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**October 22  
Embargoed until 5:00pm**

### **Adelaide Festival 2010 Artists' Week / Helpmann Academy workshop program**

The Adelaide Festival Corporation and the Helpmann Academy for the Visual & Performing Arts have created a partnership to provide an outstanding opportunity for emerging artists during the Adelaide Festival 2010 Artists' Week. Applications are now open for the Adelaide Festival 2010 Artists Week/Helpmann Academy workshop program.

The program offers up to 36 emerging artists the chance to take part in professional workshops with major international artists presented in the Visual Arts Program of the 2010 Adelaide Festival.

Emerging artists selected by the Helpmann Academy for the program will be given the opportunity to engage with international artists Lucy + Jorge Orta, Nina Fischer and Maroan el Sani, Tara Donovan Studio and theorist and critic Geert Lovink. These once-in-a-lifetime workshops will focus on current practice in the contemporary visual arts and culture.

"One of the Academy's initiatives is our international residency program, enriching the work of emerging South Australian artists by exposing them to different cultures and arts practices, particularly in India and China," says Alison Dunn, Helpmann Academy CEO. "Through the Artists' Week workshop program emerging artists will be given that cross-cultural experience with leading artists, right in the centre of one of Australia's flagship cultural events. We are delighted the Adelaide Festival has worked with us to make this program possible, as we know the effects are likely to be long term and very powerful, both for the individual artists and for the creative future of South Australia."

"In celebration of the Adelaide Festival's 50<sup>th</sup> year, 2010 marks a new direction for the Visual Arts Program. With a substantial exhibition program and the new look Artists' Week 2010, the Festival will bring over 80 international and Australian artists and speakers to Adelaide. This workshop program is a unique opportunity for emerging artists to gain invaluable experience with internationally acclaimed artists during their visits," says Victoria Lynn, Visual Arts Curator of the 2010 Adelaide Festival.

The Artists' Week workshop program is open to final-year students and artists within three years of graduation from a Helpmann Academy partner school and all current JamFactory Associates. Students from Australian equivalents of a Helpmann Academy partner school will be eligible to apply for the Geert Lovink workshop. Artists engaged in stage design, jewellery, stage/costume design and cinematography will also be encouraged to apply for these highly sought-after workshops.

The Helpmann Academy for the Visual & Performing Arts assists emerging artists to make the leap into professional practice, by providing a range of programs and opportunities including exhibitions, awards, grants, mentorships and international exchanges. The seven partner schools that make up the Academy are the Adelaide Centre for the Arts and Vizarts O'Halloran Hill (tafeSA); Adelaide Central School of Art; Elder Conservatorium of Music (University of Adelaide); Flinders Drama & Screen Production (Flinders University) and South Australian School of Art (UniSA).

**For further information contact Chris Bull, Helpmann Academy Marketing Manager, on**

## Artists' Week Workshop program

### Lucy + Jorge Orta

Contemporary artists Lucy + Jorge Orta have been collaborating since 1991. Working from their studio in central Paris – Studio Orta - the artistic duo create artworks and installations using a wide range of techniques including sculpture, object making, couture, painting, printing and light projections.

In tandem with their studio practice, Lucy + Jorge Orta stage ephemeral interventions; performances and workshops that explore crucial themes of the contemporary world, such as dwellings, habitat, nomadism, sustainable development, ecology and recycling.

The Ortas have exhibited their work in major contemporary art museums around the world including Hangar Bicocca in Milan, Fondazione Bevilacqua La Masa in Venice, Barbican Art Gallery in London, Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen in Rotterdam, Modern Art Museum in Paris, Museum of Contemporary Art in Sydney as well as the Venice, Havana and Johannesburg Biennials.

As part of the Adelaide Festival Artists' Week / Helpmann Academy workshop program, emerging artists will have the rare opportunity to work directly with Jorge Orta during intensive, hands-on sessions. Titled *Heart Fabrication*, the workshops will introduce key aspects of how to build community and relational aesthetics, and assist in preparation for the Lucy + Jorge Orta exhibition at the JamFactory as part of the Festival's Adelaide International 2010: *Apart, we are together*.

### Tara Donovan

Acclaimed US artist Tara Donovan uses everyday manufactured materials such as fishing line, plastic straws and paper plates to create large-scale sculptures and installations. She has earned international acclaim for the way in which she exploits the inherent physical characteristics of an object for its most appropriate transformation into art, and then uses multiples of hundreds of thousands – or sometimes millions – of units to generate powerful perceptual phenomena.

During the Festival's Adelaide International 2010, Donovan will exhibit a breathtaking installation at the Anne & Gordon Samstag Museum of Art. Selected emerging visual artists will have the chance to help create this major installation onsite, learning construction techniques alongside Associate artists from the Tara Donovan Studio.

### Dr Geert Lovink

Geert Lovink is a Dutch-Australian media theorist, activist and critic. He is a highly respected and influential figure in the area of critical Internet theory and research. Dr Lovink has held high-level research positions both in Australia and the Netherlands and is the founding director of the Institute of Network Cultures. He is co-founder of the Internet groups nettime and fibreculture, and author of the books *Dark Fibre: Tracking Critical Internet Culture* (2002), *My First Recession: Critical Internet Culture in Transition* (2003) and *Zero Comments: Blogging and Critical Internet Culture* (2007).

During the 2010 Adelaide Festival of Arts, Dr Lovink will deliver one of the keynote lectures during the Artists' Week symposium. Dr Lovink will also offer a two-day intensive workshop for a limited group of emerging artists exploring key themes from his work. Topics include the politics of the Internet, social networking platforms, online activism and modes of collaboration.

### Nina Fischer and Maroan el Sani

Since starting their collaboration in 1993, Fischer and el Sani have worked with video and film, dividing their time between studios in Berlin and Sapporo. The central motifs of their work are the invisible, the uncanny and the materialisation of thoughts, memory and anxieties. They have extensively exhibited their work around the world, including the Gwangju Biennale in Korea (1995/2002/2008), the Istanbul Biennial in Turkey (2007) and the Sydney Biennale (2002).

Nina Fischer and Maroan el Sani will be sharing their enigmatic work as part of the Festival's Adelaide International program. In an exclusive workshop for Helpmann Academy students and graduates, they'll share insights about their collaborative practice and experience of exhibiting internationally. They will also facilitate the production of short films to be made by workshop participants.

For workshop application forms, go to [www.helpmannacademy.com.au](http://www.helpmannacademy.com.au)