

Magnetic Islands
A selection of artists from Seoul National University [South Korea] and
RMIT University School of Art [Australia]
Curated by ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR PETER ELLIS and STEPHEN GALLAGHER

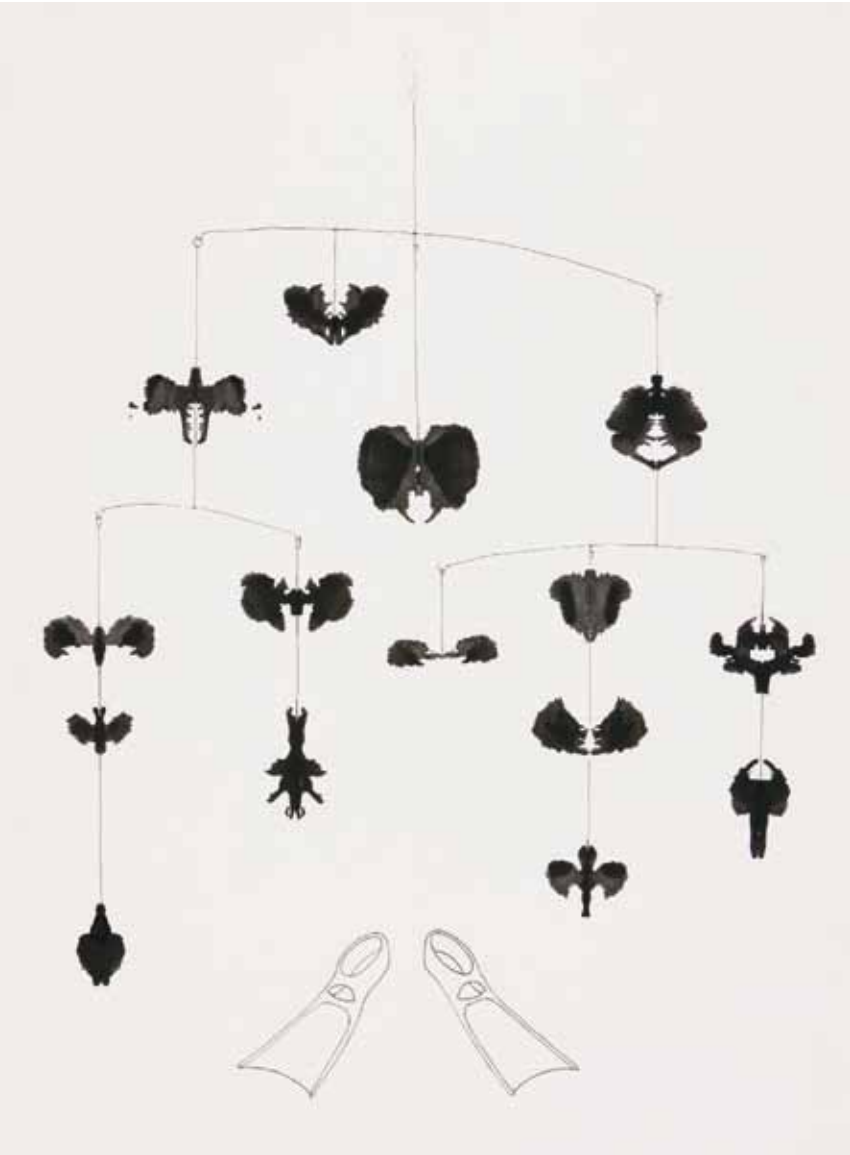
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|---------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| DR. IRENE BARBERIS [AUS] | KIM, BYOUNG JONG [ROK] | RALF SANDER [ROK] |
| GODWIN BRADBEER [AUS] | KIM, HYUNG GWAN [ROK] | SHIN HASOON [ROK] |
| CHOI INSU [ROK] | KIM, SEONG HEUI [ROK] | SIM, CHEOL WOONG [ROK] |
| RHETT D COSTA [AUS] | KIM, TSCHOON-SU [ROK] | DR. WILMA TABACCO [AUS] |
| DR. LESLEY DUXBURY [AUS] | DR. ROBIN KINGSTON [AUS] | DR. DAVID THOMAS [AUS] |
| DR. PHIL EDWARDS [AUS] | KYMN, KYUNGSUN [ROK] | SARAH TOMASETTI [AUS] |
| A/PROF. PETER ELLIS [AUS] | JENNIFER MILLS [AUS] | FRAN VAN RIEMSDYK [AUS] |
| GINNY GRAYSON [AUS] | MOON, JOO [ROK] | LOUISE WEAVER [AUS] |
| DON GORE [AUS] | OH, GWIWON [ROK] | PETER WESTWOOD [AUS] |
| HAN, UN-SUNG [ROK] | PARK, YEONGMOG [ROK] | YOON, DONGCHUM [ROK] |
| RICHARD HARDING [AUS] | SIMON PERRY [AUS] | |

