

MEDIA RELEASE: 5 OCTOBER 2015

ART AND TEXT AT HEIDE

Since language was embraced as an artistic medium in its own right in the 1970s, artists have developed a range of creative processes that engage words, bringing into play their appearance, sounds and meanings. This summer Heide Museum of Modern Art presents three solo exhibitions by Australian artists for whom words, language and text are a particular focus.

Alex Selenitsch: LIFE/TEXT

24 October 2015 – 17 April 2016

Aleks Danko: My Fellow Aus-Tra-Aliens

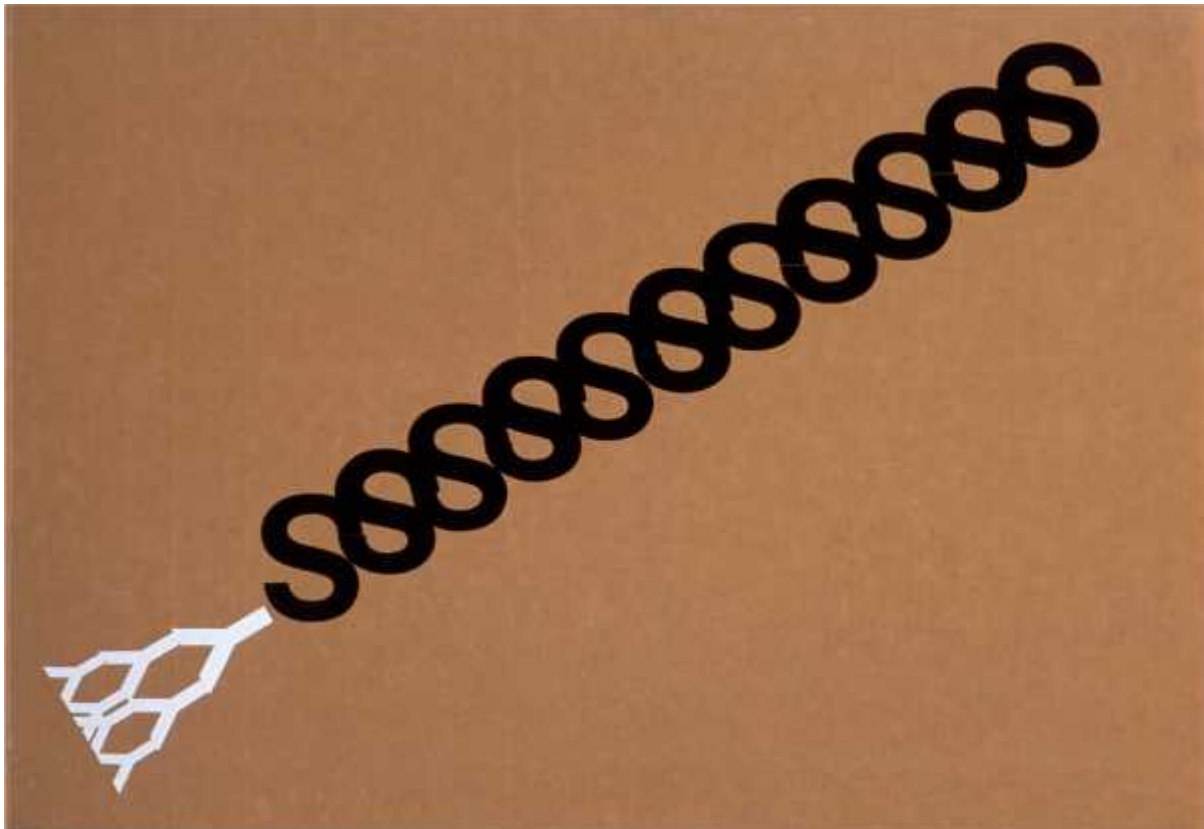
7 November 2015 – 21 February 2016

Mitch Cairns: The Reader's Voice

24 October 2015 – 21 February 2016

Alex Selenitsch: LIFE/TEXT

Poet, artist and architect **Alex Selenitsch** has a long connection to Heide as a direct result of his friendships with cultural figures Sweeney Reed, the adopted son of Heide founders John and Sunday Reed, and Barrett Reid, a writer and poet who was part of the artistic community nurtured by the Reeds at Heide. Sweeney's Strines Gallery was the venue for Selenitsch's debut exhibition of concrete poetry, the first showing in Australia of this new art form. Several of these important early 'visual poems'—as concrete poetry is also known—have been brought together for his first survey exhibition. They are displayed alongside works in a range of media from poem-prints to artist's books, collages and sculptures spanning fifty years of his practice.



Curator: Linda Short

MEDIA RELEASE

EXHIBITION

ALEX SELENITSCH: LIFE/TEXT

Saturday 24 October 2015 – Sunday 17 April 2016

Heide II

EXHIBITION TOURS

Every Thursday, 29 October – 26 November, 2pm

Sunday 8 November, 2pm

Volunteer Guide

FREE with admission

ART TALK

WITH ALEX SELENITSCH

Sunday 25 October, 2pm

FREE with admission

Venue Heide II

Aleks Danko: My Fellow Aus-Tra-Aliens

Aleks Danko uses language as the starting point for much of his work, transforming phrases, speech and rhymes into concrete form or rearticulating them through performance. His exhibition at Heide, also a five decade survey, brings together work from the time of his debut in the post-object movement of the late 1960s, through to his strongly conceptual installations of recent years. While Selenitsch spatially manipulates letters, words and objects to create an incisive, conceptual play between meaning and form, Danko uses word-play, including puns, double entendres and slogans, to highlight issues of social and political concern.



