



Lens-based  
and new media art  
by Ashley Holmes

16 - 29 July 2011

Central Queensland Conservatorium of Music

Exhibition catalogue

## Artist Profile: Ashley Holmes PhD

Within a year of graduating with a BFA in photography and filmmaking from the South Australian School of Art Ashley had received a Visual Arts Board Development Grant, been represented in the 1981 survey "Re-constructed Vision: Contemporary work with photography" at the Art Gallery of New South Wales, exhibited at the Australian Centre for Photography in Paddington and in the inaugural Artist's Week pavilion at the 1982 Adelaide Festival of Arts.

Following this promising start, a twenty-year hiatus in his fine art career followed as he concentrated on commercial design and new media practice, founding the progressive and influential Adelaide-based studios Imagination and Futurewell. In 1995 Futurewell was appointed a preferred supplier to the Office of the Prime Minister. This was in recognition of the firm's contribution to reconciliation through mentoring young Indigenous artists with respect to commercial application of their creative skills.

Ashley resumed his fine art activities in 2000 focusing on Internet-based works and was recognised by selection for three international juried survey exhibitions in that year. This coincided with his return to academia.

In 2002 he moved to Mackay to take up a position as lecturer in Multimedia Studies with CQUniversity. In 2005 he was awarded a PhD by the University of South Australia in Visual Art: studio-based practice. His research theorised changes from analogue to digital lens-based practice and was accompanied by a web-based prototype of, what might in retrospect be considered, a social media application.

As Head of Program for the Bachelor of Multimedia Studies, Ashley successfully combines fine art practice, research and teaching in the School of Creative and Performing Arts. He says that each sphere of activity informs the others.

This exhibition is a mini retrospective incorporating samples of artwork exhibited since 2005 in regional survey exhibitions such as *Pacific Edge* and *Waters' Edge* together with recent un-shown works. "Affinity is a celebration of my feeling at home here in Mackay - familiar enough to be sympathetically concerned and partial enough to desire to reflect meaningfully about the many aspects to what this place is about." he says.

## Selected Exhibitions

2009 *Waters' Edge Creative Environments* touring exhibition documenting the outcomes of the workshops and installations from 2008: Cairns Regional Gallery 17 July - 30 August; Artspace Mackay 30 October - 13 December.

2008 *Waters' Edge Creative Environments* in collaboration with Ngaio Lenz and Tracey Heathwood - working with facilitator, Cairns-based artist, Jill Chism. Workshops and installations in National parks from Monday 4 August to Sunday 10 August, 2008 .

2006 "Inverse Blink" series of three 'hands-free' interactive multimedia installations in *Pacific Edge: contemporary art from coastal Queensland*, Artspace Mackay, 8 September - 22 October 2006.

2005 "In-between the Primordial and the Latter", 'hands-free' interactive multimedia installation at *Making Badlands* conference CQU Bundaberg, Dec.

2004 *The Four Elements of Apathy*, multimedia installation at Artspace Mackay 30 Dec 2003 - 24 Jan 2004, in collaboration with May-Britt Mosshammer & Martin Francis.

2002 "11th hour", (published under the screen alias 'spans'), *the digital pocket gallery*, a curator's pick for June 2002.

[http://www.ikatun.com/digitalpocketgallery/june\\_pocket\\_list.html#spans](http://www.ikatun.com/digitalpocketgallery/june_pocket_list.html#spans)

2001 "Freznel Lizard", (published under the screen alias 'spans'), *Post-Cagian Interactive Sounds* exhibition at the Machida City Museum of Graphic Arts, Tokyo.

2001 "Algorhythm", in collaboration with Matthew Hawker, *C-Theory Multimedia*, Issue 2, Spring 2001, *Tech Flesh* exhibition.

<http://ctheorymultimedia.cornell.edu/issue2/sequence.htm>

2001 "Algorhythm", in collaboration with Matthew Hawker, September 2001, *Java Museum, 1st of Java: Perspectives on New Media* exhibition. <http://www.javamuseum.de>

## Recent Publications

2010 "Cohesion, Adhesion and Incoherence: Magazine Production with a Flickr Special Interest Group" *M/C Journal* 13.1, March 2010. <http://journal.media-culture.org.au/index.php/mcjournal/article/viewArticle/210>

2009 *Haphazart! Contemporary Abstracts*, Issue 02, November 2009. Collaborative editorial work by Dom Ciancibelli, Ashley Holmes, Christian Kinzler, J Neuberger and Krystina Stimakovits featuring artists from the haphazart! Contemporary Abstracts group on flickr. Featured Artists: Ashley Holmes, Leonie Polah, Jane Underwood.

