

**kickArts**  
CONTEMPORARY ARTS  
**2005**  
**Annual**  
**Report**



# KickArts 2005 Annual Report & Acquittal

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## 1. Introduction

KickArts Contemporary Arts is the leading contemporary visual arts organisation in regional Queensland and one of the most innovative in the state. Based in Cairns, with a demographic encompassing Tropical North Queensland and extending into the remote and regional communities of Cape York and the Torres Strait, the organisation is dedicated to facilitating and promoting contemporary arts and extending the experience and cultural life of northern Australians and visitors to Cairns.

In April 2004 KickArts, in partnership with JUTE Theatre, opened the Centre of Contemporary Arts (CoCA), a unique and innovative new multi-purpose contemporary arts facility, located at 96 Abbott Street in the central business district of Cairns. KickArts animates the centre on a daily basis with a professional exhibition program presented in two A Class galleries and unique, high quality art, craft and design in the KickArts Shop. These activities form a catalyst and hub featuring Australian and international artists in one of Australia's top international gateways. Professional development programs for artists and 'KidsArt', a program of workshops especially designed for children, provide an interactive opportunity that enhances visitors' experience and depth of knowledge about contemporary art. These activities have become a recognised benchmark and a link for the local and transitory tourist community alike to experience the vital and distinctive contemporary visual culture of northern Australia.

All are welcome and guaranteed an experience where they see something new with every visit.

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## 2. Chair's Message

The KickArts Board of Directors has continued working progressively towards the continual improvement of KickArts' strategic and financial management through the past year. The Board's activities provide overall management direction for KickArts staff, who in turn offer a professional and comprehensive program of contemporary visual arts to the diverse community of Tropical North Queensland. Working closely with the staff allows the organisation to collectively bring together and deliver the company's goals and objectives in a professional and accessible environment.

The KickArts strategic plan has provided KickArts with a strong focus and in turn the performance of the organisation has flourished. The KickArts exhibition program has been well received, with great sales throughout the year. The KickArts Shop has continued to grow and prosper, featuring high quality art, craft and design from more, new, professional and emerging artists. KickArts has also achieved support to develop a feasibility study into establishing a KickArts Printmaking Studio (KAPS). This study will be carried out early in 2006 from which we will be able to determine the direction KickArts will take with this goal. The strategic plan will be reviewed at this time. The current goals for KickArts are:

1. Facilitate a program of activities that supports a professional platform for contemporary artists from TNQ, Australia and overseas.
2. Establish a Centre of Excellence for Printmaking.
3. Develop the KickArts Shop as a financially successful retail experience of unique, high quality art, craft and design.

Our major achievement for 2005 has been to generate more income through our programs than we have received from Arts Queensland and the Australia Council for the Arts. This has been achieved through strong management and the great work of KickArts staff supported by the KickArts Board of Directors.

Now that we have had 20 months of operation in the new Centre of Contemporary Arts we have been able to assess processes and gauge more accurately the systems we use to manage our operations.

A substantial increase in operational capacity has had a significant impact on our limited financial resources, with core activity reliant on extended trading hours, additional staffing requirements and costs associated with the presentation of a public program. Thus any further activity augmenting the KickArts program will require additional funding to cover it, including staffing costs. Staff salaries also need to be addressed and brought into line with industry standards. The KickArts Board of Directors will focus on securing additional funds to support these new initiatives, thus committing to providing stability for the company so it can concentrate on long-term development strategies that will be essential to the future of KickArts.

On behalf of the KickArts Board of Directors and Staff I would like to thank and acknowledge Arts Queensland and the Australia Council for the Arts through the Visual Art and Craft Strategy for their ongoing commitment to support KickArts. Special recognition and appreciation goes to all of our sponsors for 2005 and the many, many volunteers, who generously supported us with their time and expertise. It is the generosity, energy and magnanimous commitment of many dedicated supporters that has contributed to making 2005 a great year and a wonderful success.

The KickArts staff have done an exceptional job, working long and unusual hours to deliver a diverse range of activities and services. Of course, our Director Rae O'Connell has, once again, done a magnificent job in providing the leadership, direction and support that is needed to keep the KickArts operations going. With my fellow Board members I would like to say thank you to Rae, the staff, and their families, for their contributions this past year.

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And to my fellow Board Members I would like to say thanks for your professionalism in providing the necessary governance and support of our organisation – it is wonderful to work with such committed people in developing the cultural life of the community of Tropical North Queensland.

Mike Fordham  
Chair

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## 3. Director's Message

A new era for KickArts is in full swing in our new home at the Centre of Contemporary Arts – Cairns. Our new professional premises have opened up new opportunities to promote contemporary art to a broader audience, which is fantastic for artists, their work and their professional development. Gallery space for the presentation of contemporary art is limited in Cairns, thus there is a high demand from artists to use the KickArts galleries. In line with our Strategic Business Plan and available finances we have developed a broad criterion that informs the selection process we use for planning the yearly program. In 2005 this resulted in nine exhibitions across the two galleries, one at the newly redeveloped Shangri-La Hotel and a new initiative in the KickArts Shop, the 'Artists Feature Wall', which allowed us to extend the focused exposure for artists.

The KickArts Studio space has been well utilised over the year with numerous workshops for children during school holidays and the HipArts and KidsArt Skills development program for children after school. The atmosphere in the studio when the children are working is impressive, as they are so dedicated to the new technical skills they are learning and applying to their own creations. They have embraced the space, which is also occupied by a professional Artist In Residence.

Our first Artist In Residence 'Geoff Dixon' (Tex), who christened the studio and made it feel like a real artist's studio, was a pleasure to work with. Having works of art created here on the premises was such a delight and reminded us Arts Administrators why we do this job. His sensitivity to his work and philosophy behind it was inspirational to all who experienced a visit to the studio while he was here.

2005 has been full of highlights for KickArts, with an extensive line up of artists contributing to make our program fantastic.

We commenced the year with a beautiful exhibition of photographs, curated by the Queensland Centre for Contemporary Photography, 'Surface', Contemporary Queensland Landscapes. This filled the Lower Gallery with an exhibition of significant images that captured the broad and varying landscapes that are Queensland, reminding the viewer of the magnitude of what Queensland can be and how the many peoples inhabit, relate and respond to these environments. This was the first touring exhibition that KickArts has received and was extremely well received. New visitors came to the gallery who were specifically interested in photography and photographers, and the exhibition featured local photographers Kerry Trapnell and Glen O'Malley.

'Sentinel', a solo exhibition by Geoff Dixon, was very special as Dixon was first artist to treat the exhibition space as an environment. Larger than life endangered birds encompassed the gallery, displaying their extraordinary, delicate presence and fragility. These portraits reinforced their genetic ties with prehistoric beings and placed them in the context of the universe. With Dixon's unique treatment, all of these lush works of art became embellished with his signature universal space ships, planets and thick treacle like coatings that make each artwork look edible. It was a real treat and a privilege to work here with the artist and experience these works come to life and have the process of art making in our every day environment.

'Dugongs of Hinchinbrook' was very significant for KickArts due to the calibre of artists included in the exhibition and the total sales from the auction being very high. The success of this exhibition put us in a secure financial position early in the year and also attracted new audiences and buyers to the gallery.

Emerging artist Sam Tupou had a successful solo exhibition, 'New Tapa', with sales being made to private collectors from Sydney, Melbourne and the Netherlands, and the Cairns Regional Gallery purchasing 'Plastic Palms' for their collection. Director of the National Gallery of Australia, Ron Radford, visited the gallery whilst Tupou's exhibition was on and was very impressed, purchasing 'Colour Drool' and 'Shake it Sis, Shake it Bro' for the National Gallery of Australia's collection. 'Colour Drool' was the major work of art in the exhibition and it was a great achievement for Tupou having his work selected for these two major Australian collections.

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'Somewhere In Between: Studies in Translocation', a video installation by Tina Gonsalves, provided an intimate voyage of screen footage from Gonsalves's travels which challenged the audience to take some time (30 minutes) to encounter the installation. It is a great achievement to keep people in an exhibition for that amount of time. Painting the walls black, transforming the gallery into a screening room, allowed the viewer a very personal and private experience.

Our Insider exhibition was a great success with over 100 artists participating and an increase in entries of 25% on last year. Rupert Myer did us the honour of opening this exhibition and was pleased to become part of the performance piece for the formalities and frivolities. Our Board of Directors and KickArts Staff have put his ongoing support and wise advice to good use. The Insiders' exhibition is a great opportunity for emerging artists to exhibit alongside our Insider Artists of long standing both locally and nationally. The breadth of interpretation by the artists of the curatorial brief was extensive, from personal interpretations of home and neighbourhood, to national and international perspectives - it was fantastic. We were also very pleased to have works from Lockhart River, Aurukun and the Torres Strait.

Following on from Gonsalves's exhibition with the Upper Gallery already painted black, we installed a collection of black and white lino prints and etchings by Dennis Nona to create '*Sesserae and Other Stories*'. Featuring the two large works from KickArts' collection, '*Sesserae*' and '*Awai Thituiyil*', the gallery exploded with these powerful images and accompanying stories. Nona will be taking this collection of new works printed here at KickArts to exhibit in Paris in 2006.

