IAN GREIG Within the Light of Things

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1 – 24 May 2025 Opening Celebration & Drinks, Thursday 1 May, 5 – 7 pm

This exhibition is born out of lan Greig's recent move from Sydney to Corndale in the Northern Rivers region of NSW (Bundjalung Country), an area renowned for its natural beauty. Relocating from inner-west Sydney suburbia to a studio in the Byron hinterland rainforest had an immediate impact on his painting practice. This new body of work, *Within the Light of Things*, is a direct response to his new environment and the beauty, drama and sublimity of the surrounding landscape.

A unique characteristic of this region is the belief that it is charged with a seemingly palpable spiritual energy that extends from Wollumbin and permeates the caldera, coastline, hinterland and mountains. Greig has some sympathy with this view, having found that after the pace of urban life, being immersed in the spectacular presence of great nature and observing how the play of light on the physical world animates the things within it reminds him of the medieval aesthetic concept of *Pankalia* – the beauty of all things – where the natural world was recognised to be resplendent with a truth, beauty and goodness that was regarded as divine in origin.

Inspired by the metaphysical appeal of this concept, in these new paintings Greig depicts the landscape not in a conventional realist manner as it appears, but instead applies the visual language of abstraction to explore the world beyond appearances – the hidden realms where the physical intersects the metaphysical. The aim is to prompt a meditation on the sublime interconnectedness of everything in both an aesthetic and cosmological sense – a meditation on truth, goodness and beauty within the light of things.

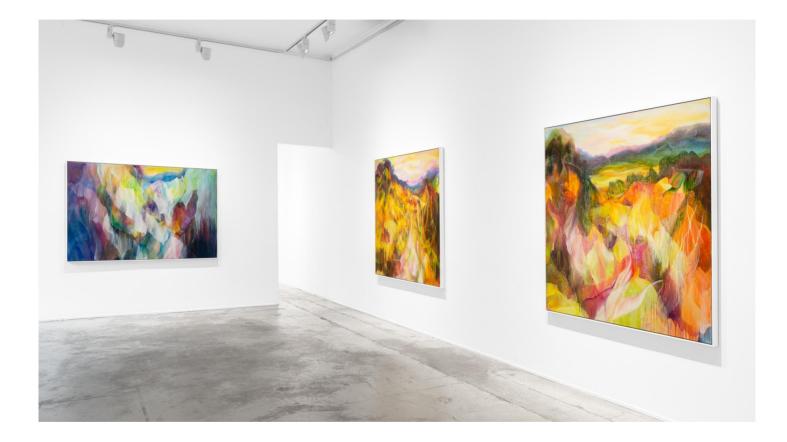
This exhibition marks a new direction in Greig's practice. He has always approached the act of painting as a kind of poetic gesture, a means of siphoning the aesthetic and spiritual currency of the world around him, which he has lately pursued through the language of lyrical abstraction. In this most recent body of work, inspired by the rich visual stimulation of his surroundings, he has incorporated into the abstract image a more distinctly recognisable reference to landscape. The addition of the everpresent horizon creates a separation between earth and sky and introduces a more tangible sense of place. He feels that combining the painterly effects of abstraction with the literal space of landscape enables him to respond more authentically to the emotional and evocative atmospheres that the everchanging moods of this environment inspires.

Surrounded by a changing backdrop of light, sky and earth, being in the presence of great nature and its creative energies initiates its own aesthetic response. In this new creative space, Greig's studio production on any given day simply begins with picking up a brush and making the first mark, whereupon his paintings become a product of process rather than planning. Relying on intuitive gestures and accidental painterly effects, he says the goal is to enter that elusive state of phenomenological flow in dialogue with the work itself, where chance and randomness can contribute to the outcome.

For an abstract painter the challenge is to find meaning in variations of form, rhythm and colour. It is Greig's hope that like a visual form of music these new paintings confront that challenge by seeking out the metaphysical cracks in meaning where that which is hidden might be revealed, a process wherein the fluctuating indiscernible energies operating within and around us can become apparent and the universal creative forces that underpin all reality might become manifest.

