



# REVOLUTIONS -FORMS THAT TURN 2008 BIENNALE OF SYDNEY

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## ONE MONTH TO GO!

2008 Biennale of Sydney opens Wednesday, 18 June

In less than four weeks, the 16<sup>th</sup> Biennale of Sydney will transform the city and harbour into a living canvas with works by more than 200 artists from across the globe arriving for the twelve-week event. The Biennale opens Wednesday, 18 June and runs until Sunday, 7 September.

With the theme *Revolutions – Forms That Turn*, the Biennale celebrates 35 years as Sydney's trail-blazing showcase of contemporary art. The city's leading galleries and spectacular outdoor sites will host the visions and voices of the world's most exciting artists – and all for free!

Highlights include **Maurizio Cattelan's** suspended horse *Novecento* at the Museum of Contemporary Art, **Paul Pfeiffer's** spectacular sculpture *Vitruvian Figure* based on the Sydney Olympic Stadium and exhibited on Cockatoo Island, and **Dan Perjovschi's** *Sydney Drawings*, which will see the façade of the Art Gallery of NSW adorned with his distinctive chalk drawings.

Some of the twentieth century's most revolutionary artworks will also be brought to Sydney for the first time, including pieces by **Marcel Duchamp**, **Yoko Ono** and **Joseph Beuys**, creating a rich context for the works of today. Living Australian artists involved include **Shaun Gladwell**, **TV Moore**, **theweathergroup\_U**, **Mike Parr** and **Rosemary Laing**. The online venue (a first for any Biennale worldwide) embraces digital works by artists including **Steve Van den Bosch, et al.**, **Tamy Ben-Tor** and the collaborative team **Ian Harper, Kate Pullinger and Chris Joseph** whose award-winning digital book *Inanimate Alice* is just one of many technologically sophisticated works showcased by the Biennale of Sydney.

Participating artists come from Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Hungary, Italy, India, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Phillipines, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, USA, UK, Venezuela and Zambia

Leading curator Carolyn Christov-Bakargiev is the Artistic Director of the 16<sup>th</sup> Biennale of Sydney: *Revolutions – Forms That Turn*. Her ambitious vision represents the largest artist participation ever for an exhibition in Australia, with over 200 artists from 36 countries.

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The Biennale of Sydney is supported by the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy an initiative of the Australian, state and territory governments.



The Biennale of Sydney is assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body.



We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of Arts NSW through the NSW Government Exhibition Information Scheme



VENUE PARTNERS



MAJOR PARTNERS – International Art Services, JC Decaux, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Anita & Luca Belgiorno-Nettis Foundation, ACCOMMODATION PARTNER – Sotitel Wentworth Sydney, NEWSPAPER PARTNER – The Sydney Morning Herald

The Biennale of Sydney gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the many organisations and individuals that make the exhibition and its programs possible.



She says, *"I am an optimist and I believe art can change things – our world, our perceptions, our perspectives. The works in this Biennale represent important moments in art over the past century and today. Moments that change things. By bringing these together for this one special event, the 2008 Biennale of Sydney is going to be a revolution in itself!"*

Artists in this year's Biennale use strategies of revolving, rotating, inverting, mirroring and turning inside out. Their works explore the impulse to rebel, revolt and distort as a way to open up new kinds of freedom from the challenges of life today.

A range of events from *Mystery Tours* to *Revolting Kids* children's workshops to a program of artists' talks will ensure the Biennale of Sydney has something for everyone. Event information will be available on the website [www.bos2008.com](http://www.bos2008.com) in early June.

The Biennale of Sydney opens on Wednesday, 18 June and runs for twelve weeks, closing Sunday, 7 September.

*A Media Centre will be in operation in Sofitel Sydney Wentworth, 61–101 Phillip Street, Sydney from Monday, 16 June–Tuesday, 24 June. Media can file from here, hold interviews and access media information.*

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