2009 "Artworld: Changing Gatekeepers?" in *Working Papers in Art and Design*, volume 5, University of Hertfordshire, 2009.

[http://sitem.herts.ac.uk/artdes\\_research/papers/wpades/vol5/ahabs.html](http://sitem.herts.ac.uk/artdes_research/papers/wpades/vol5/ahabs.html)

2008 "Syncretism in narrativity, visuality and tactility: a case study of information visualization concerning a news media event" in *Reconstruction* Vol. 8, No. 3, 2008. Ganz, A. & Khatib, L. (eds). Special issue entitled *Visualization and Narrative*.

<http://reconstruction.eserver.org/083/holmes.shtml>

2006 "Our place: in between the primordial and the latter" in *Transformations Journal*, September 2006. [http://www.transformationsjournal.org/journal/issue\\_13/article\\_03.shtml](http://www.transformationsjournal.org/journal/issue_13/article_03.shtml)

2006 "Reconciling experimentum and experientia: reflective practice research methodology for the creative industries" in *Speculation & Innovation: Applying Practice-Led Research in the Creative Industries*, Queensland University of Technology, August 2006

## Recent Grants and Commissions

2011 Mackay Base Hospital Redevelopment Public Art Project. One of five artists commissioned subsequent to concept design selection process.

2008 Funds from Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) and Queensland Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in collaboration with Jill Chism, Tracey Heathwood & Ngaio Lenz for workshops towards *Waters' Edge, creating environments*.

2005 Regional Center of the Arts (RCotA) fund, CQU: *Inverse Blink* project.



# Catalogue of works

## 1/ *Affinity set*



1a *Tree snake*, 2010

Multiple digital image synthesis. Giclee print 900mm x 345mm on stretched 100% cotton canvas



1b *Ulysses butterfly*, 2010

Multiple digital image synthesis. Giclee print 900mm x 345mm on stretched 100% cotton canvas

