

MEDIA RELEASE

Poisonous Targets

Gallery 4A is pleased to announce an exhibition featuring Malaysian artist Wong Hoy Cheong and Australian urban indigenous artist Rea, as the first exhibition and international project to be held at Gallery 4A's new premises at the Corporation Building.

Poisonous Targets engages with ideas of cultural diversity and multiculturalism from two very different and culturally specific vantage points, seeking to complicate and question the common understanding of the term.

Wong Hoy Cheong is one of Malaysia's most prominent artists, whose art practice involves drawing, installation and performance to explore issues central to his cultural identity. In *Poisonous Targets*, Wong uses botanical materials such as tomato, tobacco, coconut, papaya, tapioca and tea which are both indigenous and introduced species to Malaysia, Wong Hoy Cheong creates masks moulded from the faces of the different ethnic groups that make-up Malaysia, to examine ideas of social history and migration.

Wong Hoy Cheong has exhibited extensively internationally. He participated in *Cities On The Move*, curated by Hou Hanru and Hans-Ulrich Obrist and has exhibited his work at the Hayward Gallery, London, Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo, National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, as well as the Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane.

Rea is a well respected indigenous artist, whose practice has consisted of photographic and digital imaging as a means of exploring her grandmother's experience as a stolen child. These issues are important not only to her own experience of Aboriginality, but also significant to a wider understanding of the multicultural experience in Australia.

Rea has held exhibitions Australia-wide at The Art Gallery of New South Wales, the Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney as well as the National Gallery of Australia.

Exhibition: *Poisonous Targets*
Wong Hoy Cheong + Rea

Preview: *Official* 26-27 October 2000, 6-8 pm

Dates: 27 October - 18 November 2000

Venue: The Asia-Australia Arts Centre
Level 1, 181-187 Hay Street
Sydney NSW 2000
tel/fax 02 9283 1750

Gallery hours: Wednesday - Saturday, 12-6pm, or by appointment

Contact: Melissa Chiu, Curator