FRIDAY 9 TO THURSDAY 29 APRIL
OPENING THURSDAY 8 APRIL 5-7PM
FLOOR TALK THURSDAY 15 APRIL 12-1PM

 **PROJECT SPACE/SPARE ROOM**
BUILDING 94: 23-27 CARDIGAN STREET, CARLTON

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Managed by the RMIT School of Art
CURATOR/COORDINATOR Stephen Gallagher
ADMINISTRATOR/WEB DESIGN Andrew Tetzlaff **GRAPHIC DESIGN** Gracia Haby & Louise Jennison
EMAIL schoolofartgalleries@rmit.edu.au **WEB** schoolofartgalleries.dsc.rmit.edu.au
TELEPHONE +61 3 9925 4971 **GALLERY OPENING HOURS** Monday – Friday 10.00am to 5.00pm



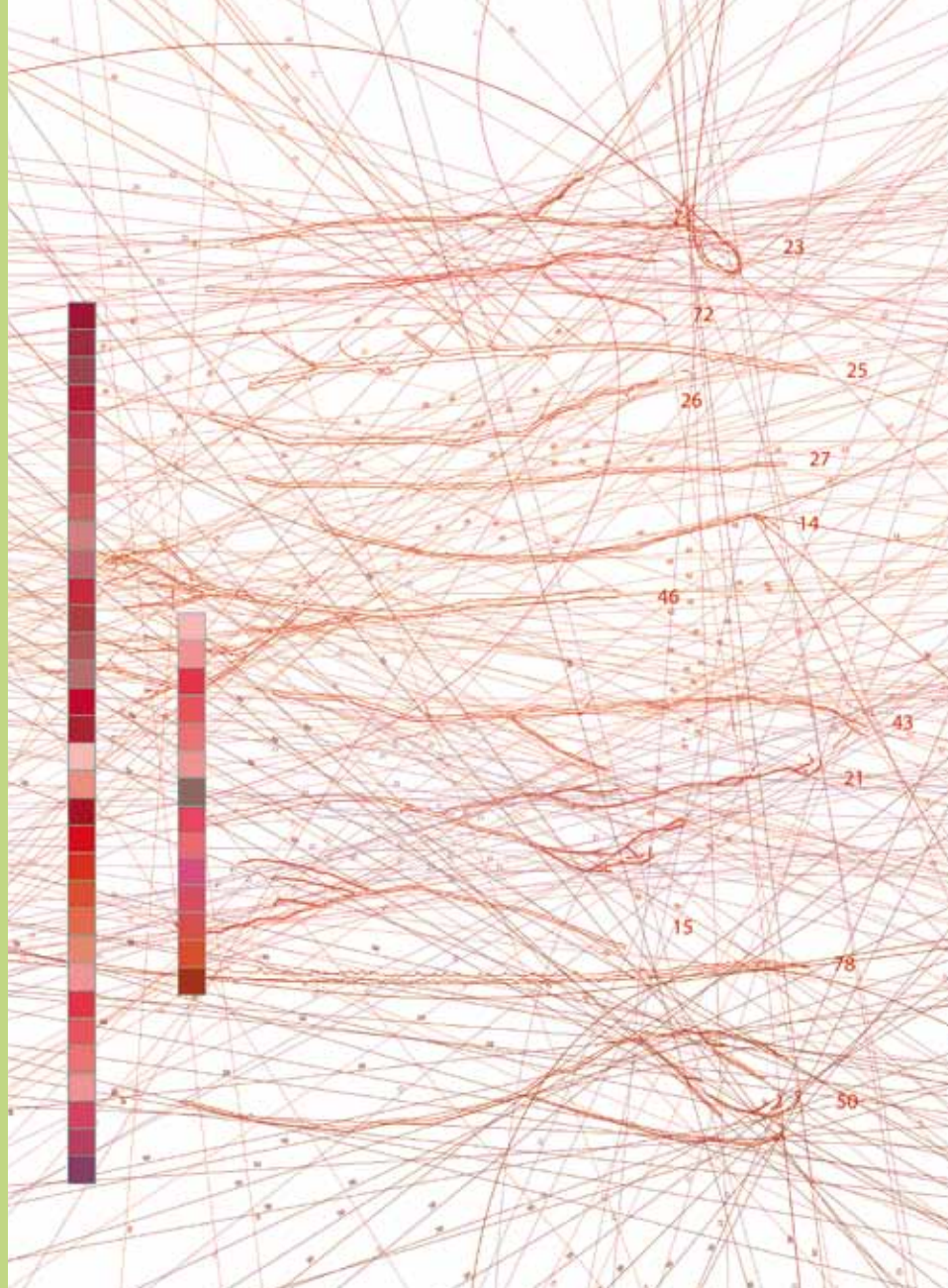
Simon Perry
Submarine Psycho Nursery, 2009
Ink on paper
76 x 56 cm