'Petri Dish Pink' by Julie Wilson Foster was a powerful exhibition in the lower gallery, challenging the viewer with questions regarding salinity and agricultural sustainability. It was a testing experience for some having to weave their way through the gallery but hopefully they were encouraged to consider possible solutions to these problems. The lower gallery void filled with scarlet light beaming from the 74 red globes hovering above a 500 kilo blanket of salt was a visual delight. Patrons to the gallery sat and contemplated this installation as it painted the picture of how salt is rising ever increasingly across our country, and how it is going to take hundreds of years to rebuild, when and if we start.

Our final exhibition for the year, 'Artland', by long time supporter of KickArts Edward Koumans, provided an emotional opening and a fun end to the year with his sculptures and Environment Figures bringing a smile to everyone's face. Koumans has worked consistently as an artist in developing his artform which now has a significant signature and style, and which the local and New Zealand art market has come to collect. His new landscapes were the feature of the exhibition and now live in Shanghai, which will undoubtedly lead to another major exhibition.

The Intermedia Symposium and Planning Meeting looked at trends in new media practices and also what would be the best way to support artists working across media and performance. In collaboration with TANKS Art Centre and Bonemap we established a plan for On Edge Performance and Media week in 2006, which will support the development of new work through workshops that will feed the events that form part of the program. This is an area that needs to be supported with development funding to be able to develop new works by regional artists.

The response to our touring exhibition 'FNQ Souvenir' has been very encouraging and this is another area that should be developed within our program if resources were available. There is a great interest in the work of artists from the north, which FNQ Souvenir expressed. Touring an exhibition requires significantly more financial and human resources than we currently have to invest, but should not be over looked as it provides excellent exposure for not only the artists but also for KickArts as a significant contemporary arts company in Australia.

The consultancies to business and industry continue to expand with a very strong focus on arts education. The launch of the Bachelor of Creative Industries was significant for people looking at a career in the arts as artists or in administration. It is anticipated that this course will help to retain talented individuals to stay in the north to study and work, which will in turn build our rich cultural community. There is still significant work to be done in developing

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the courses and subjects offered at both JCU and TAFE here in Cairns and across the Cape to make this a very sought after degree. JCU, TAFE, Advance Cairns, Cairns Regional Gallery, JUTE and KickArts are continuing to work collaboratively together to develop arts education in the far north.

Another collaborations has been working with the Environmental Protection Agency, Power Link and ARCIMIX has provided additional exposure for KickArts as this state wide project has connected six galleries across the state and will culminate in a major exhibition in Brisbane next year of the Artists In Residence that participated in the project. For KickArts this project has also given us resources towards permanent staff, artist fees and the opportunity to provide a broad range of free workshops to the community. Activities will continue in 2006 with KickArts presenting the exhibition 'Habitus Habitat' in the Lower Gallery and then touring the exhibition to Hinchinbrook Gallery. At the conclusion of the exhibition workshops for emerging artists and the general community will also be presented in Ingham.

The feasibility study for a print making facility at KickArts will determine if we can pursue this venture, which is one of our major goals. The funds for this study have been secured in order for the study to commence in 2006. There is tremendous interest in the facility going ahead from artists in Cairns and across the Cape, along with printmakers across Australia, as this would provide for a very interesting Artist In Residency. KickArts can see the potential in this development as it would provide us with the recourses to commission new works to be sold in the KickArts Shop and on line to retail and wholesale markets. The process of art making on the premises would also add another level of magic to visitors to the centre.

We have also been lucky this year to have Beverley Mitchell join the KickArts team to take on the role of KickArts Shop Supervisor. Beverley has moved into this position with great gusto and is providing the organisation with new energy, enthusiasm and lots of sales. Beverley will be mentored in her first curatorial role for the KickArts Shop merchandising exhibition '*Nana Is The New Black*'.

The KickArts Shop plays a number of important roles for KickArts and the Centre of Contemporary Arts. As you enter the building the KickArts Shop brings the foyer to life with a vast collection of beautiful and unusual art, craft and design objects providing all visitors to the centre with an experience and showcasing a myriad of talented artists. We now have returning customers both locally and as visitors to Cairns, with purchases going all over the world. This is also a valuable asset to the many artists featured, providing great exposure through the marketing and promotion of their work, along with being presented in a very stylish environment. The KickArts Shop also provides a face for all visitors to the centre through our front of house services to JUTE, CoCA and End Credits Film Club administration. This animation is a vital and valuable part of the make up of the centre.

Once again one of the ancillary highlights of our 2005 program was the sophisticated performances at our opening functions. These have created a unique character and distinguished our events from traditional gallery openings and similar events in Cairns. Performance artists engage the audience and allow the audience to become a part of the opening, creating a memorable event.

Senator The Hon Rod Kemp. Minister For The Arts And Sport, approved KickArts' application to RoCO and confirmed that RoCO will submit paperwork to the ATO to formalise endorsement of KickArts as a Gift Deductible Recipient. This now paves the way for KickArts to receive donations and have the ability to apply to Philanthropic organisations. Two donations have been received to date, and will implement a process for donations to be made to KickArts that will in turn support our creative program.

The program and activities for 2005 have consolidated what we can achieve with our current level of financial, human and premises resources, and to expand on our program there will need to be increases in all of these areas. There are great opportunities for KickArts to expand with the possibility of a KickArts Printmaking Studio, international exhibitions, professional development opportunities for artists and of course to increase the number of exhibitions we can present in our fantastic galleries.

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We look forward to 2006 and what the future holds for our company. The achievements of 2005 have been a collaborative effort with the many supporters of our organisation. I would like to thank our major supporters, Arts Queensland for their ongoing commitment to contemporary art in the region through the Cultural Infrastructure Program, and the Australia Council for the Arts for their support through the Visual Arts and Crafts Strategy. This ongoing support has assisted us through this new era. Thanks also go to our fantastic Board of Directors who generously give up their time to help with the business of KickArts and bring us to the attention of a broader audience and new opportunities. Their support lets the KickArts staff get on with managing the company and helps to achieve our goals. I would also like to thank the many volunteers who continue to help with everything. They are a breath of fresh air and a vital and essential component of what make KickArts.

Last but not least to my colleagues, Russell Milledge, Janette Laver, Beverley Mitchell and Georgina Hutchinson I give my heart felt thanks to you all. You are a professional team who's pride in your work has made KickArts a success once again and your generosity with each other makes KickArts kick.

Rae O'Connell  
Director

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## 4. Program review

KickArts creative program for 2005 was our biggest and most successful yet with 10 exhibitions featured in the KickArts galleries and one in the foyer of the new Shangri La Hotel at the Pier. Artist Feature Wall exhibitions commenced in the KickArts Shop allowing artists to be viewed by all patrons to the Centre of Contemporary Arts.

The KickArts Shop has continued to grow in terms of the number of artists represented, the breadth and variety of unique, high quality, art, craft and design available and, of course, in the number of sales.

The children's holiday program, and skills development programs, KidsArt and HipArts have been further developed and are attracting our young creative children to after school art classes. The last lecture of the KickArts Lecture Series was presented at the conclusion of 'Corresponding Latitudes' with Indian artist Shiv Gandhi presenting along with Kevin Mayo and Sasi Victoir. These intimate lectures captivated the audiences and provided a valuable opportunity for cultural exchange and professional dialogue between artists and the community. The remaining funding from this grant was allowed to be used for facilitating a planning session with artists and industry professionals for the ongoing future of 'On Edge', a new media and performance week held in collaboration with the Tanks Art Centre, and a New Media Symposium held in the JUTE Theatre with presenters from the On Edge events.

FNQ Souvenir, a KickArts touring exhibition was featured at Gab Titui in the Torres Strait for their first year celebrations and Hinchinbrook Gallery in Ingham. The exhibition was received with great enthusiasm at both venues as locals took in the contemporary nature of the exhibition and varying styles of the 11 artists exhibiting.

KickArts hosted its first Artist In Residency, with Geoff Dixon creating larger than life endangered bird portraits.

KickArts also hosted the launch of Gimuy Walubara Yidinji Centenary Celebration, with an exhibition in the KickArts Shop of traditional shields. This event coincided with the United Nations meeting in Cairns with over 50 delegates from the United Nations attending the event and being thrilled by the live performances and the exhibitions by Dennis Nona and Julie Wilson Foster.

The KickArts Insiders subscribers program has continued to be a great success with renewals and new subscribers on all levels. This is due to the diversity and inclusiveness of entry levels, catering for anyone who would like to be connected to KickArts in some way.

KickArts also offers an arts consultancy service to generate income. This supports the creative program and also supports business and industry in the acquisition of contemporary works of art, management of cultural events and professional development opportunities for artists. To secure these commissions KickArts tenders or provides quotations to clients and then offers a management service. As a result, in 2005 KickArts presented a family fun day of workshop activities, master class workshops, an exhibition to be held in the KickArts Galleries and to tour to Hinchinbrook Regional Gallery and KickArts also presented workshops for the community and emerging artists.

