Message from the Director

Since closing our doors on 19 March due to COVID-19, FUMA has been working behind the scenes on new initiatives to increase opportunities for engagement online. This has included work with academic staff to digitise museum-based lectures and tutorials, as well as public facing projects and programs that open-up the FUMA collections in new ways. We are also building upcoming exhibitions in virtual formats to keep you immersed in contemporary art and ideas.

FUMA continues to support artists during this unprecedented period and is delighted to confirm that the Guildhouse Collections Project with South Australian artist Ray Harris is ongoing.

For those of you who missed our exhibition STELARC: Posthuman Bodies we invite you to view the works and accompanying videos on our installation archive and read the catalogue with feature essay by Professor Edward Scheer, Head of School, Art & Design, University of New South Wales. We also encourage you to check out the Hands-On public program which was livestreamed via Facebook on 30 March and is now available for viewing on the web. Peter Goers’ interview with Stelarc that went to air on ABC Radio Adelaide on 7 April is also available for listening (13:40 - 27:12).

Our thoughts and best wishes to you all in the age of isolation. We hope you have a happy and relaxing Easter long weekend. Stay safe, stay home. We look forward to keeping in touch.

Fiona Salmon, FUMA Director
Internationally acclaimed performance artist Stelarc and Flinders University’s Strategic Professor in Palaeontology, John Long, discuss limbs, digits, evolution and technology.

Watch the full 55 minute conversation here.
TAKE 5

Take 5 minutes to explore a handful of hidden gems from the FUMA Collections. In this edition we feature the work of Polish-born artist Józef Stanislaw Ostoja-Kotkowski who migrated to Australia in 1949 before settling in the Adelaide Hills and establishing an experimental and ground-breaking art practice.

More information here.

Image: Józef Stanislaw Ostoja-Kotkowski, Untitled (laser image) c.1980, c-type photograph, 40 x 31 cm, Gift of the Estate of Edward Stirling Booth, Collection of Flinders University Museum of Art 4241.252, Image © the Estate of the artist, Andrew and Edward Booth 2020

Object-based learning (OBL) Online

With all university teaching now online FUMA is playing a significant role in bringing digital content to life through our collections. Working across disciplines, we are supporting academics in adapting OBL methodologies for online learning by providing ongoing Collections access, resources for lecture capture and inspiration through our recently launched OBL Toolkit. We are currently working with colleagues in History, Indigenous Studies, Visual Arts, Education and Medicine.
Indigenous Arts Industry Support

Through our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Collections FUMA has long standing connections to Aboriginal art centres nationwide. During this time, we appreciate that these centres are doing it particularly tough with knock-on effects for artists and their families. To help keep the sector afloat FUMA is encouraging you to support art centre sales online. Visit Buku Larrnggay Mulka, Iljtja Ntjarra Many Hands Art Centre; Injalak Arts; Iwantja Arts; Hermannsburg Potters; Magabala Books; and Tjanpi Desert Weavers.

More to follow in our next issue.

Image: Learn-to-Weave Kit, Tjanpi Desert Weavers, Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yakuntjakara (NPY) Lands Women's Council

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