Godwin Bradbeer
Cameo Cosmetica, 2009
Chinagraph, silver oxide, pastel and dust
on paper
57 x 77 cm



 **PROJECT SPACE/SPARE ROOM**
Magnetic Islands



MAGNETIC ISLANDS

This international drawing exhibition celebrates the longstanding friendship between the College of Fine Arts, Seoul National University, South Korea and the School of Art, RMIT University, Australia. *Magnetic Islands* presents a selection of works on paper from staff of both Seoul National University and RMIT University originally presented in *Drawing of the World, World of Drawing* (Museum of Art, Seoul National University, November, 2009). This prestigious exhibition included seven international art schools invited to participate by Seoul National University.

Since the early 1990's Korea has exerted a strong magnetic attraction for Australian artists associated with RMIT University, School of Art. Staff from the School of Art have visited South Korea and participated in residencies, exhibitions and conducted lectures at a variety of universities and art high schools. Many of the Australian artists in *Magnetic Islands* acknowledge the influence of Eastern philosophy and esthetics within their practice; though the use of exquisite compositional devices and gesture, chance, spontaneity and the intangible poetics evident in Korean art of the 16th Century.

Students from both institutions benefit by these cross-cultural relationships, enabling them to engage in their professions globally. RMIT University School of Art students have traveled to Seoul on exchange programs, scholarships and residencies, creating a global passport that places them in the world academically, culturally and professionally. Korean students continue to enjoy the benefits of studying at RMIT University School of Art, participating in specialist Cultural Short Courses, Master Classes, Degree and Post Graduate programs. Many distinguished School of Art alumni are based in Seoul and actively contribute — with significance — to the vibrant contemporary art environment.

The *Magnetic Islands* curators, Associate Professor Peter Ellis and Stephen Gallagher wish to thank Soo - Hong Jhang, Dean College of Fine Arts, Seoul National University; Professor Insu

Choi, former Dean of the College of Fine Arts; the participating artists; Professor Elizabeth Grierson, Head of School of Art; Dr. Elvyrra Jon, School of Art, Korean Projects Officer; Wayne Conduit, Technical Officer (Painting) and Don Gore, Sculpture Studio Coordinator.

The works in *Magnetic Islands* demonstrate the exuberance, innovation and diversity that is contemporary drawing. Although *Magnetic Islands* is not intended to be a broad overview of drawing, the works do depict the narrative, abstract, calligraphic, and figurative concerns underpinned by individual conceptual methodologies and philosophies. Within the work one finds a diversity of mediums from the traditional; charcoal, graphite, pastel, Korean ink, water colour and gouache, to the unique combinations of gold leaf, silver oxide, lithography, felt tip pen, photography, acrylic paint and dust. Papers used range from traditional hanji papers to carbon and plastic emphasizing the relief and sculptural potential of the support. The use of new media such as digital prints has also opened new frontiers for the experimentation and discovery within drawing.

Magnetic Islands not only includes highly resolved articulated works, but displays a cachet of sketch books, spontaneous and intimate works that exploit the mechanism of inspiration — rarely seen in public exhibition — revealing a fresh insight into the artist's production.

In response to the drawings by artist Emma Kunz, writer Cecilia Vicuna has observed;

"To draw is tragh, drag, to bring or extract something from one's self. Something that begins to live while being drawn out. A drawing is working to transform. A drawing is a waiting. A field of hope planted by the hand."

Associate Professor Peter Ellis and Stephen Gallagher

