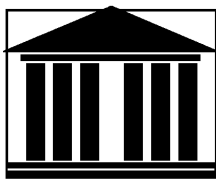


Media Release – Monday 11 September 2006

for immediate release



Felicity Fenner appointed curator of 2008 Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art

Director of the Art Gallery of South Australia, Christopher Menz, today announced the appointment of the Sydney-based curator and art writer, Felicity Fenner, as Curator of the Art Gallery of South Australia's 2008 Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art.

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 established and emerging artists from around the country. Under Ms Fenner's curatorship, the tenth Adelaide Biennial, to be called *Handle with Care*, will explore both in thematic content and in material form, the fragile nature of our relationships with the socio-cultural and natural environments in which we live, through a range of media from paintings to video art.

Felicity Fenner is currently Curator at Ivan Dougherty Gallery, College of Fine Arts at the University of New South Wales, Sydney. She also lectures into the College's Master of Art Administration programme and is Deputy Director of the Centre for Contemporary Art & Politics at UNSW.

"Contemporary Australian art is characterised by a self-assurance and assertiveness in the handling of sometimes delicate and potentially volatile subject matter" says Fenner, who hopes that the 2008 Adelaide Biennial will "entertain, stimulate and provide a meaningful and moving engagement with new work by Australian artists".

Since commencing her curatorial career in London in the late 1980s, Fenner has curated nearly thirty exhibitions in Australia as well as overseas, including *Primavera 2005* at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney. Her numerous catalogue essays, articles and reviews have appeared in major art and design publications both here and abroad. She is a contributing editor to the New York journal, *Art AsiaPacific* and is the Australia-based art critic for *Art in America* and *Aperture*.

"I am delighted that Felicity Fenner has agreed to curate the 2008 Adelaide Biennial for us" said Christopher Menz, "she is a curator renowned for making exhibitions that are visually exciting, thought-provoking and accessible to a broad audience, and we look forward to working with her on the next Adelaide Biennial" he said.

Ms Fenner will commence work immediately on the 2008 Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art, which will open to the public on 1 March 2008.

Media contacts:

Miranda Starke T: 08 8207 7032 E: starke.miranda@artgallery.sa.gov.au

Heidi Chamberlain T: 08 8207 7554 E: chamberlain.heidi@artgallery.sa.gov.au

ART GALLERY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA, NORTH TERRACE ADELAIDE SA 5000.