



1/ Hamidi Hadi, *Bloated*, 2010, mixed media on canvas, 135cm x 135cm, showing in a group show *Absolut18@8* at Wei-Ling Gallery, 8 Jalan Scott, Brickfields, Kuala Lumpur, 25 November to 20 December. <http://www.wei-ling-gallery.com/exhibitions/1882010.php>

2/ Tokyo-based Australian Marcel Cousins, *trust*, 2009, acrylic and enamel on canvas. From his solo exhibition *CHOP-SHOP* at Gallery Target, Tokyo until 10 December. (Image courtesy of the artist). [www.gallery-target.com](http://www.gallery-target.com) & [www.marcelcousins.com](http://www.marcelcousins.com)

## Asia

REG NEWITT – REGNEW88@GMAIL.COM

JAYNE DYER – JAYNE.DYER@GMAIL.COM

GINA FAIRLEY – GINAFAIRLEY@PACIFIC.NET.AU

NEILTON CLARKE – NEIL@UNSWALUMNI.COM

### Jumping the City

Invited architects and artists will introduce their works and practice in an exhibition to focus on the state of Chinese urban development (with Beijing as a case study) and to summarise the rethinking/avant-garde practice of architects, artists and theorists. This follows Karl Heinz Klopff's conference Big Blackboard Beijing at UCCA (August) and a symposium led by Che Fei, X-Field, with Prof. Sand Helsel, and Assoc. Prof. Andrea Mina RMIT (September). Exhibition at CU Space 798, Beijing, opening 20 Dec. **RN**

### Asialink residency

Jennifer Mills is the author of the novel *The Diamond Anchor* and a chapbook of poems, *Treading Earth*. She won the 2008 Marian Eldridge Award for Young Emerging Women Writers, the Pacific Region of the 2008-09 Commonwealth Short Story Competition, and the 2008 Northern Territory Literary Awards: Best Short Story. During her residency at bookstore and event complex, The Bookworm, she has immersed herself in Chinese writing, and has investigated the cultural impact of the changing economic relationship between Australia and China. **RN**

### Artists' stories about China

Asialink is also this month publishing a book telling the stories of Australian artists and writers who have worked in China, exploring their experiences and creative influences against a backdrop of Australia-China relations. Contributors include Ouyang Yu, Alice Pung and Benjamin Law. **RN**

### The City Printmaking

Red Gate Gallery once again hosts an exhibition of an edition of prints in the form of a calendar to raise funds in support of the Shepherd's Field Children's Village Orphanage. Titled *The City*, it is the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of the Calendar of Contemporary

Printmaking series initiated in 2004 by artist Zhou Jirong and Brian Wallace. The project seeks to extend Red Gate's charity efforts to engage philanthropic organisations in China in the field of contemporary art. In total, 50 calendar sets will be available, featuring the work of invited artists He Kun, Hong Hao, Liu Qinghe, Su Xinping, Xu Baozhong, Zhang Guanghui and Zhou Jirong. **RN**

### Guan Wei retrospective

Guan Wei, a Chinese artist who migrated to Australia in 1989 and established a national and international reputation over the following 15-plus years, returned to his land of birth as an Australian citizen in 2008. This 30-year retrospective exhibition is timely and significant; the progression of his ideas, technical and stylistic development through bodies of work primarily instigated by his Australian experience features strongly. It also shows his strong connections to his Chinese heritage and the traditional representation of figuration in historical periods of Chinese art. The exhibition, *Cloud in the sky and water in the bottle*, reveals Guan Wei's humour, wit and sense of universality. At Shui Mu Art Center, 798, Beijing, as part of the Year of Australian Culture in China program. **RN**

### Coffee & bread ...

Coming to Beijing in December? Part-time Beijinger and Adelaide artist Michael Yuan gets together most weekends with other artists, writers and curators at the Arrow Factory in downtown Beijing to sell their home-baked bread, cakes and Michael's fantastic single-origin coffee. A great place to meet, eat and catch up with the latest art news! Reminds us what we miss about the Australia café scene! **JD**

### East-west orbit

The large-scale exhibition *Albrecht Dürer – Religion/Portraits/Nature Prints and Drawings*, currently at The National Museum of Western Art (NMWA), Tokyo is unique with two-thirds of the works on display from the National Gallery of Victoria (NGV) collection. Curated by Cathy Leahy (Senior Curator, Prints and Drawings,

NGV) and Naoki Sato (Curator, NMWA), the exhibition's title underscores Dürer's belief (as recorded in his 'Das Lehrbuch der Malerei' notebook) that religion, portraits and nature are of primary importance in art. Until 16 Jan. [www.nmwa.go.jp/en](http://www.nmwa.go.jp/en) & [www.ngv.vic.gov.au](http://www.ngv.vic.gov.au) **NC**