And while he admits such ambitions might sound rather grandiose (a not uncommon trait for artists), for Greig the philosophical question remains: is it possible for art to transcend a world increasingly clouded by impurity and pollution, conflict and delusion, and reveal the truth, goodness and beauty dwelling within the light of things?

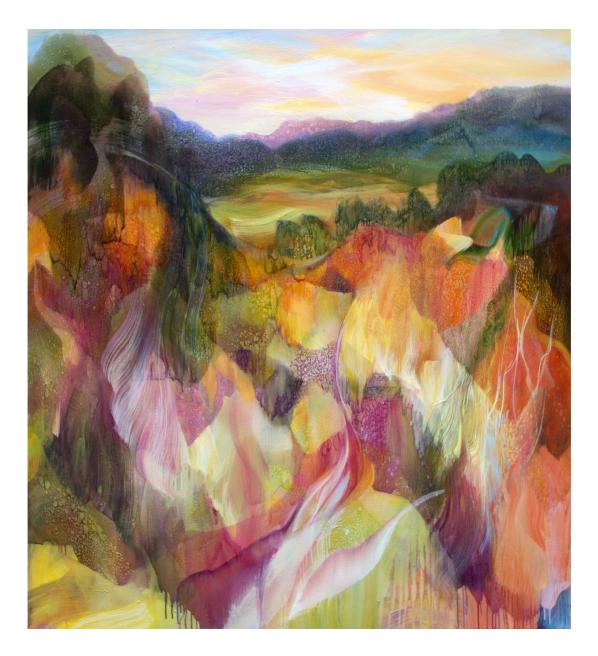
After graduating in 2002 from the South Australian School of Art with a PhD in aesthetics, Greig exhibited with galleries in Adelaide, Perth, Brisbane and Melbourne before joining Arthouse in 2007. He has participated in over fifty group shows and has been the finalist in various awards including the Fisher's Ghost Art Award (2024, 2021), Liverpool City Art Prize at the Casula Powerhouse (2007), ABN Amro Emerging Artist Award, Sydney and Melbourne (2005) and the Fleurieu Art Prize (2000, 1998) where he won the Nexus Fleurieu International Scholarship and undertook a residency at the Barcelona Institute of Art (2001). As an artist and academic, Greig was Head of Postgraduate Studies at the National Art School until his retirement from teaching in 2022. He is an accomplished writer and speaker and has given many public talks on the philosophy of art. His work is held in public and private collections in Australia, UK, Spain and Canada, including Artbank, Government House SA, and the University of South Australia.



Within the light of things oil on linen 113 x 173 cm (framed) \$12,500



Hinterland Dreaming 2 oil on linen 171 x 155.5 cm (framed) \$15,000



Silver mists of Corndale oil on linen 140 x 201 cm (framed) \$16,000



Bundjalung Country oil on linen 171 x 171 cm (framed) \$16,000



To the valley below oil on linen 114 x 170.5 cm (framed) \$12,500



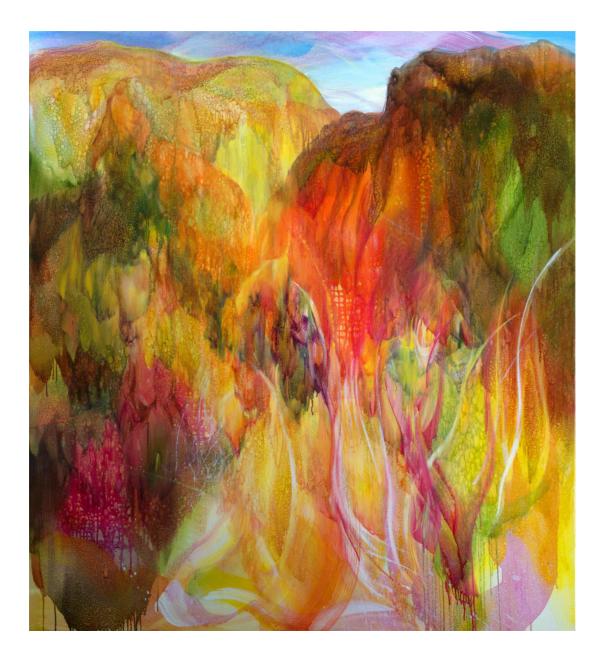
Where thoughts serenely sweet express oil on linen 170 x 170 cm (framed) \$16,000