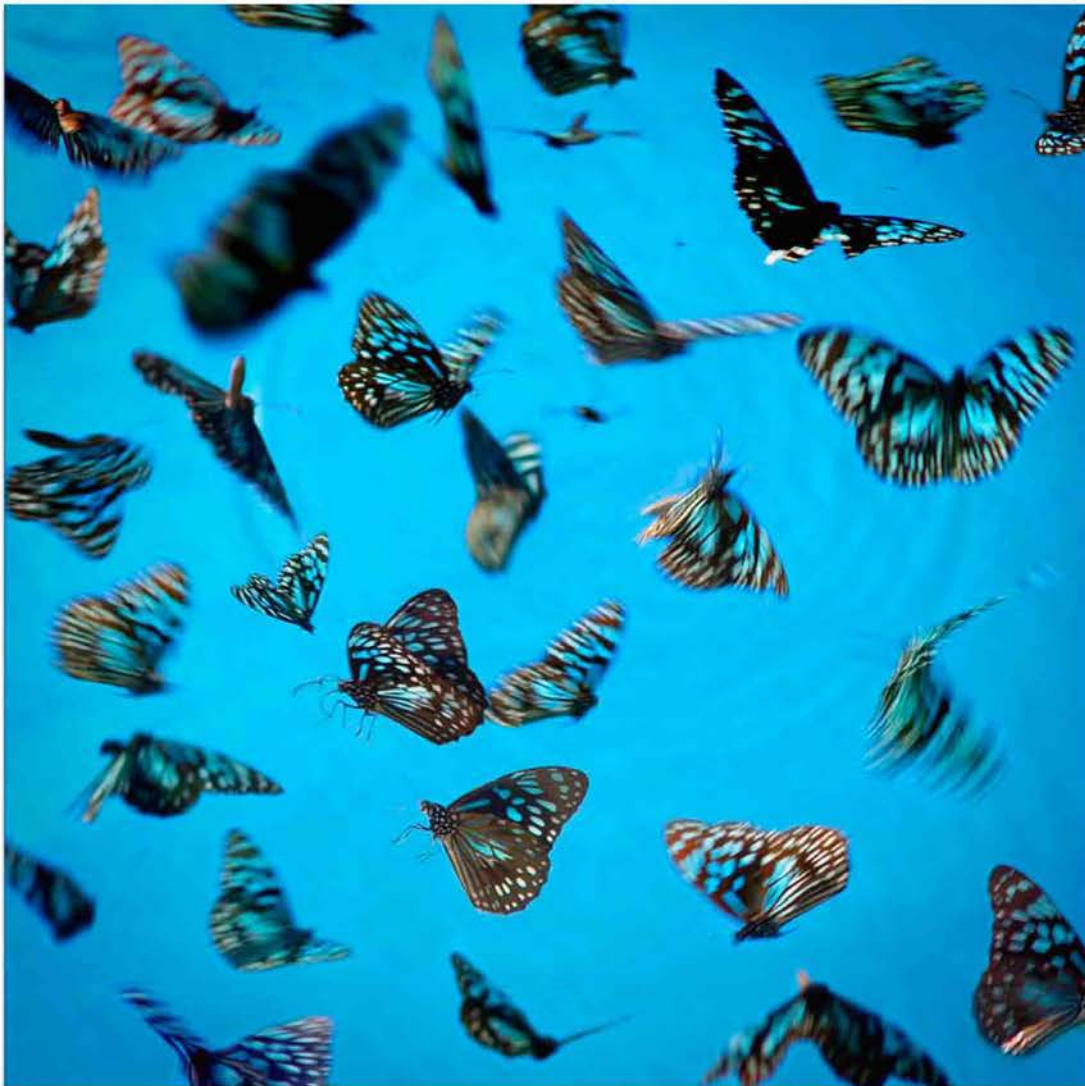


1c *Green frog*, 2010

Multiple digital image synthesis. Giclee print 900mm x 345mm on stretched 100% cotton canvas

These canvasses are offered, unframed, as a set for \$895.00 or \$350.00 each, being from a limited edition of 5 only.

## 2/ Social Butterflies 2010



Multiple digital image synthesis. Giclée print 600mm x 600mm on stretched 100% cotton canvas

This canvas is offered, unframed, at \$350.00, being from a limited edition of 5 only.  
(One sold as at 19/6/11)

## 3/ Documentation of *Inverse Blink* series of 'hands-free' interactive audiovisual displays at Artspace Mackay in 2005:

- *In-between the Primordial and the Latter*
- *Wreck Conciliation*
- *Inverse Aesthetic.*



Digital movie with sound projected onto wall, 13 minutes (looped).

The movie is not for sale.

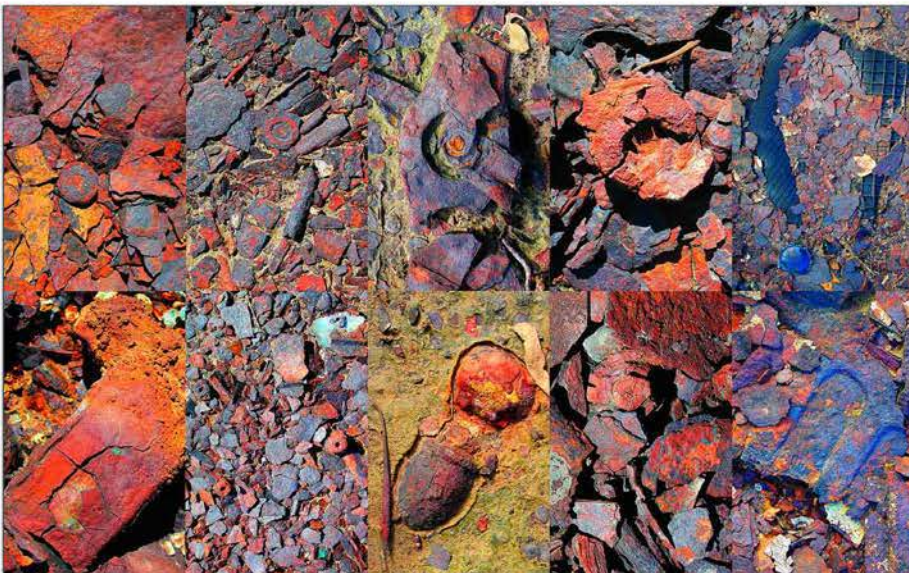


#### 4/ *Primordial and Postmordial Interfaces* set



4a *Primordial interface*, 2011

Multiple digital image synthesis. Still from *In between the primordial and the latter*, 2005. Giclee print 600mm x 375mm on stretched 100% cotton canvas



4b *Postmordial interface*, 2011

Multiple digital image synthesis. Still from *Wreck Conciliation*, 2005. Giclee print 600mm x 375mm on stretched 100% cotton canvas

These canvasses are offered unframed as a set for \$600.00, or \$350.00 each, being from a limited edition of 5 only.

