Collected Collaborations
Redrawing Collective and OSW
4 August - 1 October 2011
INTRODUCTION

Collected Collaborations, initiated by the Artists’ Book Research Group, features propositional projects from the Redrawing Collective and OSW. Catalogue essayist Brad Haylock suggests that ‘In the present moment, we are witnessing an international surge in the popularity of artists’ books and independent publishing, a trend that fetishises printed matter and which is accordingly yielding a glut of uncritical and self-congratulatory titles’.

The Redrawing Collective (Ben Harper, Fiona Macdonald, Alex Martinis Roe, Thérèse Mastroiacovo and Spiros Panigirakis) focuses upon the artist’s book as a collective site of production and reception. The group examines and remodels the record of its past dialogues, creating a two-part book that is both a performative object and a platform for critical engagement.

OSW (Open Spatial Workshop) (Terri Bird, Bianca Hester and Scott Mitchell) presents an artist’s book that reframes the group’s archive, remodelled as an expanded diagram. The publication operates as a generative device that elaborates connections within OSW’s research into spatial practices and the politics of movement.

Grounded in the two collectives’ respective practices, the two projects in Collected Collaborations encourage us to interrogate the popularity and fetishisation of the artist’s book, to ask the question ‘why publish?’, and to proceed in the making and the reception of artists’ books with a critical eye.

EXHIBITION DATES

4 August - 1 October 2011
Opening function: Saturday 13 August 2011 3-5pm.
With opening remarks at 4.00pm by Shane Carmody, Director, Collections and Access, State Library of Victoria.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

OSW discuss Collected Collaborations, introduced by Brad Haylock
Tuesday 13 September 12.30-1.30pm
Monash University Museum of Art, Caulfield Campus

Redrawing Collective discuss Collected Collaborations, introduced by Brad Haylock
Tuesday 20 September 12.30-1.30pm
Monash University Museum of Art, Caulfield Campus

All events free entry. Bookings essential: muma@monash.edu or 03 9905 4217.

For further details and additional public programs see www.monash.edu.au/muma/events
ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

The Redrawing Collective (Ben Harper, Fiona Macdonald, Alex Martinis Roe, Thérèse Mastroiacovo and Spiros Panagirakis) has been working since 2005 developing conversations, prototypes, and collective critiques as models for a set of ongoing practices of translation and remediation. The Redrawing exhibition (Project Space/Spare Room, RMIT University, Melbourne, and CAST, Hobart, 2008) brought together the group’s activities in the form of essays, drawings, performances, recordings, furniture, diagrams, interviews and an artists’ convention. Now, for this exhibition these works are revised around questions of collaboration and communicability through a collective examination of the artist’s book as a site of production.

OSW (Terri Bird, Bianca Hester and Scott Mitchell) has been collaborating since 2002. Projects emerge from a shared interest in spatiality and temporality, and their connections to movement, duration and the production of new configurations and understandings of site and its inhabitation. Initial events at CLUBSproject, Melbourne, included CLUBS-tennis and Fish-time, both 2003. This was followed by Active-air (Ocular Lab, Melbourne, 2005), and Race against time for Resistance is Futile, curated by Kim Donaldson (VCA Margaret Lawrence Gallery, Melbourne, 2006). The video and installation Diagram of Relations was developed for workshop.nonstop, curated by Lisa Kelly (Loose Gallery, Sydney, 2007). This was the first exploration of the accumulating archive/diagram that tracks the progression of events, exhibitions and public projects, as well as related conceptual tangents and peripheral activities – the basis for the current project, BIG LOG. In 2005, OSW won the inaugural Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture for its propositional work Groundings. Other public proposals include Landings shortlisted for Victoria Green, Docklands. An interest in working with the relationships between practices of art, sites of its production, presentation and reception led OSW to stage the west Brunswick Sculpture Triennial [wBST] in 2009. This was a multifaceted event dispersed across five sites, involving 24 local and interstate artists, together with film and sound contributions from many more.

MEDIA

For all media enquiries please contact Rosemary Forde on 03 9905 4360 or rosemary.forde@monash.edu

Caption: Thérèse Mastroiacovo, Redrawing: essays, extracts, remediations, spectograms, connectors, covers, and wrapping, compiled with labour and by mechanical and technological reproduction for potential recombination and deferred intention, 2005-2011 graphite on paper (detail of cover) courtesy of the artist