The ghosts of Minyon Falls oil on canvas 103 x 143 cm (framed) \$10,500



Who comes not hither, never shall know oil on linen 170 x 156 cm (framed) \$15,000



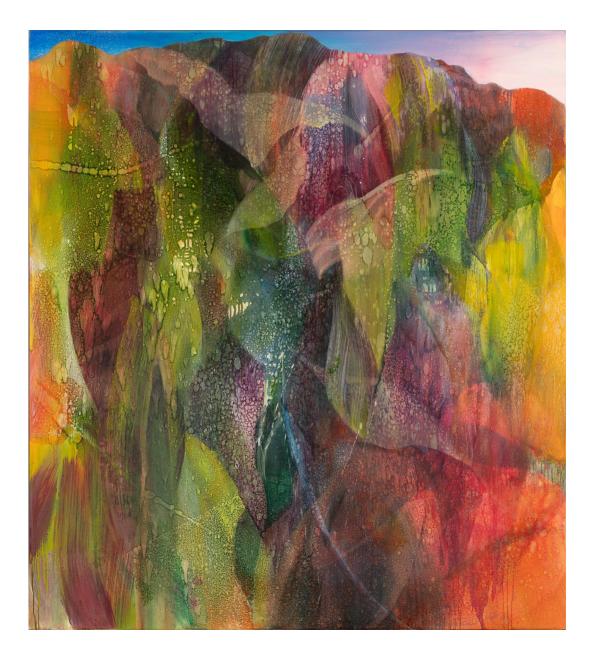
Lost in the humming air oil on linen 156 x 156 cm (framed) \$14,000



Hinterland Dreaming oil on linen 156 x 156 cm (framed) \$14,000



Of memories more true oil on linen 155 x 140 cm (framed) \$13,500



Golden morning, Corndale oil on linen 171.5 x 76.5 cm (framed) \$9,900

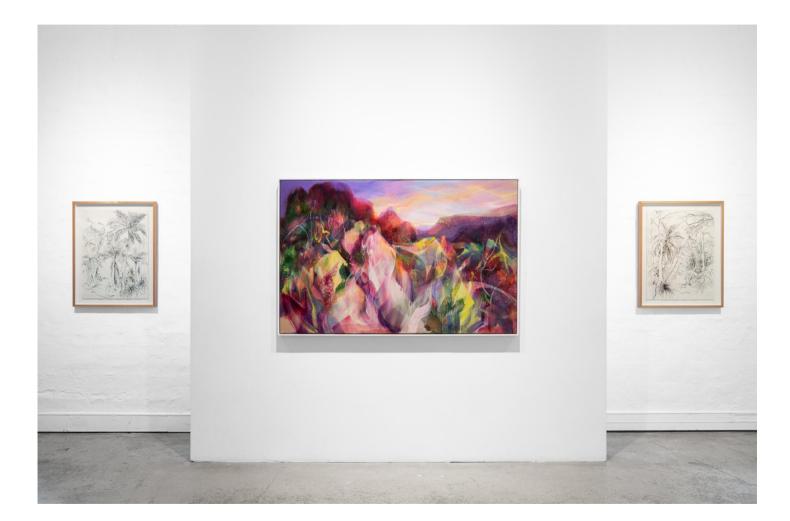


After the rain where the waters flow, among the green green hills oil on linen 105 x 105 cm (framed) \$9,500



To find that place again oil on linen 78 x 78 cm (framed) \$5,500





Coopers Shoot Moonrise ink on paper 125 x 95 cm (framed) \$4,900



Bangalow Moon II ink on paper 97 x 72 cm (framed) \$4,200



Strangers Creek Boronia Park ink on paper 76 x 56 cm, 86 x 66 cm (framed) \$4,200