KickArts has also chaired and coordinated the meetings between cultural institutions in Cairns, TAFE and JCU to develop a Bachelor of Creative Industries. This course will commence in the first term of 2006 and currently has over 20 enrolments.

### 4.1. *KickArts Insiders*

KickArts Insider subscription categories allow access to KickArts' program of activities across the whole community nationally and internationally as follows:

#### **KickArts Insider Artist**

Benefits and Rewards for Artist subscribers:

- KickArts Insider Artist ID Key ring allowing 10% discount at KickArts Shop and retail partners.

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- Invitations to all public exhibitions and events.
- Email bulletins.
- Eligibility to submit work for selection in KickArts annual, themed or curated group exhibitions.
- 10% off workshop fees
- 20% off exhibiting fees associated with KickArts Exhibition Program
- 40% off selected KickArts ticketed programs (for example the Lecture Series)
- Access to KickArts library resources and inclusion in the artist database via consultation
- Exclusive entry to selected KickArts Insider Party.

## **KickArts Insider General**

Benefits and Rewards for General subscribers:

- KickArts Insider ID Key ring allowing 10% discount at KickArts Shop and retail partners (2x for Family)
- Invitations to all public exhibitions and events
- Email bulletins
- 10% of workshop fees
- Exclusive entry to selected KickArts Insider Party.

## **KickArts Insider Outreach**

Benefits and Rewards for Outreach subscribers:

- 2 x KickArts Insider Outreach ID Key ring allowing 10% discount at KickArts Shop and retail partners
- Eligibility to submit work for selection in KickArts annual and theme group exhibitions.
- 10% off workshop fees
- 20% off exhibiting fees associated with KickArts Exhibition Program
- 40% off selected KickArts ticketed programs (for example the Lecture Series)
- Invitations to all public exhibitions and events
- Email bulletins
- Exclusive entry to selected KickArts Insider Party
- KickArts Insider Outreach subscription offers substantial advantage for remote Cape York and Torres Strait artist communities, artist co-ops and artist collectives outside the Cairns Region. The level of subscription is flexible dependant on the number of members in a group.

## **KickArts Insider Organisation**

Benefits and Rewards for Insider Organisations:

- 2 x nominated KickArts Insider ID Key ring allowing 10% discount at KickArts Shop and retail partners
- Invitations to all public exhibitions and events
- Email bulletins
- Complimentary entry to selected KickArts fundraisers.
- 1 x 10% off function venue hire of KickArts galleries
- 20% off selected KickArts ticketed programs (for example the Lecture Series)
- Exclusive entry to selected KickArts Insider Party
- KickArts Insider Organisation subscription offers a single level for government departments, companies, incorporated associations, educational institutions, statutory bodies and other arts organisations.

## **KickArts Insider Corporate**

Benefits and Rewards for Corporate subscribers:

KickArts Insider Corporate subscription offers a number of levels for businesses wishing to support contemporary arts accessing some special privileges for their personnel.

- Insider Silver is equivalent to 4 x Insider General with 1 x 15% off function venue hire of KickArts galleries  
Silver \$150
- Insider Gold is equivalent to 6 x Insider General with 1 x 25% off function venue hire of KickArts galleries  
Gold \$250
- Insider Platinum is equivalent to 8 x Insider General with 1 x 50% off function venue hire of KickArts galleries

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Platinum \$350

This subscription program will be reviewed and updated offering opportunities to make donations to KickArts and take advantage of our Gift Tax Deductibility status.

## 4.2. Exhibitions

### 4.2.1. *Surface*

Contemporary Queensland Landscapes - curated by Queensland Centre for Contemporary Photography (QCP) Featuring; **Isaac Brown, Victoria Cooper, Shane Fitzgerald, Annie Hogan, Marianne Irvine, Cal MacKinnon, Glen O'Malley, Doug Spowart, Ruby Spowart, Kerry Trapnell and Carl Warner.**

Opening Friday 25 February by **Desley Boyle** Minister for Environment, Local Government, Planning and Women

This exhibition from QCP was the first touring exhibition to come to KickArts in our new premises. This was a great opportunity to collaborate with QCP who have been curating numerous contemporary photographic exhibitions of extremely high calibre. Participating artists captured contrasting views of landscapes from remote and urban Queensland, providing a glimpse into a state that has the fastest growth rate and yet has some of the most isolated country in Australia.

### 4.2.2. *Sentinel*

#### **Geoff Dixon**

Opening Friday 5 March by **Rae O'Connell**, Director KickArts

The term 'sentinel' in the title refers to what is known in ecological sciences as a bio-indicator, or more specifically in this case an avian-indicator - the bird as sentinel species. This is an extension of the proverbial "canary in the mineshaft" concept. The canary is deliberately placed in a particular environment to detect the presence of a dangerous agent, such as poisonous gas, whereas Dixon's birds are a form of health indicator species that serve as nonhuman proxies for ecosystem health. Through our observation of the species their health or decline gives us notice and an indication of the approaching degradation of their endemic environment. For Dixon the sentinel bird has become a personal metaphor or self-portrait of our humanity in a burgeoning era of technology and overload within the human condition.

Dixon describes the exhibition as "an installation that echoes the nature and intimacy of our richly verdant rainforest, wetlands and coast of Far North Queensland. Tropical rain streams down gallery walls of viridian and phthalo blue; carpets of water will make welcome the inhabitants of this world."

An environmental exhibition, Dixon also created an environment within the gallery space from ceiling to floor, with larger than life portraits and landscapes. This exhibition toured to [name of gallery] in New Zealand.

### 4.2.3. *Dugongs of Hinchinbrook II*

**David Allen Jim Anderson Suzanne Archer & David Fairbairn Lynda Barratt Pauline Benthin Lauren Black Charles Blackman G.W. Bot Arthur Boyd Tom Carment John Coburn Kevin Conner Helen Couzner Ray Crooke Mary Cudmore-Williams Peter Cullin Elisabeth Cummings Anthony Cuthbertson Patricia Davies Lawrence Daws Edwin Deemera Daryl Dickson Daryl Dickson Russell Drysdale Brian Dunlop Ron Edwards Mark Elliott George Finey Michael Fitzjames Donald Friend Mark Gawne Tonya Grant Geoff Harvey Silas Hobson Ross Hucks & Nicole Hunter Chris Jakku Michael Johnson Meryn Jones Peter Kingston Eddie Koumans Mr Kusu Dena Leo (Milbirrigun) Michael Leunig Su Lin Kevin Lincoln Euan Macleod Guy Maestri Deanna Maich Bob Marchant Matthew Martin Kevin Mayo Arone Meeks Reg Mombassa Rosella Namok Sidney Nolan Dennis Nona Steven Nowakowski John Olsen Fiona Omeeny Andy Page Nikki Parker John Peart Bruce Petty Simon Poole Lloyd Rees Cornelius Richards Adam Rish William Robinson David Rowe Sue Ryan Maria Sakellariadis Di Sant Martin Sharp Garry Shead Anneke Silver Jeffrey Smart Ian Smith Lucy Smith Tim Storrier Valerie May Taylor Eileen**

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**Tep Ann Thomson Margaret Thorsborne Kerry Trapnell Suzanne Turton Daniel Wallwork Brett Whiteley Fred Williams Julie Wilson-Foster John Wolseley Peter Wright Michelle Yeatman Philomena Yeatman**  
Opening Friday 8 April by **Diane Cilento & Ray Croke**  
Auction Friday 29 April **Steve Whittenhall, guest speakers, Jane Moderic, Margaret Thorsbourne, Peter Kingston, James Crawford**

This exhibition featuring prominent Australian artists and local north Queensland artists created great interest in the local community, giving them a chance to view original works of art not ever seen here before and the opportunity to purchase them via silent auction. These artists' works rarely appear in Cairns and even less often appear here for sale. As a fundraising exhibition for the Alliance to Save Hinchinbrook, this exhibition also brought a whole new local and national audience for KickArts, with over 500 people attending the opening and at the closing auction buyers flew in from southern states to view and bid on some of the more famous artists. It was fantastic that one of these famous artists, Ray Croke, is a Cairns local and has gone on to become a KickArts member and contributed to our own Insider fundraising exhibition.

The closing auction on 29 April was very exciting with bids totalling approximately \$94K exclusive of GST. This was a fantastic result financially for KickArts and as a fundraiser for the Alliance to Save Hinchinbrook group.

#### 4.2.4. *New Tapa*

##### **Samuel Tupou**

Opening Friday 20 May, **Robert Heather**, Director Mackay Artspace

This was Tupou's first solo exhibition, for which he produced a vibrant collection of screen printed works of art for the lower gallery. The exhibition opening attracted a great crowd, with Hawaiian music, hula dancing and coconut opening with bare teeth just some of the highlights for the evening. Our room brochure was also very popular and became a pin up poster across town. This exhibition generated significant national interest for KickArts and the artist. Exhibition sales went to collectors in Sydney, Melbourne and the Netherlands, and two works were purchased by the National Gallery Australia and another by the Cairns Regional Gallery for their collections.

