

Julie Gough

INTERRUPTED: RENDITIONS OF UNRESOLVED ACCOUNTS

Lorraine Biggs

RESILIENCE

10 August - 8 September 2007

Opening 6 - 8pm Friday 10 August

Turner Galleries is very pleased to present two solo exhibitions by artists Julie Gough and Lorraine Biggs.

I have seen Julie Gough at work, sitting on a curb side, patiently protecting cut and fallen branches from the ravages of the tree loppers. She sees in them, a wooden shelter. She carefully cuts the limbs so that they will form the structure to support a tent. Draped with canvas it will become the object onto which an image is projected, telling the story of early white settlement in Australia.

Other works manifest further investigations, which take her deep into history, time and place. Julie searches libraries, institutions, op shops and second hand markets. She works, as a detective, uncovering facts and stories and filling the gaps of a shadowy past, a forgotten reality and the all too easily altered truth, of the history, of the Tasmanian Aboriginal people.

The installation works in her exhibition *INTERRUPTED renditions of unresolved accounts* reveal more of the story and ask us to evaluate the impact of the past on our present lives.

Julie Gough is sponsored by the Turner Galleries Art Angels and Curtin University and is our second resident artist for 2007. She holds a Doctorate of Fine Arts from the University of Tasmania, Hobart and is currently taking leave from her job at James Cook University Townsville, to undertake two years of projects, funded by an Australia Council Fellowship. Her work is held in the National Gallery of Australia, the National Gallery of Victoria, The Art Gallery of South Australia, The Art Gallery of Western Australia and various museums, regional galleries and private collections. Julie Gough was represented in the most recent Sydney Biennale, 2006.

Lorraine Biggs investigates human resourcefulness and resilience, emerging as a phoenix, from immense loss through the devastation of bush fire. Loss - not only of human existence and endeavour but loss of nature- of vast tracts of incinerated bushland and maimed and killed wildlife.

Lorraine's home is frighteningly close to the recent unrelenting fires that devastated northern coastal Tasmania. She found herself witness to a shocking but sublime beauty "the sky itself was alight and fireballs catapulted out from the smoke clouds, igniting the bush." Her current exhibition *Resilience* focuses on nature's recovery and she uses this as a metaphor for our own recovery from personal and community tragedy. She says "It feels as if all is lost. But then the first signs of hope appear. It is joyous and uplifting - the vision of blackened trunks covered now by luminous green shoots. A new kind of beauty is born. The resilience of nature is triumphant. Life goes on."

Lorraine graduated from Claremont School of Art in 1989 and in 1993 received a BFA with honours from The University of Tasmania, Hobart. Her work is held in The Art Gallery of WA, Curtin University, The Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery, The University of Tasmania and many regional and private collections. In 1998 Lorraine was awarded the peoples choice Hutchins Art Prize and in 2000 the WreastPoint Art Award.

Interrupted renditions of unresolved accounts- Julie Gough and *Resilience* – Lorraine Biggs will show at Turner Galleries from August 10 to September 8 2007

Please do not hesitate to contact staff on 08 9227 1077 or email info@turnergalleries.com.au should you require more information or images from the exhibition. Exhibition works will be available to view on line: www.turnergalleries.com.au and both artists are available for interviews.

Julie Gough's residency and exhibition is proudly sponsored by Turner Galleries Art Angels, Central Tafe and Curtin University Art Department.