Corndale ink on paper 76 x 56 cm, 86 x 66 cm (framed) \$4,200





Born 1952, Sydney, Australia

EDUCATION	
1998 – 2002	PhD, South Australian School of Art, University of South Australia, SA
1994 – 1997	Bachelor of Visual Arts (Honours), South Australian School of Art, SA
1992 – 1993	Studied Drawing, Painting and Printmaking, Canberra School of Art, ACT
TEACHING	
2013 – 2022	Postgraduate Coordinator, National Art School, Sydney, NSW
2010 – 2012	Lecturer in Art History, Theory & Postgraduate Research Methods, National Art School, Sydney
2004 – 2009	Postgraduate Lecturer, National Art School, Sydney, NSW
1998 – 2004	Lecturer in Painting and Drawing, South Australian School of Art, University of SA, Adelaide, SA

AWARDS, GRANTS & F	RESIDENCIES
2024	Fisher's Ghost Art Award, Campbelltown Arts Centre, NSW, Finalist
2022	Fisher's Ghost Art Award, Campbelltown Arts Centre, NSW, Finalist
2009	Stockland P/L Islands Fremantle Project, WA
2007	Liverpool City Art Prize, Casula Powerhouse, Sydney, NSW
2005	ABN Amro Award, Sydney NSW and Melbourne VIC, Finalist
2004	Helpmann Academy Project Assistance Grant, SA
2003	Helpmann Academy Project Assistance Grant, SA
2000	Artist in Residence, Drawing Studio, Barcelona Institute of Art, Barcelona, Spain
1999	Santos Whyalla Art Prize, SA
	Blackwood Art Prize, Blackwood, SA
1998	Fleurieu Biennale Nexus International Scholarship
	University of South Australia Medal
	University of South Australia Alumni Association Academic Achievement Award
	Chancellor's Award List & Dean's Award List for Academic Achievement, University of SA, Adelaide, SA
	University of South Australia Annual Art Purchase Prize
1997	Australian Postgraduate Award
	University of South Australia Tertiary Art Prize

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2025	'Within the Light of Things', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2021	'That which', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2019	'Not Fade Away', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2016	Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2011	Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2008	Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	Greenhill Galleries, Adelaide, SA
2007	Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	Greenhill Galleries, Perth, WA
2006	Mossgreen Gallery, Melbourne, VIC 2005
	Brian Moore Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	Greenhill Galleries, Perth, WA
2004	Greenhill Galleries, Adelaide, SA
	Greenhill Galleries, Perth, WA
2003	Smyrnios Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
2002	Greenhill Galleries, Adelaide, SA
2001	Greenhill Galleries, Adelaide, SA
	Recursive Symmetries, Nexus Gallery, Adelaide, SA
1999	Greenhill Galleries, Adelaide, SA
1998	Greenhill Galleries, Adelaide, SA

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 '30 Years of Arthouse', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2024 'Summer', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2023 'Paper & Clay', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2022 'Summer', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2021 'Coming Home', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2021 'Continuous Line', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2021 'The Nature of Things', Art Images Gallery, Adelaide, SA
 - '(Re)arrangements', Grace Cossington Smith Gallery, Sydney, NSW
 - 'Coming Home', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
 - 'Continuous Line', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
 - 'Summer Salon', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW

2020	'Renewal', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'In Colour', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2019	'Dimensions Variable' National Art School, Sydney, NSW
	'Reflections of a Fading Sky', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'Autumn', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2018	'Summer Salon', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'The Way You Came', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2017	'Under The Sun', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2016	'Under The Sun', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2015	'Unfolding Splendour', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2013	'In the Scheme of Things', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2012	'Under the Sun', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'Spring', Greenhill Galleries, Perth, WA
	'Artworks and Artwords', National Art School, Sydney, NSW
	'All Stars', Greenhill Galleries, Adelaide, SA
2011	'Abstractions and Impressions', Greenhill Galleries, Adelaide, SA
2010	'The View from Here V', Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
	'Squared', Greenhill Galleries, Perth, WA
	'Fresh', Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
2009	'Sketched', Greenhill Galleries, Perth, WA
	'Light and Water', Penny's Hill Gallery, McLaren Vale, SA
2008	Sydney Art Fair, Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'Squared', Greenhill Galleries, Perth, WA
2007	Sydney Art Fair, Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	Mossgreen Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
2006	'Drawcard', National Art School Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2005	Sydney Art Fair, Brian Moore Gallery, Sydney, NSW
	'Squared', Greenhill Galleries, Perth, WA
2004	'Isomeric', Light Square Gallery, Adelaide, SA
	Sydney Art Fair for Greenhill Galleries, Perth, WA
2004	Helpmann Academy, Maestros and Apprentices, Festival Centre, Adelaide, SA
2003	'Fresh Paint', Greenhill Galleries, Perth, WA
	'Elementals', Dridan Fine Arts, McLaren Vale, SA
	Members Exhibition, Contemporary Art Centre, Adelaide, SA

2002	'Black and White', Jackman Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
	SALA Week Exhibition, J111 Gallery, South Australian School of Art, SA
	'House', J111 Gallery, South Australian School of Art, Adelaide, SA
	'Show', Nexus Gallery, Adelaide, SA
1999	'20x20', Artspace, Adelaide & Robert Steele Gallery, Adelaide, SA
	'Migration', SALA Week Exhibition, Rowland Rees Gallery, Summertown, SA
1998	Helpmann Academy, Top of the Field, Gerard and Goodman, Adelaide, SA
	'Open Book, Artists Voice', Adelaide Fringe Festival, Hahndorf, Germany
	'Friends, Relatives, Lovers, Strangers', Nexus Gallery, Adelaide, SA
	Fleurieu Biennale, McLaren Vale, SA
1997	'Urban Identity', Nexus Gallery, Adelaide, SA
	'En Masse', Graduate Exhibition, South Australian School of Art, SA
	Hans Heysen Memorial Exhibition, Hahndorf Academy, Hahndorf, Germany
	Helpmann Academy, Maestros and Apprentices, Hilton Hotel, Adelaide, SA

SELECTED COLLECTIONS Artbank Country Arts SA Government House, SA University of South Australia Corporate and Private Collections in Australia, UK, Spain and Canada

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Andrew Starke, 'In Pursuit of the Sublime', Wall Street Journal, 3 Nov 2011 Brendan Foster, 'The Depth in Shifting Surfaces', Perth Voice, Mar 2007 Jeff Makin, 'Critic's Choice', Melbourne Herald-Sun, 16 Apr 2007 Kerry Coleman, 'Open Gallery', Sydney Morning Herald, 29-30 Sept 2007 Robert Nelson, "ABN Amro Gets the Hang of Being Young at Art", The Age, 17 Aug 2005 Linda Marie Walker, 'Unseen, All Too Visible', Real Time, No. 59, Feb-Mar 2004 Ewart Shaw, Interview, Radio Adelaide 5UV, 27 Mar 2004 Adam Dutkiewicz, 'Breaking the Abstract Mould', The Adelaide Advertiser, 17 Jul 2004 Chris Reid, 'Smart Art', Australian Art Collector, No.29, Jul-Sept 2004 David O'Brien, 'Contemporary Art Centre Members Show', dB Magazine, No.266, Jan 2002