Sam was offered an exhibition at Fox Galleries as a result, which was a great opportunity for him to gain exposure in Brisbane. Reviews were also published in Eycline Magazine, review written by Steven Tonkin, senior curator at CRG, Arts Nexus, written by Theo Tremblay, and The Fly, written by Simon Tait.

#### 4.2.5. *Somewhere in Between - Studies In Translocation*

##### **Tina Gonsalves**

This video installation by Tina Gonsalves coincided with the OnEdge event, held in collaboration with the Tanks Art Centre.

"Somewhere in Between: Studies in Translocation" explores the nature of travel. The work is formed by extensive journeys undertaken by the artist, captured in audio, video and photography. This exhibition was well received by visitors, who would spend over 30 minutes in the gallery in order to experience the work in its entirety.

Using the real world as a point of departure, Gonsalves presented us with visions of horizons taken over the world, from sailing across the Atlantic, to the polluted waters of Bombay, to lakes in Scotland. These visions were mixed with footage shot over many years from Fourmile Beach in Port Douglas. They were then broken down and reconfigured to suggest another reality, leaving them barely discernable as seascapes. These revisions reflected our own tenuous hold on memory and the impact our emotional state can have on the past and the present. This created an atmosphere that was an intensified, illusory version of reality.

The sound featured recent voice recordings captured while traveling. The artist also used recordings of her mother and father, with her own voice from archival travelogue. The artist's family departed from Port Douglas in 1981 to sail around the world using sound recordings to document their journey. In addition, the mix included

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recently found, old tapes of the artist's deceased grandfather on which he shared his more imaginary travels, recorded obsessively from his suburban Sydney home.

The sound track was created in collaboration with Japanese Sound Artist, Takeko Akamatsu.

## 4.2.6. *HomeFront* –

**Malachi Aird, Gen Anderson, Sue Andrews, Sal Badcock, Robyn Baker, Elizabeth Barden, Nicola Bryars, David Campbell, Andres Caycedo, Michael Cermak, Deb Clarke, Gabrielle Cooney, Wendy Cowan, Ray Crooke, Geoff Dixon, Susan Doherty, Barbara Dover, Ann Doyle, Anna Eglitis, Christine Eyres, Danka Fischer, Margaret Genever, Hayley Gillespie, Julia Golzar, Jan Graham, Maree Grenfell, Sue Hayes, Silas Hobson, Anna Holan, Ross Hucks, Helen Hume, Nicole Hunter, Dominic Johns, Fiona Joseph, Gyorgyi Katzler, Adrian King, Peter Kingston, Edward Koumans, Janette Laver, Jumba-Jimba, Kevin Mayo, Laurel McKenzie, Euan McLeod, Keith McMillan, Arone Meeks, Russell Milledge, Shane Morris, Caroline Mudge, Roland Nancarrow, Janie O'Brien, Sonja Olsen, Neil Parker, Susan Plos, Simon Poole, Julie Poulsen, Rod Ram'age, Paloma Ramos, Robyn Resson, Buck Richardson, Christine Ritchie, Cara Stevens, Judith Taylor, Kristin Tennyson, Peter Thompson, Andrew Thompson, Theodore Tremblay, Samuel Tupou, Ingrid Turner, Jennifer Valmadre, Marcel Varna, Caroline Wall, Daniel Wallwork, Melissa Waters, Julie Wilson-Foster**

Annual Insider fundraiser exhibition curated by Russell Milledge.

Opening and Insider Party Saturday 3 September, **Rupert Myer AO**  
HomeFront Auction Friday 28 October 2005.

Home is where the heart is and KickArts' 2005 annual Insider artist exhibition, provocatively titled 'HomeFront', revealed the heart of artists. From the front-line of domestic bliss to homeland security and anti-terrorism, HomeFront was an opportunity to explore via contemporary visual culture the society in which we dwell.

A print and direct mail campaign was mounted to attract artists to join the Insider program and submit work for the exhibition and for sale by silent auction. Over 100 artworks were submitted, which was an increase of 25% on the previous year. The exhibition bragged works submitted by two Archibald Prize winners, Ray Crooke and Euan McLeod, along with artists from across the Cape and our local following.

Special guest, Rupert Myer opened the exhibition at the Insider party in a convertible vintage sports car in the CoCA foyer, starting the evening events off with style and pizzazz. Local entertainment, performances and lots of prizes kept everyone in great spirits and made a great start to the bidding process.

This annual exhibition is a great opportunity for artists from all stages of their career to participate in a curated exhibition alongside other artists. It is featured in the Festival Cairns Guide which is distributed to everyone in Cairns, backed up by the broader Festival marketing campaign.

**The silent auction brought over \$14,000 in sales, which was over a 150% increase from the previous year.**

## 4.2.7. *Sesserae and Other Stories*

### **Dennis Nona**

A magnificent selection of significant prints by Torres Strait Islander artist, Dennis Nona were exhibited in the upper gallery with its walls painted black. These predominantly black and white limited edition prints stood out on the contrasting walls, and were accompanied by their stories as told by Nona. This exhibition featured two new, large works printed at KickArts, 'Sesserae' and 'Awai Thituiyil', along with a lino which was displayed with print making tools.

This exhibition also featured in the Festival Cairns program. It brought great attendances and significant sales

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were made during the exhibition. Following the exhibition larger works were purchased that had featured in the room brochure created in house.

This exhibition reinforced KickArts' desire to develop a printmaking facility that will support the production of limited edition works on paper.

## 4.2.8. *Petri Dish Pink*

**Julie Wilson-Foster**

Opening 18 November, **Rae O'Connell**, Director KickArts

This installation created a maze of giant fertiliser bags and featured a specialised lighting sculpture that together encompassed the whole of the lower gallery. The audience were invited to step inside the maze and consider the world we inhabit, our booming population and how to manage our environment in order to provide for everyone

The viewer was posed with confronting questions relevant to us all regarding how we sustain our environment and protect crops from the salinity caused by the removal of native vegetation. The maze of superphosphate bags represent just a fraction of the volume of fertiliser that is poured onto the earth every day to sustain the crops that are required to nourish our communities.

The 500 kilo blanket of salt lying beneath the 74 red light bulbs again represented but a fraction of the salt rising to the surface due to the removal of native vegetation.

*'The five metre long sea of red light bulbs softly illuminate the salt circle underneath creating a large Petri dish in which a strange new terrain is forming - the terrain of our future, if we are not careful. We are in a state of suspension, an eerie position. The ghostly forms of the suspended Super Phosphate bags echo again this strange new world.'*

Extract from artist's statement.

## 4.2.9. *Artland*

**Edward Koumans**

Opening 9 December, Rae O'Connell Director KickArts

One of Far North Queensland's favourite artists, Edward Koumans presents figurative works in painting and sculpture that extend contemporary narratives. Edward Koumans has delighted collectors and artists for over two decades with his witty and sometimes sinister figurative assemblages and paintings. In the tradition of assemblage sculpture Koumans presents figures constructed from the everyday flotsam and jetsam of times gone by and distant lifestyles. Discarded odds and ends take on new life as distinctive figurative artworks.

Koumans's paintings have been a big hit with collectors. His figurative style open brush techniques have conveyed a compelling insight into northern Australia's spirit of place with subjects ranging from 'Men and Crocs' to inland landscapes such as the Chillagoe smelters.

## 4.3. *Professional Development & Education*

### 4.3.1. *Lecture Series*

The KickArts Lecture Series 2004 was funded from a major project grant from Arts Queensland and created a lot of interest and allowed KickArts to invite professionals from the arts industries to come to Cairns and share some of their experience through dialogue and debate. Where possible these events were scheduled to coincide with other cultural events in the program thus extending the resources invested in this program. Guest speakers were extremely generous, with many not invoicing for their speakers fees, allowing for more out-of-Cairns participants to

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be included in the program. By making these considerable savings we were able to extend the project into 2005 with an additional lecture and Media Symposium.

## 4.3.2. # 7 Cross – Overs

### 9 February

A forum on the connections and complexities of a creative cultural exchange was presented in association with Corresponding Latitudes - 2004/2005 India /Australia Cultural and Regional Exchange Exhibition.

Speakers: **Shiv Kumar, Sasi Victoire, and Kevin Mayo**

Having the forum within the exhibition was successful, not only as the forum was a reflection on Corresponding Latitudes, but also as it was an intimate space and created a more relaxed atmosphere fostering interaction between presenter and audience. This then helped to develop a culture of debate and discussion within the contemporary arts community in Cairns.

Each lecture/forum has contributed to the understanding and broadening of information around pertinent themes and concepts in contemporary arts practice. These ancillary events have extended the exhibition program, adding value and depth. The Lecture Series has brought attention to the role of contemporary arts in moderating current political and societal values in a democratic and accessible forum. This has benefited marginalised groups with specific concerns by providing a catalyst for community recognition and cultural identity.

