

*viewing south*  
*reading south*

melbourne art fair 2008

Curated by: Magdalena Moreno and Andrea Bell  
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**The South Project**  
inc

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**Brook Andrew** is an Australian artist of Wiradjuri (aboriginal) and Scottish ancestry. His practice is conceptual, interdisciplinary and addresses issues of colonisation through a world immersed in popular media. A prolific artist, his practice is driven by philosophical questions, such as 'Who are we?' and engages with issues about predominant cultural and media content. Often his works review the language of global mass media and their representations of identity according to place. Preferring to be understood as a contemporary artist rather than labeled an Indigenous artist, Brook's practice is generally motivated by political issues that often have an Indigenous concern.

Brook Andrew participated in the 2006 curated project, *Trans Versa: Artists from Australia and New Zealand* presented as part of the Santiago Gathering at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chile in October 2006. Brook's video installation consisted of a series of interviews conducted in Chile and Argentina that considered the idea of *blakness*, visual ethnic divide and cultural identity. This project was a continuation of a series of similar interviews conducted in Western Europe during other residencies

Brook is prodigious in his ability to create works across media that critique the treatment of and attitudes towards Australian Indigenous people, while enabling the politics and identity in his work to continually shift and engage audiences at many different levels beyond local specificity. It is this very point that makes his video installation work so relevant to present in Melbourne.

Chilean artist **Claudia del Fierro** was awarded a residency with the South Project in partnership with RMIT University in July 2007. Her residency proposal and later exhibition titled *the Sweet Promise* at Project Space, consisted of a series of interviews conducted in Melbourne with recent migrants to Australia. It explored the concept of the promise land/dream for those that had migrated to Australia and contrasted by the reality of assimilation, cultural difference and their actual experiences. Early 2008, this work was exhibited at the Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, Santiago, Chile.

Claudia, a migrant herself went into exile to the United States during the dictatorship in Santiago, Chile in the 70s. She experiences the awkwardness of a foreign place, language barriers and cultural stereotypes as a 'latino'. Although Claudia has since returned to Santiago until now she now considers herself as an outsider in her own country. What differentiates her work from documentary style is that she the threading of the phrases of the interviewees into script that is later re-enacted by young 'beautiful' Australian actors of Western European heritage. What emerges in a resonance in text, yet a unsettling sense of irony when you here these young actors speak: *I feel so inadequate, the language is so difficult, the speak louder because they think you cannot hear them...*

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*documenta 12 magazines offers a platform for the multidirectional transfer and discursive consolidation of knowledge. Reversing the established one-way exchange and dialogue it focuses on the discursive practice itself, with its respective languages, media, and transformations in various contexts. The South Project also endeavours to open up new channels for independent distribution networks, and encourages flexible forms of trans-local communication.*

**Georg Schöllhammer, Editor in Chief, Documenta 12**

**reading south** proposes an open and quaint environment for the Melbourne Art Fair public to access a rare collection of critical contemporary art publications that do not normally reach Australian shores from across the south. It also presents a rare selection of local journals that are interested in alternative perspectives. In the lead-up to the Art Fair, the South Project made contact with a range of publications/ journals/editors from around the world and organize the dispatch of their publications to Melbourne. Fouad Asfour, part of the editorial team of Documenta 12 magazines, became the Editorial Mastermind for South's Reading Room. During the Art Fair, the public are invited to submit an expression of interest to own any particular journal on display. After the Art Fair, the South Project will select the best entries. Our diverse selection of independent journals include:

1. *Amkenah* (Alexandria, EGYPT): <http://magazines.documenta.de>
2. *art-ist* (Istanbul, TURKEY): <http://www.art-ist.org/>
3. *Botsotso* (Johannesburg, SOUTH AFRICA): <http://www.botsotso.org.za/>
4. *Canary Annual* (Auckland, NEW ZEALAND): [www.canarygallery.com/writing.htm](http://www.canarygallery.com/writing.htm)
5. *Celebretard* (Wellington, NEW ZEALAND): <http://blog.myspace.com/>
6. *Chimurenga* (Cape Town, SOUTH AFRICA): <http://www.chimurenga.co.za>
7. *Chto delat* (Moscow, RUSSIA): <http://www. chtodelat.org/>
8. *Ctrl+P* (Manila, PHILLIPINES): [www.ctrlp-artjournal.org](http://www.ctrlp-artjournal.org)
9. *Daftar* (NETHERLANDS): <http://www.daftar.nl/>
10. *Documenta Online Reader* (Kassel, GERMANY):  
<http://magazines.documenta.de/frontend/>
11. *Dead Revolutionaries Club* (Johannesburg, SOUTH AFRICA):  
[www.deadrevolutionariesclub.co.za/](http://www.deadrevolutionariesclub.co.za/)
12. *Evergreen Terrace* (Melbourne, AUSTRALIA): <http://www.evergreenterrace.info/>
13. *Farafina* (Nigeria): [www.farafinamagazine.com](http://www.farafinamagazine.com)
14. *Hue and Cry* (Wellington, NEW ZEALAND): <http://blog.myspace.com/>
15. *International Gallerie* (Mumbai, INDIA) <http://www.gallerie.net/>
16. *Khanya* (Johannesburg, SOUTH AFRICA) [www.khanyacollege.org.za/journal13.html](http://www.khanyacollege.org.za/journal13.html)

17. *Kwani?* (KENYA): [www.kwani.org](http://www.kwani.org)
18. *Lumiere Reader* (Wellington, NEW ZEALAND): <http://www.lumiere.net.nz/reader>
19. *Natural Selection* (Auckland, NEW ZEALAND): <http://www.naturalselection.org.nz/>
20. *NKA Journal of African Art* (New York, USA): <http://www.nkajournal.org>
21. *Pages* (IRAN/THE NETHERLANDS): <http://www.pagesproject.net>
22. *Public Good* (Wellington, NEW ZEALAND):  
[www.enjoy.org.nz/catalogues/catalogue.php](http://www.enjoy.org.nz/catalogues/catalogue.php)
23. *Ramona* (Buenos Aires, ARGENTINA): [www.ramona.org.ar](http://www.ramona.org.ar)
24. *Revista Critica Cultural* (Santiago, CHILE): <http://www.criticacultural.org>
25. *Reunited siblings* (Johannesburg, SOUTH AFRICA): [www.reunitedsiblings.co.za](http://www.reunitedsiblings.co.za)
26. *Runway* (Sydney, AUSTRALIA): [www.runway.org.au](http://www.runway.org.au)
27. *Sab0t* (Mexico City, MEXICO): <http://possibleworlds.org/>
28. *Spit and Polish* (Melbourne, AUSTRALIA): [www.spitandpolish.net](http://www.spitandpolish.net)
29. *The Happy Hypocrite* (London, UK): <http://www.bookworks.org.uk/asp/forth.asp>
30. *The John Dory Report* (Christchurch, NEW ZEALAND)
31. *The National Grid* (Auckland, NEW ZEALAND): <http://www.thenationalgrid.co.nz/>
32. *The Reader* (Auckland, NEW ZEALAND): [www.gambiacastle.net](http://www.gambiacastle.net)
33. *TRANSVERSA*: (CHILE, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND) [www.southproject.org](http://www.southproject.org)
34. *Un Magazine* (Melbourne, AUSTRALIA): [www.unmagazine.org](http://www.unmagazine.org)
35. *White Fungus* (Wellington, NEW ZEALAND): [www.whitefungus.com](http://www.whitefungus.com):
36. *Y3K Newsletter* (Melbourne, Australia): <http://y2kgallery.blogspot.com/>
37. *ZX* (Auckland, NZ): <http://www.manukau.ac.nz/departments/msva/default.asp>

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