James Moss, 'Unplugged - The Paintings of Ian Greig', Catalogue Essay, Sept 2002 Adam Dutkiewicz, 'Art of Science', The Adelaide Advertiser, 14 Oct 2002 Adam Dutkiewicz, 'Leading Shift in Concern', The Adelaide Advertiser, 11 Apr 2001 A.M. Adelaide, Interview, Channel 7 TV, 3 Aug 2001 Rebecca Johnston, 'Members Only', dB Magazine, No.187, Jan 1999 John Neylon, 'Prize Spotting', Adelaide Review, No.184, Jan 1999 Cath Kenneally, Interview, Radio Adelaide 5UV 'Arts Breakfast', 18 Sept 1999 Louise Nunn, 'Talent Reflected', The Adelaide Advertiser, 22 Sept 1999 Adam Dutkiewicz, 'Revealing Our Urban Identity', Adelaide Advertiser, 13 Feb 1998 Joanne Harris, 'Several Sights for Sore Eyes', The Adelaide Advertiser, 21 Feb 1998 Stateline, ABC TV, 27 Feb 1998 Sarah Thomas, 'Art Incentive to See the World', Adelaide Advertiser, 28 Feb 1998 Brett Buttfield, 'Various Artists', dB Magazine, No.165, Mar 1998 John Neylon, 'Value Adding', Adelaide Review, No.175, Apr 1998 Tim Lloyd, 'State Brushes With Fame', The Adelaide Advertiser, 17 Nov 1998 Giles Auty, 'Beyond Words', The Weekend Australian, 21-22 Nov 1998

PUBLICATIONS

BOOK CHAPTERS:

'Quantum Romanticism; The Aesthetics of the Sublime in David Bohm's Philosophy of Physics' in Whyte and Hoffmann (eds), Beyond the Finite. The Sublime in Art and Science, Berlin: Suhrkamp Verlag, 2010; and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011

[•]Quantenromantik: Die Ästhetik des Erhabenen in David Bohm's Philosophie der Physik,' in Whyte and Hoffmann (eds), Das Erhabene in Wissenschaft und Kunst. Über Vernunft und Einbildungskraft. Berlin: Suhrkamp Verlag, 2010 Essay: [•]Paint it Black: Art, Music and the Aesthetics of Synaesthesia', in Harding, L (ed), The Sound of Painting, Victorian Arts Centre, 2005 (ISBN 0 9757406 2 8)

ARTICLES:

'Studio Secrets', Australian Artist, Vol 18, No. 1, July 2001 (ISSN 0813-8095) PhD Thesis: 'The Aesthetics of the Sublime in Twentieth Century Physics', University of South Australia, 2002

CONFERENCE PAPERS

'Art, Knowledge and the Spiritual; a Hermeneutic Perspective', ACUADS, South Australian School of Art, University of South Australia, Adelaide, SA, September 2015

'Quantum Romanticism', Art Association of Australia & New Zealand, University of Sydney, NSW, Jul 2012

'Not Quite Artist, Not Quite Theorist', ACUADS, Griffith University, NSW, Oct 2009

'The Aesthetics of the Sublime in David Bohm's Philosophy of Physics', Art and Metaphysics Conference, International University

Bremen, Germany, 19 May 2006

'Quantum Physics and the Aesthetics of the Sublime', International Society for Literature, Science and the Arts, University of Texas, Austin, USA, 26 Oct 2003

'Quantum Theory & the Kantian Sublime', Australasian Association of Philosophy, Adelaide University, SA, 7 Jul 2003 'From representation to *poiesis*; a methodology', Divisional Forum, Faculty of Education, Arts and Social Sciences Annual Conference, University of South Australia, 2000.

PUBLIC TALKS

'Art, Science and the Spiritual: a Theory of Everything', Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW, 16 Feb 2019

'Art and Spirituality', Sukyo Mahikari Future Vision symposium, Sydney, NSW, 2 Jul 2014

'Art, Science and the Spiritual', Sukyo Mahikari Yoko Civilisation Research Institute, Australia-Oceania Region, Canberra, ACT, 10 Mar 2012

Art Forum Talk, National Art School, Sydney, NSW, 13 Sep 2006

'Art, Music and the Aesthetics of Synaesthesia', Victorian Arts Centre, Melbourne, VIC, 14 May 2005

'Science and Philosophy', Alliance Francaise, Sydney, SA, 23 Sep 2005

'Physics and Aesthetics', Adelaide Central School of Art, SA, Jun 2002

Annual Invited Artist Talks: ArtistSpeak Program, South Australian School of Art, Adelaide, SA

A R T H O U S E G A L L E R Y

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