## 4.3.3. *Intermedia Symposium*

*Saturday 16 July*

In collaboration with the Tanks Art Centre, OnEdge Contemporary Media & Performance Week

Keynote speakers included:

**Nat Bates** - Director Liquid Architecture Festival

**Marian Drew** - Senior Lecturer Photography Queensland College of Art

**Lawrence English** - ::room40:: / Liquid Architecture

**Robin Fox** - Liquid Architecture Artist

**Keith Gallasch** – Editor of Realtime Magazine

**Josephine Starrs** – Lecture Sydney College of the Arts

**Fiona Winning** – Director Performance Space

A number of influential and knowledgeable speakers participated in our last Lecture Series funded by the Arts Queensland Project Grant. The concept of OnEdge was to program activities that created a platform for the development and education of young and regional audiences in current practices and processes within the creative industries. OnEdge consisted of a significant inaugural showcase of cross-artform small company/ independent artist productions at the Tanks Art Centre, with stage one also including an associated symposium and planning meeting at KickArts.

The Lecture Series presenters imparted current emerging and established trends in the world of Intermedia, New Media and Performance, with a focus on new practices and new cultural/critical territories. The event was in the form of panel discussions and illustrated talks giving insight into the experiences of some of Australia's most successful exponents and practitioners. Intermedia and New Media arts practice encompass forms across disciplines including video installation, art & science projects, sound and performance. Artists working in this vein are often at odds with common notions of what art is. Many of their strategies could be seen within a larger tradition of using art as a weapon against fixed and mainstream perceptions of the world. Intermedia art has infiltrated galleries and museums with many leading contemporary artists engaging in Intermedia and New Media practices. The panel's discussions considered, 'Is New Media new critical territory, or does it sit in time-honoured traditions of Art?'

## Development of an Informed Audience

Although the Lecture Series caters to the interests of a particular niche audience within the arts community many of the topics and events have attracted people outside this niche. Due to the specialised nature of the

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lecture/forums and the diversity of concerns covered, attendance by people outside the contemporary arts was encouraged.

#### 4.4. *Grant Writing*

KickArts assisted Zane Saunders to apply to Arts Queensland for a grant towards expenses for his 2006 exhibition with KickArts. The application was successful and Saunders received \$9900.

#### 4.5. *Workshops*

##### **KidsArt, HipArts, Children's School Holiday Program, Artist Workshops**

The KidsArt Program caters for children between the ages of 5 and 11 and the HipArts program caters for children between the ages of 11 and 14. These programs are presented in four units over the year. Each unit consists of 6 workshops presented after school between 4-6pm in the KickArts studio. Children develop skills and knowledge across a broad range of topics. One of the goals of the KidsArt program is to expose young people to exhibitions and the gallery environment generally, so that they become accustomed to frequenting galleries and develop an understanding of the role of contemporary art in their environment.

Skills Development offers children the opportunity to come to KickArts after school to learn and develop their understanding of the making of art, the many and varied technical skills in art practice, how art has been used through historical movements in art and how artists use their practices to communicate. This program has become very popular for children with a genuine interest in art and art making, they take these classes very seriously and have exhibitions at the conclusion of each term's work.

The School Holiday Program provides an action packed series of workshops that are fun and informative and children leave each session with something special they have made themselves.

The success of these workshops and Skills Development has been achieved due to having artists as tutors and to the research and development that has been invested in each program.

#### 4.6. *Touring Exhibitions*

'Surface' *Contemporary Queensland Landscapes* - curated by Queensland Centre for Contemporary Photography  
**Isaac Brown, Victoria Cooper, Shane Fitzgerald, Annie Hogan, Marianne Irvine, Cal MacKinnon, Glen O'Malley, Doug Spowart, Ruby Spowart, Kerry Trapnell and Carl Warner.**

15 April 2005

Following the exhibition at the KickArts galleries this exhibition was toured to the Sugar Museum south of Innisfail. KickArts installed the exhibition with the volunteers who were maintaining an ongoing exhibition program, as they had no funds for 2005. Unfortunately this was one of the last exhibitions to be held at the Sugar Museum and the future of the gallery at present is unknown.

*'FNQ Souvenir'*,

**Sophie Cadman, David Campbell, Jill Chism, Geoff Dixon, Eddie Koumans, Stanley Laifoo, Arone Raymond Meeks, Julie Poulsen, Kristin Tennyson, Samuel Tupou and Julie Wilson-Foster**

A KickArts touring exhibition, this toured to Gab Titui in the Torres Strait for their first birthday celebrations. The exhibition was installed by Russell Milledge with assistance from the Gab Titui staff. The exhibition then went on to tour to Hinchinbrook Gallery in Ingham. The exhibition was well received at both galleries, with schools and local artists inspired by the works of art by the 11 artists in the exhibition.

#### 4.7. **Consultancies & Industry Support**

##### 4.7.1. *Sofitel*

KickArts provided advice to the Sofitel Cairns on holding a series of exhibitions in their extensive foyers. This advice resulted in four exhibitions being held in the first year - one featuring Robin Baker, Barbara Dover, Roland Nancarrow, Julie Poulsen, Jennifer Valmadre, Charlie Street and Sam Tupou, and three solo exhibitions for Jennifer Valmadre, Julie Poulsen and Roland Nancarrow.

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Allan Tan, CEO of the Reef Hotel Casino as made warm welcoming speeches about all of the artists involved, along with providing printed invitations and beautiful food and beverages to all guests invited.

This very public space provides fantastic exposure for exhibiting artists as hundreds of thousands of people gather and move throughout these areas. The Sofitel also supports the sale of artworks with a minimal commission.

## 4.7.2. *The Art of Food and Wine @ The Pier*

Claudine Marzik, Roland Nancarrow and Brian Robinson

1 – 26 September

These artists provided significant works that were installed in the lobby of the Shangri-La Hotel at the Pier. These major works of art sat very proudly in the expansive foyer of this hotel which has a predominantly international clientele. Hotel patrons were encouraged to move in and around the work that created an interesting diversion from the stark, dark, hard interiors of this very contemporary setting.

This was a great opportunity for KickArts to provide consultancy services to the business community and to provide artists with the opportunity to promote their work to this new and vast audience. The works looked great and complemented the hotel's mood. They remained on display for Festival Cairns and the hotel's major Festival event of a food and wine festival.

## 4.7.3. *Great Walks*

KickArts is managing the Far North Queensland component of the Great Walks project for the Environmental Protection Agency with events taking place in 2005 and 2006.

This art and environmental program has been conducted to celebrate the Great Walks of Queensland. Regional galleries were identified as the natural partners for coordinating these projects, which include workshops for children and professional and emerging artists, an artist in residency, and the development of an exhibition to be toured to another regional centre.

In 2005 KickArts delivered the following project components and in 2006 will deliver an exhibition, '**Habitus Habitat**', as part of our 2006 Exhibition Program. KickArts will go on to tour this exhibition to Hinchinbrook Regional Gallery and present workshops for emerging artists and the broader community.

**Habitus Habitat** is an exhibition by Brian Robinson, including works from the master class participants, Zane Saunders, Nick Mills and Bonemap.

### ***Workshop programs***

KickArts coordinated the following workshops as part of the Core activities and the Augmented Program.

#### ***Artist In Residence Workshop***

Brian Robinson, Artist In Residence, selected a group of established artists to join him in a workshop environment to experiment within the Great Walks brief to further develop their practice. Robinson organised a field trip and master class conducted at Blencoe Falls on 19 - 20 November 2005. As a result of this workshop the artists, using a range of media, collected material for the development of significant works of art to be included in the exhibition. The media used are innovative and appropriate for creative expression. The exhibition includes works in sound, video and installation as well as two dimensional works.

#### ***Emerging Artist Workshops***

KickArts will coordinate two workshops for emerging artists. One will be presented in Ingham coinciding with the touring exhibition. It is anticipated that artist/s from the above workshop will facilitate this workshop. The second workshop will be delivered in Cairns or within the Great Walks precinct.

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## **Children's Workshops**

The brief required the delivery of two workshops for children. KickArts proposed a day of activities, a family fun day, to be presented during Festival Cairns, this was called 'Great!Day' Art and Environment Family Fun Day.

GREAT!DAY - Art and Environment Family Fun Day

**Paul Antonijevich, Anna Eglitis, Uncle Friday, Tijn Meulendijks, Paloma Ramos, Kim Rayner, Ingrid Turner, Daniel Wallwork, Julie Wilson Foster & Rebecca Youdell.**

Saturday 17 September

"Great!Day" offered a day of free creative activities presented by local professional artists aimed at the whole family. All age groups benefited from different workshops designed to suit a wide variety of tastes in creative art forms. These were set up throughout the KickArts spaces within the Galleries, studio and lawn area to the front of the building, and were designed so that children could move between them and work with a variety of artists. Families were welcomed by roving stilt walkers Shark girl and Aqua man with activities comprising of palm weaving with Uncle Friday, stencil art with Daniel Wallwork, wearable art with Julie Wilson Foster, Pop Art with Ingrid Turner, jewellery making with Kim Rayner, sculpture with Tijn Meulendijks, monoprints with Anna Eglitis and casting with Paloma Ramos. For the parent that preferred to sit back and relax there were Flamenco sounds preformed by Paul Antonijevich and special performances by Rebecca Youdell.

