

September 8
For immediate release

More than \$43,000 to assist emerging South Australian artists

The Helpmann Academy for the Visual & Performing Arts today announced its second round of competitive grants for the year, awarding more than \$43,000 to twenty-two separate projects by emerging artists from a wide range of creative disciplines.

Many of the grants provide funding towards projects by students graduating from study at the end of 2009. Offering support at such a crucial stage in an artist's development is an important part of the Helpmann Academy's mission. Such a kickstart at the beginning of a creative career can make a big difference as graduates move into professional practice.

"South Australia's tertiary arts schools are a great incubator for the development of South Australian arts and culture, offering support, skills and the opportunity to develop high levels of creativity. Establishing a career as an artist outside of this sphere can be quite challenging, and here in South Australia we are uniquely placed to give emerging artists a great start," says Alison Dunn, CEO Helpmann Academy. "The Academy's support for these projects means artists of all kinds can go out and begin their careers with confidence. It's amazing what a big difference a good start can make - it's a very exciting thing to be a part of."

Some of the projects supported by the Helpmann Academy include:

Adelaide Central School of Art graduate Amy Joy Watson will travel to Berlin for a two-month residency at Takt Kunstprojektraum. During her time in Germany, Amy Joy will begin research into developing a body of work for exhibition at the Contemporary Art Centre of South Australia.

Ben Galbraith will represent the Adelaide Centre for the Arts at the 2009 World Stage Design event in Korea during September. In addition to presenting his portfolio of work, Ben will also be involved with the event's design exhibition, where the stage design for the Adelaide Centre for the Arts' 2006 production of *Under Milk Wood* will be featured.

The 2009 Flinders Drama Centre Honours students will travel to Sydney and Melbourne for a graduation showcase tour in November. Performing at the Richard Wherrett Studio (Sydney) and the Eleventh Hour Studio (Melbourne), the group of 12 acting students will tour a range of performance venues and have the opportunity to meet with casting agents and directors.

Adelaide Centre for the Arts dancer Chris Scherer will collaborate with composer and sound artist Sascha Budimski to create an original musical score for a new physical theatre work called *Pickled*. Together they will make an innovative soundtrack fusing electronic soundscapes with tangible domestic sounds.

Helpmann Academy grants are open to staff, students and recent graduates of the Adelaide Central School of Art, Elder Conservatorium of Music (University of Adelaide), the Adelaide Centre for the Arts (TafeSA), Vizarts O'Halloran Hill (TafeSA), Flinders Drama and Screen Production (Flinders University) and the South Australian School of Art (UniSA).

The Helpmann Academy Grant Scheme is proudly supported by ETSA Utilities (platinum sponsor) and Ernst & Young.

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

The full list of Helpmann Academy successful grant recipients for September 2009:

Theatre

Adelaide Centre for the Arts (TafeSA) – 3rd year acting students present their graduation showcase of 14 individual monologues/duologues at La Mama and the Darlinghurst Theatre.

Bad Company – theatre ensemble production of the Australian premiere of Alan Grace's *The Embryo* at the Bakehouse Theatre during the 2010 Adelaide Fringe Festival. **Adelaide Centre for the Arts, TafeSA**

Five.point.one - theatre ensemble production of the South Australian premiere of Daniel Keene's *The Share* at the Bakehouse Theatre in May/June 2010. **Flinders Drama Centre, Flinders University**

Flinders University Drama Centre - the 2009 Honours students will travel to Sydney and Melbourne for a graduation showcase tour in November.

Junglebean - theatre company production of Jim Carwright's *Two upstairs* at The Directors Hotel in October/November 2009. **Adelaide Centre for the Arts, TafeSA**

Dance

Adelaide Centre for the Arts (TafeSA) – assistance for interstate choreographers to travel to Adelaide in December 2009 for the Bachelor of Dance Performance graduate performance. The performance is the culmination and final product of the students' development over the three-year degree, and offers the dancers a chance to showcase their skills to representatives from the dance industry.

Chris Scherer - 3rd year dance student will compose an original musical score for a new physical theatre work called *Pickled*. **Adelaide Centre for the Arts, TafeSA**

Music

Group of over 20 Bachelor of Music Education students - will travel to the Riverland to lead a music education tour for primary and secondary school students. **Elder Conservatorium of Music, University of Adelaide**

Sebastian Tomczak – will travel to New York City to be part of BlipFest 2009, an internationally renowned concert featuring “chipmusic” performers from the USA and around the world. Following his return to Adelaide, Sebastian will host a workshop and seminar. **Elder Conservatorium of Music, University of Adelaide**

Technical Production & Design

Ben Galbraith – will represent the **Adelaide Centre for the Arts** at the 2009 World Stage Design event in Seoul, Korea during September. In addition to presenting his portfolio of work, Ben will also be involved with the event's design exhibition, where the stage design for the Adelaide Centre for the Arts' 2006 production of *Under Milk Wood* will be featured.

Visual Arts

Celeste Aldahn – Solo exhibition of sculptural objects, drawings, video and sound at Sydney's Firstdraft Gallery in October. **South Australian School of Art, UniSA**

Kim Buck – Solo exhibition called *Conatus*, a collection of detailed portrait drawings at Peter Walker Fine Art in November. **South Australian School of Art, UniSA**

Siamak Fallah – Solo exhibition of painting installations at the FELTspace gallery in March 2010. **South Australian School of Art, UniSA**

Amira Hajar – Solo exhibition of artist-made books, sculptural objects and hand-made religious articles at Sydney's Firstdraft Gallery in December. **South Australian School of Art, UniSA**

Amy Joy Watson - will travel to Berlin, Germany for a two-month residency at Takt Kunstprojektraum, researching a body of work for exhibition at the Contemporary Art Centre of South Australia. **Adelaide Central School of Art**

Eleanor Zecchin - Exhibition called *Backyard Appraisal* at Gallery 139 in September 2009. **Adelaide Centre for the Arts, TafeSA**

Four **South Australian School of Art** graduates will travel to Darwin to participate in a group exhibition of large-scale paintings and photographs called *Territory* at the Cross Cultural Exchange. Artists Thomas Buchanan, James Dodd, Will Nolan and Elizabeth Wojciak present a new body of work exploring space and place.

Adelaide Centre for the Arts (TafeSA) – Assistance for the Bachelor of Visual Arts & Applied Design graduating students to present their end of year exhibition at Light Square Gallery in October/November. Students will exhibit works in a two-part exhibition called *That's It*.

Adelaide Central School of Art - Assistance for the Bachelor of Visual Arts graduating class to present its end of year exhibition at the Adelaide Central Gallery in December.

South Australian School of Art (UniSA) - Assistance for the graduating Bachelor of Visual Arts students to present their end of year exhibition – *Isolation* - at the SASA Gallery in December.

South Australian School of Art (UniSA) - Assistance for the graduating Visual Arts (Honours) students to present their end of year exhibition – *Dot.Dot.Dot.* - at the SASA Gallery in December.

Vizarts, O'Halloran Hill (TafeSA) - Assistance for the graduating Bachelor of Visual Arts students to present their end of year exhibition – titled *Spike and Jam* - at the Eye 2 Eye Gallery on Rundle Street in February 2010.