

PRESS RELEASE

583 Broadway New York, NY 10012 212-219-1222

Contact: Sara Palmer, Director of Public Affairs

Steven Henry, Public Affairs Assistant

212/219-1222 FAX: 212/431-5328

PROGRAM OF VIDEOS FROM AUSTRALIA TO BE SHOWN AT THE NEW MUSEUM

Satellite Cultures, a program of recent videos from Australia, will be on view at The New Museum of Contemporary Art from December 8, 1989 through February 4, 1990. Including the work of over 20 artists, this program will provide an overview of Australian video from 1975, highlighting issues of colonialism in Australia's history and the uses of video as an active agent of social change.

Satellite Cultures will be divided into three sections, each presenting a different facet of recent video work in Australia. Program One will trace video's early links to performance, music, and visual art and will explore some of the formal properties of the medium with specific reference to its relationship to television. Program Two will present a selection of videos from the Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association in central Australia. These works were made by and for Aboriginal communities to be broadcast on "pirate" Aboriginal television established in the mid-1980s. Many of the videos to be shown in this section concern the assimilation of Aboriginal culture within the dominant Australian culture and demonstrate a strong desire to maintain the integrity of Aboriginal communities. Program Three will consist of a selection of contemporary independent videos examining Australian society in the "information age," where cultural differences are essentially negated by the homogenizing effects of technology and the media. These works manifest a renewed interest in "a sense of place" and strongly advocate a need for maintaining cultural diversity.

The program will feature videos by Mick and Rhonda Barker, Warren

Burt, Peter Callas, the Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association, Fran

Dyson and Anna Munster, Jason Gee and Brad Miller, John Gillies, Ian Hartley,

AUSTRALIAN VIDEOS AT THE NEW MUSEUM

John Hughes and Peter Kennedy, Mark Jackson, Tracey Moffatt, Martin Munz, Mick Parr, David Perry, Jill Scott, and Geoffrey Weary. This exhibition has been organized by Sally Couacaud, Director of Artspace Visual Arts Centre in Sydney, Australia.

On Monday, January 22 at 7:30 PM, The New Museum will host a discussion in the galleries with video artists Geoffrey Weary and Tracey Moffatt led by Curator Sally Couacaud. The artists will discuss their work in the context of recent developments in video-making in Australia and internationally. Admission will be \$3 and free for members. Reservations can be made by calling the Museum offices at 212/219-1222.

Funding for <u>Satellite Cultures</u> has been provided, in part, by The Australian Film Commission. Additional support has been provided by Mitsubishi Electronics.

The New Museum of Contemporary Art is located at 583 Broadway between Prince and Houston Streets in Soho. Hours are Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday, noon to 6 PM; Friday and Saturday, noon to 8 PM; Monday and Tuesday, closed. Admission is by suggested contribution: \$3.50 general; \$2.50 artists/students/seniors; members and children under 12, free. Recorded information on New Museum exhibitions and programs is available by calling 212/219-1355.