The activities ran for 3-hour blocks with eight different activities being held throughout the day. Each station held 10 to 15 participants at any given time not including parents accompanying children. Stilt walkers were employed to entertain and encourage families in the area to come along and experience the day. A marquee was set up on the lawn area near the entrance to attract passers by and to give the Great!Day a presence outside of the building.

Having the free activities held throughout the building and in the galleries gave the community an opportunity to experience the galleries in a more relaxed manner. The hive of activity provided a distraction from people's general apprehension regarding entering a contemporary art space, essentially giving them the confidence to revisit. The Great!Day also raised awareness of the activities associated with the Great Walks Art and Environment project. Participants were introduced to a number of different materials, predominantly found objects, recycled materials and flora, to incorporate into their artworks, thus opening their perception to contemporary art and the natural environment.

The festival program is promoted to all residents of Cairns and regional communities. This provided significant additional exposure for the event as families actively pursued activities offered as part of the festival. Also the free workshops brought a whole new group of people to the centre who would not have attended if there was a fee. We have also discovered an increase in participants to our children's art program since the event. As well as the event being a family fun day it also gave the opportunity to increase the visitor statistics ten-fold for the day. Passers by were enticed in by the activity on the lawn and café deck.

### *4.7.4. Indigenous Coordination Centre (ICC) Creative Merchandise Project*

This is a proposal to develop a creative merchandise project in partnership between various Cape York communities (yet to be identified), the ICC in Cairns and KickArts, that will have tangible economic outcomes for the short and long term. The partnership project will, in its first stages, foster the development of creative merchandise with Indigenous artists that will, in turn, advance their professional development and employment opportunities.

The philosophy behind this project will be to work with artists to engage them in the intricacies of creative merchandising, and give them the opportunity to understand how they can enter the market. Key areas studied will be market research, product design and development, packaging, fabrication and marketing their work. KickArts will then retail their work.

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The project is hands-on with artists exploring the market and analysing for themselves what types of merchandise they are interested in developing. KickArts staff will guide them through this process ensuring the final outcome is one that can then be retailed through the KickArts Shop along with other similar creative, retail outlets across Australia and overseas.

Yet to be confirmed

#### 4.7.5. *Cape York Calendar Launch*

Photographer **Kerry Trapnell**

Features images of 28 young women from the Cape York region including Eloise Yunkaporta from Aurukun studying dance at NAISDA, Thala Wallis from the Western Cape Artists and Fiona Omeenyo and Samantha Hobson from Lockhart River.

This is the second year running that KickArts has launched the calendar in the foyer of the Centre of Contemporary Arts. This public event brings a new audience to our centre and is helping us to become recognised amongst community members from across the Cape. Photographs from the calendar are exhibited in the foyer to promote the calendar which is retailed in the KickArts Shop. These have become a popular item as our local customers purchase them as gifts to send overseas and interstate.

#### 4.7.6. *Centre of Excellence in Printmaking*

In KickArts' current Strategic Business Plan, one of our three goals is to 'Establish a Centre of Excellence for Printmaking'. Not only will this facility provide infrastructure for the production of contemporary print making, it will also help KickArts with our other two goals to 'facilitate a program of activities that supports a professional platform for contemporary artists from TNQ, Australia and overseas' and to 'develop the KickArts Shop as a financially successful retail experience of unique, high quality art, craft and design,' by featuring works of art on paper.

The KickArts Centre of Excellence in Printmaking will be located at the Centre of Contemporary Arts pending the outcome of a feasibility study. KickArts currently operates a studio space here and it is proposed that an additional space be built above the current KickArts crate storeroom and adjacent to this existing studio space.

The studio would facilitate a number of services that will support the development of print making for artists across far north Queensland, offering artists the opportunity to develop sustainable, creative arts practice along with providing much needed works on paper for the existing KickArts Shop to retail and distribute. There is a constant demand for works on paper by Queensland artists that is difficult to fulfil and this facility would provide KickArts with an opportunity to meet this demand. The studio would also offer the opportunity for KickArts to commission new works that the artist can print themselves or KickArts can engage an experienced printmaker to print the edition for them. This edition will then be managed through the administrative resources of the KickArts Shop for sale to patrons of the Shop and on line and for supply to other distributors of works on paper. KickArts would also be able to exhibit these works in their annual exhibition program.

The facility would also be available for hire to suitably experienced printmakers. Artists from across the Cape would be able to access a fully functional, professionally managed printmaking facility for their editions or KickArts can facilitate this for them.

#### Conservation and Management of artworks.

Storing and conserving works on paper in the tropics is extremely difficult as paper absorbs moisture, attracts dust and goes mouldy very quickly. Works on paper need to be kept flat in a dry, clean place. Also printed editions of works of art need to be properly managed, with the editions recorded and authenticated. Both of these processes can be managed efficiently within KickArts. As an edition is sold payments would be made to the artists providing them with a good source of income, thus supporting the cash flow of their exhibition art practice.

KickArts currently sells works on paper to visitors from across Australia and overseas. Requests are constantly made for works from Queensland artists and authentic works of art by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists.

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KickArts currently cannot obtain a reliable supply of artworks by Queensland artists, but are selling works by the Munupi Indigenous artists from the Northern Territory. Local artists are currently travelling to other states or sending their plates to be printed in other states as they derive good income (their bread and butter) from this type of art production.

This facility will offer an excellent opportunity for business development and has the potential to grow into a nationally and internationally recognised Centre of Excellence in Printmaking. Through innovative business models and the introduction of professionally managed facilities, Indigenous and non-indigenous artists will be able to supply high quality, limited edition works of art on paper to a high demand market.

Requests for financial support to develop a feasibility study for the CEPM have gone to Arts Queensland (AQ) and State Development (SD). AQ has offered \$10K in partnership with SD. We are still awaiting a response from SD.?? Received??

#### 4.7.7. *Bachelor of Creative Industries (BCI)*

The push to introduce more comprehensive offerings in the Creative Arts in Cairns has been in evidence for a decade at least. While the will has been there, there have always been two critical disincentives. The first and foremost of those has been the cost involved in duplicating costly facilities and equipment. The second and related problem has been the splitting of the pool of potential applicants for talent selective specialist degrees.

Over the decade the growth in postgraduate research numbers in Cairns has been steady and the demand remains in 2005 with two scholarship winners studying in Cairns, one in Theatre and the other in Visual Arts. In response to increasing pressure from Cairns, which has now significant infrastructure in the Creative Arts, a Working Group was set up at the beginning of 2004 with a view to exploring options for undergraduate study at the JCU Cairns Campus.

The composition of this group was significant in that it encompassed both the creative Industries and the major educational players. Discussions began on the basis of understanding that JCU would not be in a position to provide facilities beyond those already in existence and that any proposal to emerge from the deliberations of the Working Party would, of necessity, need to derive from a higher education - industry partnership.

The premise being readily accepted, planning proceeded during the first half of 2004 and received a significant impetus from the support of Professors Scott Bowman and Sandra Speedy, Dale Anderson and Donna Marie O'Connor in the latter part of the year. The major partners are the Cairns Regional Gallery, JUTE (Just Us Theatre Ensemble), JCU, TAFE and KickArts. Planning for the proposed Bachelor of Creative Industries proceeded on the basis of the theoretical understandings and skill bases required of graduates in the related Cairns industries. At the core of these are both business and creative arts theory and practice, which became the building blocks for the degree as proposed.

#### OBJECTIVES OF COURSE:

- 1) To produce graduates with an appropriate balance of applied business and creative arts knowledge and skills
- 2) To produce graduates with both specialist and broadly based understandings across the creative arts
- 3) To produce graduates whose business sense enables them to lead in the creative industries
- 4) To produce graduates whose training will enable them to adapt to the evolving needs of career paths in the creative industries
- 5) To produce graduates whose interpersonal communication and presentation skills will generate significant roles for themselves in both the cultural environment and wider society.

Tuesday 13 December 2005 the Bachelor of Creative Industries was launched at the Centre of Contemporary Arts with over 20 applications to the course already received. Margaret Genever will be the program coordinator and it is anticipated that even more industry based units will be implemented over 2006.

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## 4.7.8. KickArts Shop

**Frank Antoni, Alison Arnold, Art & Australia, Australian Art Print Network, Robyn Baker, Black Ink Press, Bonemap, Cape York Young Women's Project Calendar, Gus Clutterbuck, Geoff Dixon, Maiya Doolette, Margot Douglas, Famous Paintings, Diane Finlay, Liz Gallie, Margaret Genever, Giringun Aboriginal Corporation, Elaine Godden, Haasch Pty Ltd, Terri Hurrell, Alan James, Dominic Johns, Journal of Australian Ceramics, Liana Kabel, Keeaira Press, Edward Koumans, Joey Laifoo, Lockhart River Art Centre, Magabala Books, Claudine Marzik, Victoria Mason, John Mast, Arone Meeks, Mixxo Design, Munupi Arts and Crafts, Helen Nicholson, Dennis Nona, Nuovo Visual Concepts, Object Magazine, Janie O'Brien, Carmel Pacey, Jandy Pannell, Vanda Parker, Simon Poole, Poppies for Grace, Kim Rayner, Ripple Iron, Tracey Rosser, Saltwater Collection, Joel Sam, Cara Stevens, Sweet Graphics, Shireen Talibudeen, Judith Jewel Taylor, Kristin Tennyson, Alick Tipoti, Tiwi Art Network, Samuel Tupou, Zoe Warburton, Rebecca Ward, Wild Child Designs, Jo-Anne Winston, Woomera Aboriginal Corporation.**

2005 has been a very good year for the KickArts Shop. Despite the closure of the café for several weeks, the decline in tourist numbers and the change of our Shop Supervisor, shop sales have remained steady and healthy.

