

Narelle AUTIO, *Siren IV*, 2007, image courtesy the artist and Stillis Gallery, Sydney



SAMSTAG
MUSEUM

Media Release

It's a 'Wonderful World' at the new Samstag Museum of Art

Adelaide's newest public gallery, the **Anne & Gordon Samstag Museum of Art**, will launch its inaugural exhibitions program on Friday 12 October 2007 with an ambitious celebration of Australian contemporary art – 'Wonderful World'.

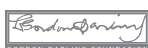
Featuring twelve renowned and accomplished Australian artists, *Wonderful World* is a rich exploration of different ways that artists experience the world. Employing all of the Museum's three substantial and elegant exhibition galleries over two levels, *Wonderful World* brings us places of the imagination and glimpses of magical domains that only artists of mature creative power can effectively conjure.

But this particular 'world' is truly diverse: it is a tangible, physical place of nature and cities, and also one of ecological politic, persisting human conflict and cultural change. It is a world of origins and dreaming. There is the spry life of the intellect, the golden thread of poetry and humour, and the exhibition strongly celebrates the world's natural wonder, while acknowledging the environmental realities, the human inner life and, inevitably, the inescapable dark side.

The artists featured in the *Wonderful World* exhibition include **Narelle Autio, Simon Carroll/Martin Friedel, Jon Cattapan, Daniel Crooks, James Darling/Lesley Forwood, Robert MacPherson, Ningura Napurrula, Susan Norrie, Philip Wolfhagen** and **Anne Zahalka**. A handsome exhibition catalogue includes a special essay by David Hansen.

Wonderful World exhibition curator and Samstag Museum director, Erica Green, says that, "all in all, *Wonderful World* is full of the mysterious alchemy that makes art such a special part of our lives. It is a perfect way for us to celebrate so auspicious and historically significant event, as the opening of the 'Anne & Gordon Samstag Museum of Art'."

For information about the new Samstag Museum of Art please contact Erica Green, Director. Telephone 08 8302 0872; mobile 0438 821 239 or email erica.green@unisa.edu.au



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LAWYERS



Anne & Gordon Samstag Museum of Art
University of South Australia
55 North Terrace Adelaide SA 5000
www.unisa.edu.au/samstagmuseum