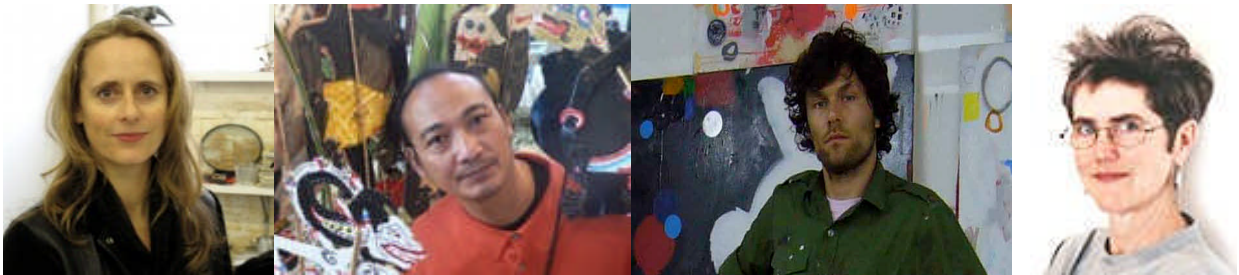


## **Spring Lecture Series Art... it's a material thing**



The Art Gallery of South Australia is delighted to present its 2011 Spring Lecture Series, *Art... it's a material thing* from Saturday 1 October. Featuring a stellar line-up of Australian and international artists the series looks closely at the materiality of visual arts through varying perspectives.

From contemporary Australian artist Caroline Rothwell's unique approach to sculpture and the age-old process of casting, to celebrated Southeast Asian artist Heri Dono's choice of materials steeped in Javanese tradition, the importance of material innovation in contemporary art has never been more evident.

Art Gallery of South Australia Project Curator, Lisa Slade said "The materiality of visual arts is often seen as an inferior and sometimes arcane consideration to subject matter or meaning. This is not the case for artists, who form deep bonds with, respect for and knowledge of materials."

"Throughout the Spring Lecture Series we look forward to hearing from this diverse and highly regarded group of artist about the magic of materiality", she said.

### **SPRING LECTURE SERIES Program**

#### **Heri Dono, Saturday 1 October**

One of the most celebrated Southeast Asian contemporary artists, Heri Dono has an international profile and his work is held in public and private Australian collections. His choice of materials is often steeped in local Javanese tradition, and he brings these to bear on ideas and issues of international relevance. Dono does not invest in a hierarchy of materials – his practice includes painting, mixed media, video and installation.

### **Barry Reigate, Saturday 8 October**

British contemporary artist Barry Reigate is one of the emerging artists collected by Charles Saatchi and represented in the major survey *Saatchi Gallery in Adelaide: British Art Now*. In his neo-Pop paintings and sculptures, *Reigate* ciphers cartoon and graffiti traditions. He also exploits the abject and distasteful qualities of materials and his works of art have been described as “brilliantly sordid”. In this lecture Reigate will provide an overview of his practice contextualising the works on display within his gutsy and often controversial *oeuvre*.

### **Kay Lawrence, Saturday 15 October**

Kay Lawrence AM is a practicing artist and Professor of Visual Art in the School of Art Architecture and Design at the University of South Australia. Through her art making Lawrence critically engages with matters of personal and community identity, exploring ideas of loss and connection through a practice centred on hand-making and grounded in the materiality and meanings of textiles. Her practice ranges across works created with the highly skilled technique of woven tapestry to installation and performance works using humble domestic materials like buttons and string that explore the material and immaterial resonances of our lives.

### **Caroline Rothwell, Saturday 22 October**

Contemporary artist Caroline Rothwell is based between Sydney and London and her work *Transmutation* has been recently acquired by the Gallery. Her work explores the constantly evolving relationship between ourselves and the natural world. Over the past decade Rothwell has developed a unique approach to sculpture and in particular to the age-old process of casting. In this lecture Rothwell elaborates on the alchemy of casting and the importance of material innovation in the contemporary art world.

Season tickets for the **Art Gallery of South Australia's Spring Lecture Series** can be purchased for \$45 / \$30 members, with single lecture tickets \$15 / \$10 members. Ticket includes refreshment. All lectures will be held in the Art Gallery of South Australia's Function Room at 2pm.

**For more information or to make a booking phone 8207 7035 or visit [artgallery.sa.gov.au](http://artgallery.sa.gov.au).**

**ENDS**

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#### **MEDIA CONTACT**

For further information on the Art Gallery of South Australia's Spring Lecture Series or interview opportunities with the speakers and/or Project Curator, Lisa Slade please contact:

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Images available on request