

## **ME-D IA TE : THE ANAT NATIONAL SCHOOL FOR NEW MEDIA ART CURATION**

me-d ia te: the ANAT National School for New Media Art Curation, evolved out of a recognition that to nurture art which utilises technology, adequate education of curators and arts workers must also be undertaken. As new technologies become increasingly critical to art practices, it is important to provide skill-based education for curators wishing to extend their practice into this area. me-d ia te was a world first in providing this type of training, and we hope that it will go on to provide for a 'world's best practice' model for training in this area.

The school was held in association with Contemporary Arts Services Tasmania (CAST), in Hobart, Tasmania, 28 March - 11 April, 1999. Trained curators, technicians and theorists from both Australia and overseas provided intensive training, in a two week masterclass teaching environment, that gave curators both a technical and a theoretical understanding of new media art exhibition practice.

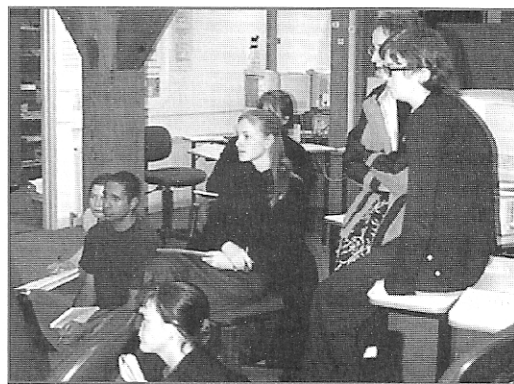
The international tutors for the school were Sara Diamond, Director of Banff New Media Centre in Canada, and Tapio Mäkelä, a Finnish curator, artist and writer. Other expert national tutors were Linda Wallace, Shiralee Saul, Peter Hennessey, Jason Gee and John Tonkin. Several local Tasmanian artists and curators gave artist's talks or presentations about their current work. They were, PK Khut, whose work was installed at the CAST Gallery, Leigh Hobba, who had curated an exhibition of local artists work, Sean Bacon and Matt Warren, both exhibiting in the immediate exhibition curated by Leigh Hobba, and Martin Walsch.

A highlight of the school was a 'school excursion' to Bruny Island on the final day, where participants, tutors, members of the CAOS (Contemporary Art Organisations) network who were in town for a meeting, and local artists travelled down to Cape Bruny to visit David Haines and Joyce Hinterding who are currently undertaking an artists' residency at the lighthouse, spending three months tracking and capturing images and sound from weather satellites, sampling sounds from guy wires in howling gales and filtering radio frequencies emitted by the Southern Aurora to manipulate and develop into video and sound installations.

The residency was initiated by the artists following Hinterding's participation in the ANAT National Summer School in '97, and has been supported by CAST and funded by the Australia Council.

Participating curators and artswokers for me.d ia te were:

Sharon Pacey (QLD)  
Beth Jackson (QLD)  
Michael Dagostino (NSW)  
Brad Webb (NSW)  
Jacqueline Phillips (NSW)  
Geraldine Tyson (NT)  
Adele Hann (SA)  
Jenny Aland (SA)  
Sally Rees (TAS)  
Tessa Dwyer (VIC)  
Kylie Message (VIC)  
Michelle Glaser (WA)  
Katie Major (WA)



*The ANAT National School for new media art curation was a pioneering new skilling program for artswokers and curators. Trained curators, technicians and theorists were provided with intensive training that gave a technical and a theoretical understanding of new media art exhibition practice. "media te was a very valuable and rare opportunity to tackle the issues of presenting and curating new media work" - Adele Hahn*