The vast range of unique, high quality art, craft and design is a credit to former Shop Supervisor Georgina Hutchinson and been further embellished by Beverley Mitchell. This contemporary retail outlet provides suppliers with an opportunity to present their individual creations as well as production ranges of creative merchandise.

This year KickArts has introduced an artist's feature space within the KickArts Shop. The main walls in the CoCA foyer form part of the KickArts Shop precinct. This wall is the first viewing point for all visitors to the centre providing excellent exposure at all events. This has proven to be very successful and the program will continue into 2006.

New artists are constantly being included and encouraged to present their work in the Shop. KickArts also provides feed back on product development which has seen artists fine tune their work or create new work especially for the KickArts Shop.

The KickArts Shop not only provides a unique retail outlet to those visiting the centre but other retail outlets have also taken on artists that they have viewed in the KickArts Shop.

Beverley Mitchell will be mentored through 2006 in the development and delivery of her first curated exhibition '*Nana is the New Black*'. With a strong curatorial brief Beverley has already attracted artists to participate in this unique creative merchandising event.

Research is being carried out to develop a range of KickArts Shop Corporate Gifts. A limit of \$50 retail price translates to an artist's price of \$27.27, so there is not a great deal of enthusiasm among suppliers to commit to a consistent product for a lengthy period of time at that price. The unique nature of individual items is also something that would need to be brought to the clients' attention (ie photos are a representative sample of work). An under \$50 category and a \$50-\$100 category, possibly printed on a DL card with a smaller print run and a faster turnaround time than a full catalogue would probably be the most viable option. ????

Research is also being carried out for the development of on line shopping for both the KickArts Shop and Gallery exhibition sales.

KickArts produced two Christmas Cards featuring the work of Edward Koumans ('V.W. Angel') and Sam Tupou ('Plastic Christmas'). 1000 cards were printed and 300 were sold. We plan to produce a couple of new cards each year featuring artworks by local artists which will allow us to build up a selection for people to choose from.

Shop Marketing and Promotion

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KickArts has put in place some specific marketing activities to promote the KickArts Shop. These have resulted in exposure in Your Home and InsideOut magazine, a regular artist's feature on the flip side of our 'What's On' DL card, and advertising through the Cairns Sun, the Pink Guide, City Life, and Win Television.

## 5. Venue Hire

KickArts has hired the galleries and studio space to corporate and community organisations but is limited in the extent that the spaces can be hired due to the programming of exhibitions and the studio.

The galleries currently do not offer very good acoustics thus are loud when a group of people start communicating. They do however offer organisations who host special events a unique, contemporary experience with constantly changing exhibitions and no requirement for theming with traditional commercial knick knackery.

On 7 December 2004 all CoCA Stakeholders met with Liquid Catering to brainstorm cross marketing opportunities in 2005 and review the activities of the past year. Marketing CoCA as a destination in the Conference, Tourism and Corporate sectors was identified as a major strategic initiative for 2005. However it was noted that these markets required long lead times and consistency of available "product".

## 6. Statistical Report

<b>Annual Program Summary</b>		
Number of exhibitions		10
Number of exhibition days		350
Number of publications		7
Number of lectures, seminars, conferences		2
Number of workshops		53
<b>Audience Attendance Summary</b>		
Paid Attendances (regional)	self-entrepreneuried	50
Paid Attendances (interstate)	self-entrepreneuried	4
<b>TOTAL PAID ATTENDANCES</b>		<b>54</b>
Unpaid Attendances	metropolitan	1624
	regional state	7702
	interstate	1619
	international	1658
<b>TOTAL UNPAID ATTENDANCES</b>		<b>13,093</b>
Participants	metropolitan	36
	regional state	145
	interstate	57
	international	2
<b>TOTAL PARTICIPANTS</b>		<b>204</b>
<b>SUBSCRIBERS KICKARTS INSIDERS</b>	metropolitan	1
	regional state	202
	interstate	9
	international	9
	Outreach	3
	Corporate and Associate Members	3
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS</b>		<b>217</b>

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## 7. Supporters

Corporate sponsors and Partners bring support to KickArts in many ways, building on the experience our patrons have when they attend a KickArts event and allowing the program to be extended. Their generous support assists us to include more artists and arts workers, with catering for openings (which is always a crowd pleaser and encourages people to stay longer), with broader marketing opportunities and by making our facilities function more productively and professionally. In kind support is always easier to secure but this does not diminish the generosity that comes with it as all these contributions combined have supported the success of KickArts.

### 7.1. Funding Partners

KickArts has been generously support by Arts Queensland and the Australia Council through the Visual Arts and Crafts Fund through their triennial funding program in return for KickArts delivering a diverse contemporary arts program for the Tropical North Queensland region. Without this ongoing support it would be impossible for KickArts to plan and develop programs and seek out other funding partners. For this support KickArts is extremely grateful.

In 2005 KickArts has also received financial support from:

- Festival Cairns through Advertising
- Regional Galleries Association Queensland for professional development
- Bolton In Print
- Brian Tucker CPA

In 2005 KickArts has also received sponsorship support from:

- Liquid Café & Bar for openings and events, Dulux, Seafood on the Table, My Family Butcher, Cairns Drawing Supplies, Reef Magic, Biscotti, Perotta's, Mangostin's, and The Edge Gourmet Fruit and Veg Café.

### 7.2. Volunteers

KickArts has evolved and developed from the support, services and expertise of volunteers and their on going support to contemporary arts. Without volunteers KickArts would not be where it is today and once again we see many, many individuals come forward and generously offer their time and professional skill to assist with our program.

The 2005 KickArts Volunteer program has been very successful with Janette Laver developing a program for volunteers to assist them in the successful delivery of the KickArts program. A substantial amount of resources is required to run a successful volunteer program that provides the volunteers with valuable outcomes whilst assisting the organisation. Volunteers come and go as they secure employment or family matters take them away, resulting in an ongoing drive and training of new volunteers.

2005 Volunteers

**Malachi Aird Emma Brown Delphi Bryant Deborah Buck David Campbell Nat Childs Deb Clark Gabrielle Cooney James Crawford Geoff Dixon Lina Fidanza Danka Fischer Paul Gamant Lucy Hutchinson Robert Jensen Andy Kitson Maggie May Simon Poole Marian Rodda Paloma Ramos Alice O'Connell Clare O'Connell Daniel O'Connell Sam O'Connell Anna Schallofer Nick Shields Joy Stewart Michelle Sheppard Rosalie Shepard Melissa Waters Belinda Warfield Rebecca Youdell**

### 7.3. KickArts Board of Directors

KickArts Board of Directors consists of 11 Directors that bring a wealth of experience and expertise from a broad range of professions and industries. The Board of Directors employs a Director who does not sit on the Board of Directors but is delegated with the responsibility to develop, manage and oversee the artistic and business programs of the organisation. The Board of Directors supports the strategic and financial operations of the

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company by providing business and industry expertise and fundraising support. They do not play a role in the artistic direction of the company. The Director reports to the Board of Directors and is answerable to the Chair.

The KickArts Chair and the employed Director sit on the CoCA Board of Directors which also comprises the JUTE Chair and Artistic Director along with three independent members of the community. This company manages and oversees the strategic operations of the CoCA building along with a Patrons program, building maintenance, fundraising and sponsorship and the implementation of Stage 2 of CoCA. CoCA employs a CEO (who is also the Marketing Officer) and a Finance Manager who then services the needs of the two resident companies JUTE and KickArts. CoCA is funded by Arts Queensland and from a saving on the rent in our first year of operations funds were put aside for technical assistance for JUTE, KickArts and CoCA. CoCA does not run a creative program but services the needs of the building and its tenants.

The KickArts Board of Directors' primary role is to support and direct the strategic, financial and corporate operations of the company. The Board is made up of Business and Industry leaders, Professional Artists and expert members that collectively direct the company to fulfill its mission:

*'To be a catalyst that facilitates and promotes contemporary arts extending the experience and cultural life of Tropical North Queensland.'*

Their commitment and support are evident in the success of KickArts over 2005, in achieving its goals and moving forward to set new goals for the future.

## **Mike FORDHAM - Chair**

Manager Indigenous Coordination Centre Coffs Harbour 2004/05 and currently now Manager for far north Queensland. A long-term resident of Cairns and FNQ and Chair of KickArts for the past 4 years, Mike is committed to the social and economic development of the region, and sees KickArts and CoCA having a central role in this development. He is particularly committed to supporting and 'bringing to life' the exceptional talents we have in the Indigenous artists of the region. In his previous role as General Manager of the Torres Strait Regional Authority Mike has worked closely with KickArts to present Showing Off # 1 and # 2, exhibitions of recent works from artists living and working in the Torres Strait, with the latter touring to Melbourne at the end of 2002. He is a strong leader with commitment and vision for the future.