Curator: Lesley Harding with Glenn Barkley

Presented in association with the Museum of Contemporary Art

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EXHIBITION

ALEKS DANKO: MY FELLOW AUS-TRA-ALIENS

Saturday 7 November 2015 – Sunday 21 February 2016

Heide III: Central Galleries

EXHIBITION TOURS

Every Tuesday, 10 November – 24 November, 2pm

Sunday 22 November, 2pm

Volunteer Guide

FREE with admission

ART TALK

WITH ALEKS DANKO

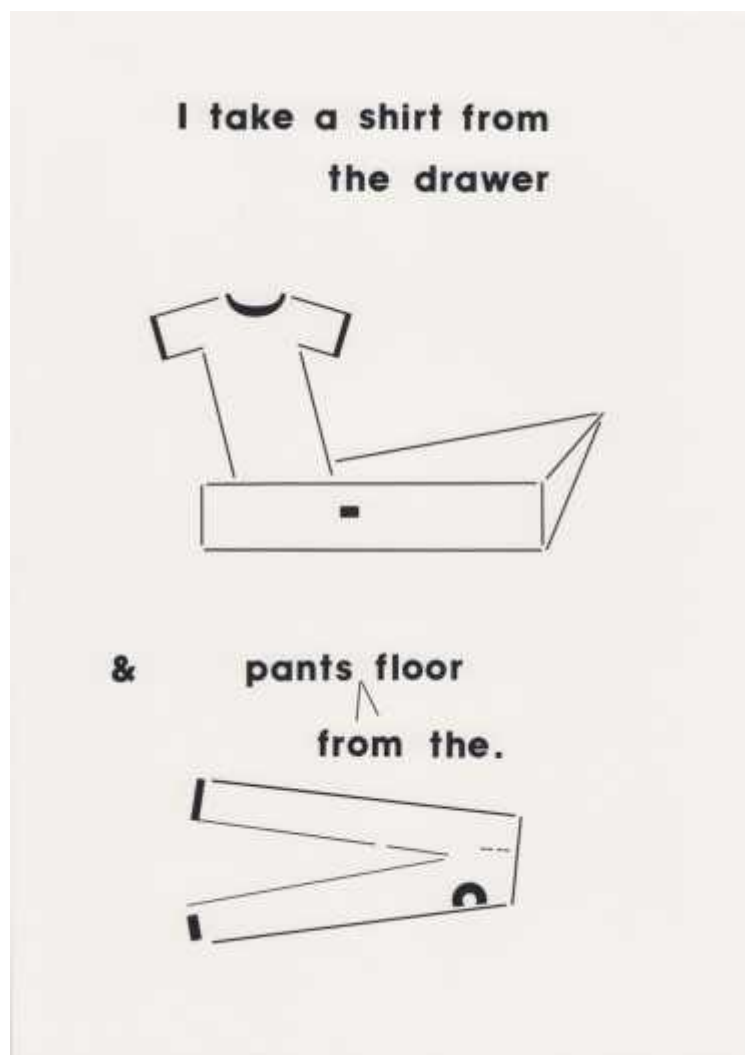
Saturday 7 November, 2pm

FREE with admission

Venue Heide III: Central Galleries

Mitch Cairns: The Reader's Voice

Mitch Cairns' collages lie somewhere between cartoons, writing, and concrete poetry. Inspired by all these forms, and by music, Cairns plays with thoughts, ideas and memories with great economy and wit, using the now-defunct Letraset, and Zazzle stickers of images from a personal archive. As with his painting, he imposes limits that paradoxically allow freer expression; for example using French, a language he doesn't speak, or letters to make images.



Curator: Linda Michael

MEDIA RELEASE

EXHIBITION

MITCH CAIRNS: THE READER'S VOICE

Saturday 24 October 2015 – Sunday 21 February 2016

Heide III: KERRY GARDNER & ANDREW MYER PROJECT
GALLERY

ART TALK

WITH MITCH CAIRNS

Sunday 25 October, 3pm

FREE with admission

All artists and curators are available for interview.

High res images are available upon request.

Images:

1. Alex Selenitsch, *Rainbow snake* 1988–89, vinyl on cardboard, 51.5 x 75.5 cm, Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne, Bequest of Barrett Reid 2000, © Alex Selenitsch
2. Aleks Danko, *“What are you doing boy?”* 1990–92, wood, paper, glass, synthetic polymer, steel, shellac and engraved Traffolyte, installation dimensions variable, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, purchased 1993, © the artist
3. Mitch Cairns, *Untitled* 2015, From the series *The Reader's Voice*, Letraset on paper, courtesy of the artist and The Commercial, Sydney

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Media Enquiries:

Sue Curwood | Marketing & Communications Manager | sue.curwood@heide.com.au | +61 (0) 3 8850 5943

Claire Miovich | Marketing & Communications Coordinator | claire.miovich@heide.com.au | +61 (0) 3 8850 5924

Heide Museum of Modern Art
7 Templestowe Road, Bulleen, VIC 3105

Tuesday-Sunday 10am-5pm.
Closed Mondays, except public holidays