



An Australian Government Initiative

LET'S TALK ABOUT TEXT

Artbank Sydney Exhibition

Curated by Daniel Mudie Cunningham and Miriam Kelly

16 March – 16 June 2017, Artbank Sydney

For immediate release – February, 2017

This March, Curators Daniel Mudie Cunningham and Miriam Kelly collaborate on an exhibition at Artbank Sydney: *Let's Talk About Text*.

Let's Talk About Text draws exclusively on works from the Artbank collection that harness text based communication as a pictorial device.

From sloganeering statements to vernacular fragments and found fonts, this exhibition focuses on how artists respond to and encourage the visual pleasure of inventive typographic forms for personal and political ends. *Let's Talk About Text* reflects on how we look at reading and read the act of looking.

Opening on 16 March, 6-8pm as part of the Art Month Sydney 2017 program, Artbank have enlisted world-class string quartet *Enigma* to pay a classical music homage to the queens of hip-hop Salt-N-Pepa throughout the evening. *Enigma's* members have supported the likes of Kanye West, Florence and the Machine, Passenger and more.

The exhibition features works by Australian artists including Eugenia Raskopoulos, Newell Harry, Clinton Nain. Angela Cavalieri, Thomas Jeppe, Rose Nolan, Emily Floyd, Peter Dudding, John Demos, Alice Lang, Anthony Johnson, Nasim Nasr and Sarah Contos.

Let's Talk About Text is open to the public and may be viewed at Artbank Sydney, 222 Young Street, Waterloo, Monday to Friday 10.00am to 5.00pm. Visit the Artbank website for details of special showings and performances: artbank.gov.au/exhibitions.

For further information about *Let's Talk About Text* and Artbank, please contact:

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About Artbank

For over 35 years, Artbank has been at the forefront of the Australian contemporary art sector. Established in 1980 as a federal government support program, Artbank provides direct support to Australian contemporary artists through the acquisition of their work and promotes the value of Australian contemporary art to the broader public. Artbank funds its operations through a unique leasing programme; working with individuals, companies, governments and embassies in over seventy countries across the globe. With approximately 10,000 works by over 3,000 artists, Artbank holds one of the largest collections of Australian contemporary art in the world, which includes some of the best examples of Indigenous and non-Indigenous artwork produced over the past four decades. As the largest collector of Australian art in the country, Artbank's support for artists is often applied early in their careers, with further acquisitions made at regular intervals to form an extensive and constantly evolving collection of Australian contemporary art.

About Daniel Mudie Cunningham

In 2011 Daniel commenced at Artbank as the Senior Curator, moving into his current role of Head Curator and Assistant Director at the end of 2014. Previously, he was the Curator at Hazelhurst Regional Gallery & Arts Centre (2007-12) and a Lecturer/Senior Research Associate in Art History, Visual Culture and Design at University of Western Sydney (1997-2007). Daniel has an extensive track record as a freelance curator, practicing artist, arts writer and academic. Daniel is also the Editor of Artbank's magazine – Sturgeon.

About Miriam Kelly

Miriam Kelly is the Curator and Collection Coordinator at Artbank's head office in Sydney. As part of the curatorial team Miriam assists in building the collection, facilitating the physical and digital management of our some 10,000 artworks, as well as developing publications, programs and collection exhibitions. A writer, curator and editor, Miriam has also produced exhibitions independently as well for the National Gallery of Australia, in her former role as assistant curator of Australian paintings and sculpture. She has published on a range of contemporary and historical areas of Australian art – including tackling representations of her great great great grandfather Ned, for Artbank's visual arts and culture magazine Sturgeon. In her spare time Miriam is on the board of the artist run initiative and awesome online journal, Runway Experimental Australian Art.