## **Jenni LE COMTE - Secretary**

Jenni has a broad and varied working background in the private and public sectors as well as having worked, lived and travelled for more than 11 years overseas. Several of these years were spent working for the Australian Trade Commission in Australia and Italy.

As a result of this exposure, she has developed some foreign language proficiency in German, Italian, French and Spanish to varying degrees! Currently teaching German and Italian at the Cairns School of Distance Education, her interpersonal communication skills are extremely good and she works with people of all ages and walks of life. As the former Sales and Marketing Director of Wild Lime Media for 4 years, she has helped to create a network of over 400 clients and a successful small business in Cairns. After 8 years in Cairns she is well integrated into the community and has already made a significant contribution to the community via the support she has given to KickArts.

## **Professor Scott BOWMAN**

Professor, Vice-Chancellor James Cook University Cairns and Academic Planning and Development. Born in the United Kingdom and graduating from the Northampton School of Radiography in 1983, Scott completed a PhD from the Open University of the UK in 1999. He emigrated to Australia in 1998 to take the position as Associate Professor and Head of the School of Medical Radiation Science at Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga. He went on to become the Foundation Head of the School of Clinical Sciences at Charles Sturt. In 2001 he took his current position at JCU Cairns. Scott has played a significant role in developing the Bachelor of Creative Industries and its launch in 2005.

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## **Brian ROBINSON**

Curator, Cairns Regional Gallery and member of the Community Advisory Board of the Faculty of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies at the Tropical North Queensland Institute of TAFE and appointed by the Queensland Government to the Board of Trustees of the Queensland Art Gallery in July 1999, making him the youngest member and the first Torres Strait Islander on the governing body of Queensland's premier visual arts organisation. Brian is a practicing professional artist and many of his public art works can be viewed throughout Cairns, with his most prominent being situated at the Cairns Esplanade Lagoon. Brian brings to the Board experience with curatorial and artistic practice having spent the last 8 1/2 years with Cairns Regional Gallery and the past 12 years practicing as professional Indigenous Australian Artist. Brian contributes his experience and expertise as a successful artist and creative industry leader.

## **Margaret GENEVER**

Lecturer at James Cook University and a practicing contemporary artist. Margaret has undertaken extensive academic research and art practice on contemporary relations between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. She is currently enrolled in a PhD program where her subject of research is Goya's social justice legacy for contemporary artists. Margaret too was fundamental to the development of the Bachelor of Creative Industries and has gone on to be the managing coordinator of this course for 2006.

## **Robin MAXWELL**

Robin has a strong background in business, running a successful restaurant for 13 years, operating a general store and establishing a car hire and boat charter operation along with managing and opening a chain of men's wear stores in Melbourne. Robin is now well placed as Economic Development Manager with the Torres Strait Regional Authority. In this role she has developed projects that are empowering communities to develop business opportunities and has worked with the committed team to establish the Gab Titui Cultural Centre on Thursday Island in the Torres Strait. Robin was also successful in her role as Deputy Mayor of Cook Shire Council to secure major funding to refurbish the James Cook historical museum and to establish what is now known as Nature's Powerhouse situated in the Cooktown botanical gardens. Robin's extensive networks within business, industry and government have provided KickArts with extensive support and direction.

## **Bill MORGAN**

Principal of William H Morgan CPA, Bill is a Chartered Accountant with a focus on pro-active business and tax planning, servicing small and medium businesses and associations. Treasurer of KickArts since 2001, Bill's continued contribution is invaluable. He serves as the inaugural Secretary for the Centre of Contemporary Arts (CoCA). Bill has also been a valuable member of the KickArts Management Committee and the Board of Directors, keeping us on track financially.

## **Roland NANCARROW**

Practicing professional contemporary Artist and arts educator with extensive experience practicing as a professional Artist. Roland has a successful travelling survey exhibition of his sculptural works from the past 10 years on tour and has numerous public art commissions across Queensland. As an artist of long standing Roland brings a wealth of experience in the arts industries and is a great networker for KickArts and the arts in Cairns generally.

## **Andrew PROWSE**

Landscape Architect and principal of JNP Pawsey & Prowse. Andrew has been responsible for the Master Planning of Townsville's three Botanic Gardens and has had his work recognised on State, National and International levels and listed by the United Nations as an example of international Best Practice. With an acute business acumen Andrew has provided valuable business connections for KickArts.

## **Linda JOHNSTON**

Linda's expertise includes provision of legal services pertaining to Industrial Law, Anti-Discrimination, Succession, Family Law, Litigation and Commercial Law. Linda has lived and worked in Cairns for the past 20 years and has

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developed an in-depth knowledge of local and regional issues. Linda was an active member of the Manoora Community Focus group, working with fellow residents towards community development and stewardship through programs focusing on employment and training for young Indigenous persons, community renewal and cultural awareness projects.

The breadth of Linda's work within both commercial and government sectors has also enabled her to build an exceptionally strong network made up of business identities, Indigenous groups, community leaders, government representatives and fellow professionals. New to the board Linda has already provided valuable legal support and advice and has a genuine passion for art and helping others.

## **As of February replacing Tracy FANTIN – Formally Consulting Solicitor now Barrister**

Consultant to law firm Morrow Petersen Solicitors in Cairns, currently specialising in planning & environment, native title, employment and discrimination law. Tracy has been an active volunteer adviser and committee member of Cairns Community Legal Centre and Environmental Defenders Office. A keen supporter of contemporary and indigenous art in Tropical North Queensland, Tracy also provides advice and has presented seminars to artists and organisations on arts law related issues and was instrumental in helping to establish the monthly Arts Law advice service in Cairns. Tracy has served on the KickArts' management committee since 1998 and on the Board of Directors. She is a collector and true advocate for all artists and her contribution to KickArts has been heroic.

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## 8. Personnel

KickArts' employees are a team of creative individuals who collectively bring their skill and talent to develop and present a creative program and to develop and implement strategic creative business opportunities.

### **Rae O'CONNELL**

Rae is the director of House of Rae, an Arts Consulting practice of 16 years, with a back ground in textile design and public art. Rae has worked as a practicing artist focusing on public commissions and textile merchandise, managing public art projects across Tropical North Queensland and implementing the Cairns Base Hospital's Cultural Strategic plan and Art-in-Care Collection. Since arriving in Cairns 10 years ago Rae has been involved with KickArts as an artist, on the management committee, and as the KickArts Chair she was responsible in securing \$2.7M to develop the new Centre of Contemporary Arts with JUTE (Just Us Theatre Ensemble). Rae has been employed as KickArts Director since 2002 and is responsible for all operations of the organisation and has a passion for selling works of art.

### **Russell MILLEDGE**

Russell is the principal design artist and Co-director / founder of the contemporary art group Bonemap which has toured projects extensively throughout parts of Australia, Asia and the UK, since its inception in 1999, receiving numerous awards for significant contribution to performing arts, new media and visual arts. Russell is represented in the collections of Queensland Art Gallery, Cairns Regional Gallery and Cairns Convention Centre. He is a founding member of KickArts and has held numerous honorary positions with local, state and national service organisations and institutions as well as having been a teacher in the Visual Arts Department at TNQITAFE, the Creative Industries Faculty Queensland University of Technology and employee of The Australian Museum Sydney. Currently Russell is employed as KickArts Deputy Director and manages the exhibition program, graphic design and marketing. He is a committed arts practitioner and has been responsible for KickArts being presented as a vibrant and highly identifiable visual arts company.

### **Janette LAVER**

Janette has a Diploma in Visual Arts majoring in photography and a graduate diploma in Arts Management from Melbourne University. She has worked as a professional photographic printer at Astir Photography, Administrator Assistant at Savill Galleries, volunteered at Artary Project Space (artist run space) and Banyule City Council in their events and collection departments. Janette has been employed by KickArts since February 2004 and is responsible for management of the office, public programs, volunteers and our Insider program. Janette has an open, warm and welcoming attitude to all of the activities she conducts. She plays a vital role in the KickArts Shop and the vision for the future of the company.

### **Beverley MITCHELL**

Beverley has been employed as KickArts Shop Supervisor since June 2005. She has a Bachelor of Arts majoring in Aboriginal Linguistics from the University of Adelaide, with other studies in the areas of Art History and Theory, Interior Design and Small Business Management. She also has extensive work experience in retail and hospitality management. Beverley is responsible for Shop and exhibition sales, selecting and ordering stock for the Shop, visual merchandising, curating the Shop Feature Wall program, and the provision of a front of house information service for all visitors to the Centre of Contemporary Arts. She is particularly responsive to artists and their work and has worked intensively to support the professional development of all artists she works with. She has proven to be a valuable member of the KickArts team and supports many aspects of all programs and activities.

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9. Financial Statements – Audited Accounts  
To be inserted once accepted by KickArts Board of Directors.