

Art & the Moving Image at the 2009 BigPond Adelaide Film Festival
 2009 BigPond Adelaide Film Festival and Anne & Gordon Samstag Museum of Art present:

LYNETTE WALLWORTH

A NEW COMMISSIONED WORK: DUALITY OF LIGHT

Sound: Chris Watson Video Processing and System Design: Pete Brundle Lighting: Blue Bottle Produced by Forma
FIRST MAJOR SURVEY

19 February – 24 April 2009 Samstag Museum of Art

University of South Australia, Hawke Building, 55 North Terrace

Opening Hours: Mon - Sun 11.00 am- 5.00 pm during the Adelaide Film Festival 19 February - 1 March 2009.

Wallworth's works make deceptively simple use of combining light and transparency with interactive technology. The results are variations on magical seduction.

Robert Clark, The Guardian UK

The 2009 BigPond Adelaide Film Festival is excited to announce a bold new programming direction with the presentation of a new commissioned work – and first major survey of selected works – by acclaimed Australian artist **Lynette Wallworth**, to take place at the University of South Australia's Samstag Museum of Art, Australia's newest public art museum.

Duality of Light, commissioned through the Adelaide Film Festival Investment Fund, completes a trilogy of works by Wallworth creating an intimate responsive environment containing powerful human emotions: grief and loss and the emergence of hope. Experienced as a journey down a long corridor through seven sound thresholds, each more immersive and expansive than the last, the visitor is drawn slowly towards a final unsettling encounter...

"It is hard to imagine another artist whose work better demonstrates the creative potential of new media," said 2009 BigPond Adelaide Film Festival director Katrina Sedgwick. *"This festival is committed to exploring contemporary screen culture across the myriad of its many manifestations. We are delighted to commission this new work from one of the world's most exciting artists. This commission continues to break new ground for our Investment Fund as we support some of our most interesting artists working with moving image, be it for cinema, television, online or now in a gallery space"*

The survey at the Samstag Museum of Art comprises four landmark works never previously exhibited together – **Hold: Vessel 1 & 2**, **Invisible By Night**, **Damavand Mountain**, and **Beautiful Sunset**– some of which have not been seen before in this country.

Invisible by Night (2004) is the second work in the trilogy made in response to the layered history of the site of Melbourne's first morgue. The eternal pacing of a grieving woman at the heart of the piece can be gently interrupted by the viewer.

In **Hold: Vessel 1 & 2** (2001 - 2007) the viewer catches and holds projections of shimmering underwater life or the astronomic phenomena of solar eclipses and the Transit of Venus in a delicate glass bowl. The projections focus on highly complex, fragile marine ecosystems or historic attempts at global scientific co-operation. **Damavand Mountain** is a multi-screen video installation filmed in the small mountain village of Poloor in Iran. A poppy flower, a chador-attired woman and a snow-covered mountain slowly begin to connect and meld through invisible natural forces. Reflecting on 19th century Australian colonial landscape painting traditions, **Beautiful Sunset** depicts the temporal and barely imperceptible alterations made by the gradually setting sun.

Wallworth collaborates deeply at every level: with her subjects, with scientific and technological specialists, and with the viewer. She is fascinated by the interconnectedness of the planet, by the human relationship to knowledge and how technology can alter perceptions of reality. Wallworth is one of Australia's most exciting and internationally celebrated artists whose practice spans video installation, photography and short film.. Her first major European solo exhibition was presented by Peter Sellars' NEW CROWNED HOPE Festival in Vienna in 2006. In the last two years her work has been shown at the National Glass Centre in the UK (a solo exhibition), Monash University Museum of Art (MUMA), British Film Institute Gallery London, John Curtain Gallery Perth, Festival d'Art Lyrique Aix-en-Provence, the Lincoln Center for Performing Arts New York and Melbourne International Arts Festival.

Lynette Wallworth, Duality of Light was commissioned through the Adelaide Film Festival Investment Fund, and produced by Forma. This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body.

Occasionally you see an exhibition - and sometimes just one piece of work - that has that jaw-dropping quality, that wow factor.... All Wallworth's works have that bit of wow about them

David Whetstone, The Journal, March 2007



For more information regarding this Media Release please call

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