



Linda Michael appointed curator of 2006 Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art

Linda Michael, a successful and well-respected art curator, editor and writer has been selected as Curator of the Art Gallery of South Australia's esteemed Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art for 2006.

The Adelaide Biennial began in 1990 and is the nation's pre-eminent survey of contemporary Australian art showcasing up-to-the-minute works by artists from around the country. For the 2006 Adelaide Biennial, "21st Century Modern", Ms Michael will create an exhibition that looks to the future and the past through contemporary Australian art influenced by modernist traditions.

"Modernism is being warmed up, given new life", said Linda Michael. "The work of many artists today is strongly influenced by their love of particular modern artists, or their experience of living with modern design. A positive or experimental approach to modern art in its myriad forms signals a shift away from the melancholic collapse of certainty that underpinned postmodern art", she said.

Ms Michael has undertaken numerous projects both nationally and internationally and has curated many major exhibitions including the 2001 Venice Biennale exhibition *We Are Family* by Patricia Piccinini. She has been a senior curator at Sydney's Museum of Contemporary Art (1989-2001) and at Monash University of Art, Melbourne (2001-2003). Ms Michael has also worked as curator for the Australian contribution to the Istanbul Biennial in 1997, and as Australian commissioner for Song of the Earth, Kassel, Germany in 2000. In recent years she has served on the Asialink Visual Art Committee, the Arts Victoria Arts Presentation Committee, and as a peer adviser for the Visual Arts/Craft Board, Australia Council.

"Our 2004 Adelaide Biennial *Contemporary photo-media* was an outstanding success and achieved record attendances", said the Art Gallery of South Australia's Manager of Exhibitions and Public Programs, **David O'Connor**. "We're very excited to have Linda Michael on board and look forward to working with her to create an extraordinary Biennial in 2006" he said.

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