

The South Project will initiate as well as partner exhibitions over the five years. Many of these will be components of the residency program and others will be built into existing festivals and cultural events such as the Commonwealth Games cultural program in 2006.

SOUTH KIDS

To look to the future

In partnership with ArtPlay and schools from the South

NETWORKS

Friends of the South –

To spread opportunities across the south

Important background activity for the South Project is to facilitate this network in accepting proposals and liaising with potential hosts as well as disseminating information for specific opportunities. South proposals are housed in a database accessible only to the Friends Network through the website.

MELBOURNE UNDERCURRENTS

To develop new conversations and immediate responses

South 3

The Arrival–Festival of the South 2008

The South project will culminate its five year journey with large festival in Melbourne. The festival will include a consortium of Melbourne cultural organisations and venues. This will be an opportunity to engage all art practices in the celebration of the southern cultures.

The South Project

South 2: The Journey

Wellington Gathering

20–21 October 2005

between sky and earth

ways of making a place in a placeless world

day of dialogue

20 October Te Papa

Consider the place of land-based traditions in a globalised world, alternative stories for a common sky, new ways to work together, and areas of ongoing struggle in the south

8-9.30am Powhiri

10-11am Keynote

Elizabeth Ellis CNZM, JP (Ngapuhi, Ngati Porou)

Chair, Te Waka Toi, Creative New Zealand

11:00-12:30pm MAKING A PLACE

This session includes discussion of different traditions by which groups in the south mark their relationship to place; rituals, ornament, music, narratives and art. Reference is made to the adaptation of those traditions to changed circumstances, particularly displacement through urban drift.

1:30-2:30pm A PLACE IN HEAVEN

As well as locating ourselves on land and sea, there are also markers in the sky that are shared with others across the great distances of space and time. Certain constellations, such as the Southern Cross, have been recruited as national symbols. Can artists uncover alternative meanings for them? What stories of the stars have emerged from the south?

2:30-4:00pm THE WEFT

Rather than discrete places, this session looks at the development of identity based on horizontal connections including artist initiatives, networks and collectives that work with a group methodology that connects through a shared creative process.

4.30-5:30pm REGAINING GROUND

In the post-colonial era, global capital is one of the perceived forces of alienation from place. There is concern for the large scale purchase of land in exotic regions of the south. What role can artists play in the raising consciousness about persistence of local identity?

6.00-7.30 pm READINGS FROM THE SOUTH at Te Papa

New Zealand icon Patricia Grace (Ngai Toi, Ngati Raukawa, Te Ati Awa) and renowned Australian indigenous writer Tony Birch. Open to the public.

Contributors

Aotearoa/New Zealand

Simon Kaan (Ngai Tahu/Chinese)

Arapata Hakiwai (Director,

Mātauranga Māori)

Lonnie Hutchinson (Ngai Tahu/Samoan)

Professor Robert Jahnke (Ngati Porou)

Cuckoo (Auckland)

Huhana Smith (Ngati Tukorehe/

Ngati Raukawa)

Megan Tamati - Quennell

(Ngai Tahu/Te Atiawa)

South Africa

Clifford Charles

Australia

Kelly Koumalatsos (Wergaia/

Wamba Wamba/Greek)

Domenico de Clario (Perth)

Munya Andrews (North Kimberley)

Vicki Couzens (Kirrae Wurrung/

Gunditjmarra)

pvi collective (Western Australia)

Professor Elizabeth Grierson (Melbourne)

Chile

Galería Metropolitana (tbc) Luis Alarcón

and Ana María Saavedra

And more...

day on the ground

21 October

Exchange ideas and learn new skills through ceremonies, sustainable craft workshop, digital storytelling, public intervention and collective exchange

Weaving of the South Is an opportunity to learn traditional and hybrid techniques from practitioners across the South. Including from Australia Treahna Hamm (YortaYorta) and Vicki Couzens (Kirrae Wurrung/Gunditjmarra); from Cook Island/New Zealand Mary Ama. **at Te Marae, Te Papa**

Sustainable Craft Practices in the South Using the Creative New Zealand initiative the toi iho™ Maori mark as a starting point, this workshops will explore issues relating to the production and promotion of arts and craft in the southern hemisphere. Facilitators include: David Jamali (Zimbabwe), Dr Kevin Murray (Craft Victoria, Australia), Moana Davey (toi iho™), Karen Mills (ANKAAA – Association of Northern, Kimberley & Arnhem Aboriginal Artists) **at Pataka, Porirua City**

Digital Story Telling provides individuals and communities with the opportunity to capture meaningful stories from their lives through digital technology. This workshop will explore how this methodology can take advantage of multiplatform distribution including broadcasting and web. This workshop will be of interest to broadcasters, media makers, cross form community artists and those working in the museum industry. Facilitators: Helen Simondson, (Australian Centre for the Moving Image Melbourne) Jan Bieringa (New Zealand) and Kimba Thompson (Koorie, Australia) **at Wellington City Gallery**

panopticon – public intervention
pvi collective (Western Australia) – Kelli McClusky, Steve Bull, Chris Williams and Kate Neylon. The workshop will culminate in a public intervention on Saturday 22 October in Wellington Central.

Making Omelettes without Breaking Eggs artist collective exchange – Cuckoo (Auckland): Jon Bywater, Judy Darragh, Daniel Malone, Ani O'Neill, and Gwynneth Porter.

a 'how to' manual – artist feedback sessions
Clubs Project (Melbourne): Terri Bird, Bianca Hester, Michelle Ussher, Marcus Keatings.

at the Wellington Arts Centre

Evening events

GALLERY WALK

6-7:30pm Thursday 20 October

SOUTH PROJECT GALA DINNER

with Sunga performance at Matterhorn Restaurant and Bar

8-10pm Thursday 20 October (Bookings essential).

PLENARY

6-8 pm Friday 21 October at Wellington City Gallery

registration

Bookings are essential and include the day of dialogue, workshop series and evening events (except gala dinner)

REGISTRATION FOR THE GATHERING

AUD \$95

AUD \$65 (concession)

Gala Dinner AUD \$70 (separate)

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR REGISTRATION
VIA EMAIL OR FAX TO SOUTH PROJECT.
NO BOOKINGS WILL BE ACCEPTED AT TE PAPA.

CONTACT

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VISIT WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.southproject.org

