RICHARD LEWER
NOBODY LIKES A SHOW OFF
MEDIA KIT

MONASH UNIVERSITY MUSEUM OF ART
1 JULY – 5 SEPTEMBER 2009
CURATOR: KIRRILY HAMMOND
RICHARD LEWER: NOBODY LIKE A SHOW OFF

Monash University Museum of Art
MUMA
Ground Floor, Building 55
Monash University, Clayton Campus
Wellington Road, Clayton
Postal: Monash University VIC 3800
Melbourne, Australia
Tuesday to Friday 10am-5pm
Saturday 2-5pm
T: 61 3 9905 4217
E: muma@adm.monash.edu.au
www.monash.edu.au/muma
Free entry

Above: Richard Lewer, True Stories / Australian Crime: Installation – detail block projects 2008 enamel on acoustic board

Left: Richard Lewer, True stories – Australian crime: Walsh St 2008 enamel on acoustic board
Collection of Ken and Lisa Fehily, Melbourne
Introduction
Continuing MUMA’s ongoing series of survey exhibitions focusing upon the work of significant mid-career artists (David Noonan 2005; Angela Brennan 2006; Brook Andrew 2007; Diena Georgetti 2008), Monash University Museum of Art is pleased to present a survey of Melbourne-based, New Zealand artist, Richard Lewer.

Richard Lewer: Nobody likes a show off covers the scope of this artist’s practice, encompassing painting, drawing, animation, installation and performance. Marked by a sceptical humour and a focus upon the darker sides of human behaviour, place and social identity, Lewer’s work involves close observation and highly subjective encounters with family, religious, sport and criminal subjects, leading to insightful and absurd narrative reflections on good and evil, life and mortality. This survey exhibition will feature keys works from public and private collections in Australia and New Zealand.

Opening Function
Saturday 18 July, 3-5pm
Monash University Museum of Art, Clayton Campus
With opening welcome at 3:45pm by Alex Baker, Senior Curator of Contemporary Art, National Gallery of Victoria

Catalogue
A 60 page colour catalogue will be produced for Richard Lewer: Nobody likes show off featuring an overview of Lewer’s work and texts by exhibition curator Kirrily Hammond, Peter Simpson, Glenn Barkley, The Prezz (David Richards) and Dr Kyla McFarlane.

Media Contact
For further information or image requests please contact Danny Lacy, Program Administrator
03 99051618 or danny.lacy@adm.monash.edu.au
Richard Lewer

Richard Lewer is a Melbourne-based artist who was born in New Zealand in 1970, relocating to Melbourne in 1996. His practice encompasses a broad range of media including painting, drawing, animation, video and performance. He has exhibited regularly in Australia and New Zealand since 2001 and was recently awarded both the Colin McCahon House Residency, French Bay, Titirangi, New Zealand in 2008, and the prestigious Wallace Art Award, which provides the artist with a six month residency in New York in 2010.

Lewer holds a Bachelor of Fine Art from Elam School of Fine Arts, Auckland University, and a Master of Fine Arts from the Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne. He was a finalist in the 2008 Basil Sellers Art Prize, Ian Potter Museum of Art, Melbourne, and has been a previous finalist in the Waikato Contemporary Art Awards and the Wallace Art Awards in New Zealand.

Lewer has been artist in residence at Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces, Melbourne (2007); the Department of Drawing, Victoria College of the Arts, Melbourne (2007); St Vincent’s Hospital, Melbourne (2006) and the Victoria Institute of Sports, Melbourne (2005). Lewer has returned to Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces, holding a studio until 2010.

Recent solo exhibitions include True Stories – Australian Crime, Block Projects, Melbourne 2008; As I Stepped out into the Bright Sunlight, Orexart, Auckland 2007; Richard Lewer: Get Well, Damian Minton Gallery, Sydney, 2007; It’s starts as an idle thought and grows into an obsession, National Art School Gallery, Sydney, 2007; Get Well, Orexart, Auckland, New Zealand, 2006; It used to be so good; Richard Lewer, Mark Hutchins Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand, 2005; Impending Doom, Orexart, Auckland, New Zealand, 2004; and Richard Lewer: Hits and Memories, Oedipus Rex Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand, 2003.


Lewer’s work is held in the Monash University Collection, as well as collections of the National Gallery of Victoria, the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, the Waikato Museum Collection, the University of Auckland, University of Waikato, Victoria University, Waikato Art Society, The James Wallace Trust, Art Bank Collection and various private collections in Australia and internationally.
Above: Richard Lewer, Stations of the cross 2008
enamel on found framed reproductions of paintings on board
Monash University Collection. Purchased 2009
14 works, as follows:

1. Jesus is condemned to death 2008
57.1 x 44.2 cm (framed)

2. Jesus receives the cross 2008
38.1 x 31.0 cm (framed)

3. Jesus falls for the first time 2008
44.0 x 31.4 cm (framed)

4. Jesus is met by his blessed mother 2008
54.0 x 43.8 cm (framed)

5. The cross is laid upon Simon of Cyrene 2008
43.9 x 35.0 cm (framed)

6. Veronica wipes the face of Jesus 2008
80.1 x 62.0 cm (framed)

7. Jesus falls the second time 2008
46.5 x 36.2 cm (framed)

8. The woman of Jerusalem mourn of our lord 2008
68.5 x 58.4 cm (framed)

9. Jesus falls the third time 2008
67.2 x 53.4 cm (framed)

10. Jesus is stripped of his garments 2008
70.0 x 49.0 cm (framed)

11. Jesus is nailed to the cross 2008
130.4 x 70.0 cm (framed)

12. Jesus dies on the cross 2008
72.0 x 66.2 cm (framed)

13. Jesus is taken down from the cross 2008
59.2 x 47.4 cm (framed)

14. Jesus is laid in the sepulchre 2008
88.5 x 43.5 cm (framed)
Above: Richard Lewer, Mike, Jeremy, Pat, Max and me playing table-tennis in Mike’s shed 2008 synthetic polymer paint on billiard table cloth Artbank Collection

Left: Richard Lewer, Best Tackler 2005 (from the series It used to be so good), watercolour and PVA glue on canvas. Collection of the Vela Family Trust, Hamilton. Courtesy of Oedipus Rex Gallery, Auckland

RICHARD LEWER: NOBODY LIKE A SHOW OFF

Exhibition Dates:
Monash University Museum of Art
1 July – 5 September 2009

Monash University Museum of Art
MUMA
Ground Floor, Building 55
Monash University, Clayton Campus
Wellington Road, Clayton
Postal: Monash University VIC 3800
Melbourne, Australia
Tuesday to Friday 10am-5pm
Saturday 2-5pm
T: 61 3 9905 4217
E: muma@adm.monash.edu.au
www.monash.edu.au/muma
Free entry