

Celebrating Australia's Indigenous culture with *Shadowlife* **OPENING IN BANGKOK - 1 March 2012**

The Australian Embassy Bangkok and Bangkok Art and Culture Centre (BACC) proudly present *Shadowlife*, an exhibition of moving image works by internationally-renowned Indigenous Australian artists. *Shadowlife* is part of the Australian Embassy's activities in celebration of the 60th Anniversary of Bilateral Relations between Australia and Thailand.

Developed by Asialink and the Bendigo Art Gallery, audiences in Thailand will have a chance to see this unique exhibition, which will also tour in Australia and Asia.

Curated by Djon Mundine OAM and Natalie King, *Shadowlife* exhibits works by nine internationally renowned contemporary Australian Aboriginal artists (and one non-Indigenous collaborator) engaged in photo-based practices.

Wungguli, an Arnhem Land *Djambarrpuynu* word, means 'spirit' and 'shadow' and came to describe photographic image. *Shadowlife* explores the notion of the shadow as a representation of our soul. *Shadowlife* embraces moving image and photography with all its directness, theatricality and immediacy by confronting stereotypes and acting out scenarios.

Exhibition curators Djon Mundine OAM and Natalie King write in the catalogue essay.

"When light shines on something or someone, a shadow is always cast. A person can never desert its shadow and a shadow cannot leave its human original. Every shadow has its own presence and absence. And no more so in this continent, Australia, full of ghosts and shadows honeycombing the historical, social, and physical landscape."

Participating artists are: Vernon Ah Kee; Bindi Cole; Brenda L. Croft; Destiny Deacon/Virginia Fraser; Fiona Foley; Gary Lee; Michael Riley; Christian Thompson and Ivan Sen.

The exhibition will be on display from 2 March to 29 April 2012 at BACC. BACC is open to the public and entry is free. Opening hours are 10am – 9pm, Tuesday to Sunday. Tel: 02 214 6630-1.

Mr Simon Farbenbloom, Deputy Head of Mission of the Australian Embassy, will open the exhibition on Thursday 1 March at 18.30 hrs.

On 1 March, prior to the official opening ceremony, 'Visions of a Nomad' Trio (didgeridoo, percussion and guitar) will perform music featuring Indigenous culture at 4.00PM at BACC. From 5.00PM the curator Djon Mundine OAM will lead a special floor talk. Admission is free.

Please confirm your interest in attending the performance and talk at the Australian Embassy Bangkok Tel: 02-344 6463, 02-344 6464 or BACC 02-214 6630-1.

Exhibition photo and artist interview opportunities available.

Visit www.asialink.unimelb.edu.au/our_work/arts/Exhibitions_on_Tour/shadowlife

For more information about this media release please contact:

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