### Hijackings

Australian artist Marcel Cousins, based in Japan many years, is showing recent work with his solo exhibition *CHOP-SHOP* at Gallery Target, Tokyo until 10 Dec. The title refers to the stripping of stolen cars and selling the parts – and by extension to the sampling, borrowing, and appropriation of images and objects from art history and the everyday. Such 'hijackings' are a key concern of Cousins in painted, printed and sculptural work. [www.gallery-target.com](http://www.gallery-target.com), [www.marcelcousins.com](http://www.marcelcousins.com) **NC**

### Update on facetnate!

Sydney-based artist Kath Fries was recently announced winner of facetnate! (see Artnotes Asia #232) and takes home the Japan Foundation (Sydney) New Artist Award for 2010. Fries's *Grove* installation was the pick by head judge John McDonald (*Sydney Morning Herald* art critic), enabling her to travel to Tokyo to engage in research and networking. [www.kathfries.blogspot.com](http://www.kathfries.blogspot.com), [www.jpfa.org.au](http://www.jpfa.org.au) **NC**

### Double serve

His *Asian Modernities: Chinese and Thai Art Compared* publication highlighted last month, John Clark's other 2010 publication, *Modernities of Chinese Art*, deserves mention. Released by Brill (Leiden), it brings together close to 30 years of in-depth empirical research, examining the problems of 'modernity' in Chinese art. Including first-hand, previously unpublished material on Beijing and Hong Kong, interview material, reproductions of over 200 artworks, biographical appendices (including Taiwanese artists) and an extensive bibliography, it's an indispensable resource, and a useful companion to the earlier-mentioned work. (ISBN: 9789004177505). [www.brill.nl](http://www.brill.nl) **NC**

# Artnotes

## MOT to trot

The Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo (MOT) has some good shows on. *Transformation*, curated by Yuko Hasegawa in collaboration with anthropologist Shinichi Nakazawa, looks at things like plastic surgery, gene manipulation, organ transplants, and environmental change, and includes work by Japanese and foreign artists including Naoki Ishikawa, Junya Oikawa, Lee Bul, Apichatpong Weerasethakul, and Australian Patricia Piccinini. There's also *Catalysis for Life – New Language of Dutch Art & Design*, with work by Maarten Baas, Martijn Engelbregt, Ted Noten, and Tomoko Take. Both until 30 Jan. [www.mot-art-museum.jp/eng](http://www.mot-art-museum.jp/eng) **NC**

## What's on Watson

QLD-based artist Jenny Watson (b.1961), well-known for her faux-naïf style in paintings (and other media) featuring horses and children, will be in residence at the OzCo Tokyo studio Jan-April. Watson's represented by Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Sydney, and Greenaway Gallery, Adelaide. **NC**

## On a wave

*Invisible Structures: Australian artist collectives in Tokyo, Singapore and Yogyakarta* sees 3 artist-run initiatives (ARIs), namely Boxcopy Contemporary Art Space, Six\_a Inc., and Y3K, undertake residencies respectively at Post-Museum (Singapore), Art Center Ongoing (Tokyo), and House of Natural Fiber (Yogyakarta) in Dec-Jan., and May. The project is stage 2 of the Structural Integrity manifestation held Melbourne in May. Curated by Next Wave's artistic program manager Ulanda Blair, numerous artists are involved in this exciting initiative backed by Asialink. **NC**

## Sangeeta

Melbourne-based artist Sangeeta Sandrasegar will undertake an Asialink residency Dec-Feb. at 1 Shanti Road Centre, Bangalore, India. With an Anglo-Australian mother and Indian-Malaysian father, her work across varied media – hinging on postcolonial and hybridity theory and influenced by her mixed heritage – is nuanced and poetic. Her residency's supported by Arts Victoria and the Australia-India Council. <http://sangeetasandrasegar.blogspot.com> **NC**

## Sydney appearance

The Art Sydney fair at the Royal Hall of Industries, Moore Park in Nov. had a healthy contingent of local and foreign galleries representing Asian artists, including Artda Gallery, Eurasia, Cross Bay Gallery, Seoul Art Center Gallery, and Soohoh Gallery. [www.artsydney10.com.au](http://www.artsydney10.com.au) **NC**

## Errata

In last month's Artnotes, reference to Benesse Corporation (in 'Telling on Teshima') should have read Benesse Holdings, the name having recently changed; and since mentioning director Yoji Yamada's Nov. Sydney visit for the 14th Japanese Film Festival, it turned out that given his subsequent inability to attend, director Tsutomu Abe (a protege of Yamada) came instead. **NC**



1/ Marcel Cousins, *Vessel*, MDF, two-pac pain, ABS 3D plastic print and acrylic box (edition of 5), 2008. From his solo exhibition CHOP-SHOP at Gallery Target, Tokyo until 10 December. [www.gallery-target.com](http://www.gallery-target.com) & [www.marcelcousins.com](http://www.marcelcousins.com) (Image courtesy of the artist).

