

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



David Griggs
Blood on the Streets
2007

17:40 Min (production still) DVD, edition 6
Courtesy the artist and Kaliman Gallery,
Sydney and Uplands Gallery, Melbourne.

Under my skin: the ripple effect ***Australian artists making waves in Asia***

Under my skin is an exhibition celebrating the artistic journeys of five contemporary Australian artists. The Asialink Arts' residency program has seen almost 500 artists embark on residencies across the width and breadth of Asia, covering 20 countries and over 300 host organisations during its 17-year history.

Under my skin presents work by the established and distinguished Australian artists. Emil Goh, David Griggs, Pat HOFFIE, Megan Keating and Louise Paramor have been brought together for the first time, and represent a diverse range of practices, and from different generations and varied cultural backgrounds. All transform what is significant to them into imaginary, creative, documentary or conceptual forms and content; into other personal realities through the residency experience.

The time an artist can spend on a residency allows the rare luxury of time away from a daily routine; the space for contemplation and reflection and the opportunity to explore new techniques and approaches to art-making. By delving into the unfamiliar, the diverse and the stimulating, artists absorb these encounters and relate them back to their already developed aesthetics. These encounters challenge their localised practices and enrich both their work and the lives of the communities within which they are immersed.

Each artist reveals a depth of understanding of the worlds in which they were immersed, worlds unknowable to the passing tourist or the casual observer. Artists have their work critiqued and tested in new cultural contexts and gain access to world-views that, once foreign and impenetrable, slowly unravel to offer new, insightful and enriching perspectives on their work.

Under my skin opens at Ateneo Art Gallery, Manila on 29 May and runs until 26 June. Participating artist, Pat HOFFIE, returns to Manila where she undertook her first Asialink residency in 1993, for the exhibition opening. She will return to Australia on Sunday 30 May.

The exhibition tour includes Manila, Singapore and Vietnam. This project is supported by Asialink at the University of Melbourne, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade through the Images of Australia Branch, and the Australia Council for the Arts, the Australian Government's arts funding and advisory body, the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy an initiative of the Australian, State and Territory Governments.

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