

RESEARCH STATEMENT

Original Creative Work

Citation: Holmes, Ashley, “Inverse Blink”

The “Inverse Blink” series of digital creative works consisted of 3 discreet works: “Wreck Conciliation”, “Inverse Aesthetic” and, “In-between the Primordial and the Latter”. They were exhibited in a regional survey entitled *Pacific Edge, contemporary art from coastal Queensland* from 8 September – 22 October 2006 at Artspace Mackay regional gallery. A catalogue was produced (ISBN: 0-9750157-7-x).

The work resulted from a combination of lens-based practice, interactive storytelling, computer programming and digital audio production. The display involved experimental use of technology designed for disabled persons. The content was presented via large wall-mounted screens. Each was surmounted with a camera aimed at the viewing space which monitored audience body movements. In this way the audience was afforded hands-free interaction with the content that was revealed as layers of movie-like audiovisual according to routines that were activated by their positions.

In the catalogue, Dr Sally Butler, Lecturer in Art History, University of Queensland wrote, “Ashley Holmes’ ‘nouveau romantic’ experimental films fuse themes concerned with natural environments, conservation and reconciliation into abstract, fragmented narratives that tell dis-articulated stories.” On significance of the research, in a solicited appraisal, Butler said the work uses “original taxonomy which spans experiential and interpreted data,” and makes “...an innovative contribution to software application development ... The hands-free technology he deploys demands of the exhibition viewer bodily engagement whilst also releasing them into social space. This complete break from the mouse and the keyboard may yet be realised as a viable norm for displaying interactive media in a public space.”

Author: Ashley Holmes

Date: 15/07/09