2/ Kate Rhode, *Crab*, mixed media, 2009. From the Vanessa Van Ooyen-curated exhibition *Zen to Kawaii: the Japanese affect* at QUT Art Museum, Brisbane until 19 December. Image courtesy of the artist and Karen Woodbury Gallery, Melbourne. [www.artmuseum.qut.edu.au](http://www.artmuseum.qut.edu.au)

## Southeast Asia

### Getting to know you

Maria Cruz and Elizabeth Newman first showed together in 1990. 2 decades later they again collaborate for this project at Manila's MO\_Space, entitled *I want you to know. What I am*. Using intense colour and simple forms, textures and text, they propose a dialogue between the materiality and imposed notions of representation. Showing until 5 Dec., to be followed in Jan. with a solo exhibition by fellow Australian artist based in Manila, David Griggs. [www.mo-space.net](http://www.mo-space.net) **GF**

### A fitting retrospective

Opening at Ateneo Art Gallery's new space is the first major retrospective of Philippine Modernist Lee Aguinaldo, curated by Victoria (Boots) Herrera and Lisa Chikiamco. More than 70 works span his 1950s linear paintings to his colour field non-objective works and later mixed-media figurative works and photo collages of the 1980s. This is a rare and influential exhibition of a great local master. Showing until 5 Feb. **GF**

### Weaving new relationship

Ateneo Art Award nominee Bea Camacho will be creating site-specific works for Galleria Duemila, her first exhibition with this established Manila gallery. Known for her use of materials – cocooning herself in crocheted yarn or plywood chandeliers – this solo exhibition follows hot on the heels of Bea's inclusion in group exhibitions at the TATE Modern and Singapore earlier this year. From 4 Dec. through 30 Jan. [www.galleriaduemila.com](http://www.galleriaduemila.com) **GF**

### Celebrating Chabet

To celebrate 50-years of practice by Philippine's foremost conceptual artist, Roberto Chabet, a series of exhibitions will be presented each month of 2011 tracking his pioneering works and influence on this scene. Launched at Singapore's LASALLE College of the Arts with a suite of plywood constructions, *To Be Continued* (14 Jan. to 12 Feb.) will be followed by *Complete & Unabridged, Part I*, a collection of artists influenced by Chabet spanning several generations (opening 17 Feb.). Projects will be presented at Osage Kwun Tong and Soho in Hong Kong in March. For more on Chabet: [www.aaa.org.hk/research\\_currentprojectsdetails\\_05.aspx](http://www.aaa.org.hk/research_currentprojectsdetails_05.aspx) **GF**

## Tokyo cool

Singapore Art Museum takes a look at Japanese Pop Art with the exhibition *Trans-Cool TOKYO* from the Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo. Working across mediums, it defines the unique creative identity established by artists working since the second half of the 1990s, such as Yayoi Kusama, Yasumasa Morimura and Kohei Nawa. Featuring over 40 major works and showing until 13 Feb. [www.singaporeartmuseum.sg/](http://www.singaporeartmuseum.sg/) **GF**

## Innovative Painting

Thai artist Natee Utarit is also currently centre-stage at Singapore Art Museum with a mid-career survey, *After Painting*. Exploring new definitions and dialogues in painting, particularly in this region, Natee's works are drawing from SAM, Bangkok University, Queensland Art Gallery and private collections, to make this a must-see exhibition. Until 20 Feb. [www.singaporeartmuseum.sg/downloads/nu\\_brochure.pdf](http://www.singaporeartmuseum.sg/downloads/nu_brochure.pdf) **GF**

## Art Stage Singapore

The inaugural launch of Art Stage Singapore, 12 to 16 Jan., at the swish new Marina Bay Sands venue aims to rival Art HK (Hong Kong) as the art fair showcase of Asia. Lorenzo Rudolf is the Director of Art Stage Singapore. As former Director of Art Basel, instigator of Art Basel Miami Beach and co-creator of ShContemporary, Shanghai, he is well credentialed to realise the event's pitch to become Asia's most spectacular art fair stage and the 'Switzerland' of Asia. **JD**

## Save the date

The Third Singapore Biennale, with the theme 'Open House', runs 15 March to 15 May. Be sure to book your tickets for the Vernissage on 11-12 March and then continue on to the Sharjah Biennale, opening 16 March. Led by Artistic Director Matthew Ngui, with curators Russell Storer and Trevor Smith, SB2011 will utilise the Old Kallang Airport as a new satellite site. [www.singaporebiennale.org/](http://www.singaporebiennale.org/) **GF**