#### 5/ *Ghosts of GMH*, 2011



Multiple digital image synthesis. Still from *Wreck Conciliation*, 2005. Giclee print 1200mm x 180mm on Museo Rag 300 gsm paper mounted on foam core and matted with 120 mm off-white matte

This image is offered unframed for \$250 being from a limited edition of 5 only.



## 6/ Waters' Edge new media works, 2009

These have toured regional Queensland as part of the group exhibition *Waters' Edge – creating environments*.



6a Don't go near the H2O 2009

Documentation of demountable installation at Broken River platypus lookout using solar cells and LED text scrollers, August 10, 2008. 1200mm x 840mm photo print flush mounted on custom board, beveled edge.

One only unique print offered at \$450.00 (artist to retain unlimited image publication rights).



6b Woodstock – forty years on 2009

5kg coal, 16 solar cells, 4 programmable scrolling text badges, USB cables, mounted on marine ply and finished with black lacquered frame 500mm x 740mm. Lyrics from the song "Woodstock" by Joni Mitchell, 1969. Silent. Requires 240v power outlet.

One-only unique artefact: \$1200

[illegible]

Patronage is a subtle form of domination thanks to the fact that it is not perceived as such. Forms of symbolic domination operate on the misrecognition, that is, with the complicity of those who are subjected to them. Even if it does nothing to describe facts and effects and bring mechanisms to light as those that create symbolic violence), scientific sociology has a critical effect. Therefore, the very existence of scientific sociology is unbearable. All authoritarian regimes suppress sociology from the outset. What the

7c *Symbolic Violence* 2008 [Bourdieu, P. with Haacke, H. 1995, *Free Exchange*, Stanford University Press]



## 8/ Subdued Palette set



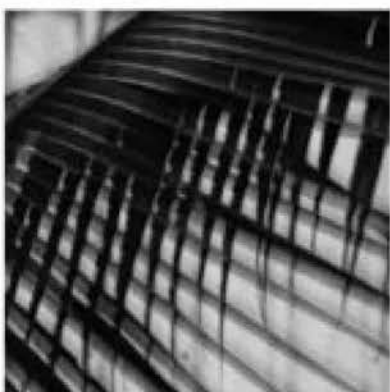
8a ColdClaws 2007



8b LiquidFrog 2010



8c 1939-45 2010



8d Striae15 2011



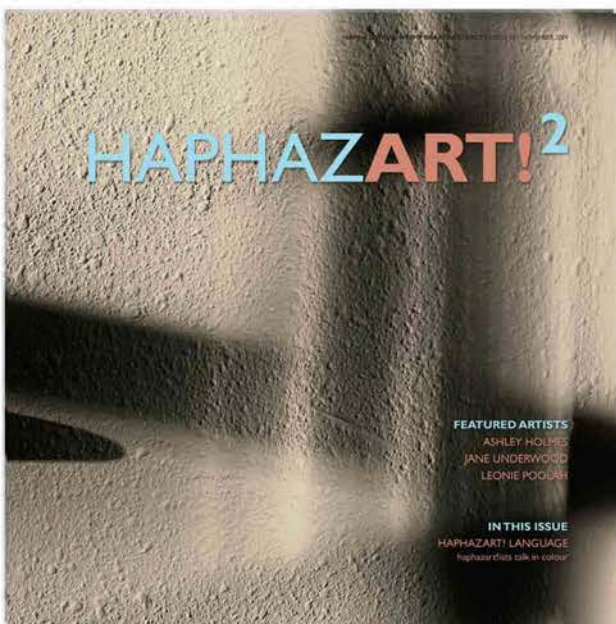
8e SubduedPalette 2010



8f Untitled 2009

These images are offered as Giclee prints, 170 x 170 mm on Museo Portfolio 300 gsm rag paper, mounted on foam core and matted with 70mm black border, unframed, for \$50.00 each.

## 9/ Haphazart<sup>2</sup>



*Haphazart! Contemporary Abstracts / Issue 02 / November 2009.* Collaborative editorial work by Ashley Holmes, Dom Ciancielli, Christian Kinzler, J Neuberger and Krystina Stimakovits featuring artists from the haphazart! Contemporary Abstracts group on flickr. Featured Artists: Ashley Holmes, Leonie Polah, Jane Underwood.

A copy of this publication is on display. Prints of images on pages 6 – 35 may be ordered from the artist. POA.