

MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday 20 February 2014 | Chapter House Lane | Not-for-profit contemporary art space | Melbourne

EXPLORE NEW TERRITORY WITH PIA MURPHY'S 'LAND'

EXHIBITION DETAILS:

'Land' by Pia Murphy runs from 6th to 30th March
Opening: Thursday, 6 March 2014 from 6pm – 8pm

Chapter House Lane is excited to announce its March exhibition by Anglesea-based artist Pia Murphy.

Flora and fauna of the Australian coast will inhabit the city-centre gallery space with ceramic works that invite us to observe the natural world at a slower pace.

Pia Murphy's creatures, imbued with gritty, glittering darkness, emerge in abstract and animal forms that represent her *Land* physically and psychologically.

Artist Pia Murphy says that the works are an attempt to understand animals that are often feared or misunderstood.

"I am always observing and marveling at nature. My relationship to my immediate natural environment has furthered my love for animals, their struggles and stories," Murphy said.

Living at the beach with partner and studio mate Rhys Lee, Murphy has allowed elements of life and death to churn through the pottery wheel, into the work.

She has swum with dolphins, and observed seals, whales and kangaroos – but also been confronted by the opposite: road kill, dead snakes and mutton birds.

"I wanted to subvert the more traditional applications of ceramics as a medium by making wild and grotesque forms," Murphy said.

Murphy's work veers toward 'outsider artist' territory. By stowing herself away, far from the influences of the city and the fluctuating epicenter of the art world, her world and her work retains a certain breed of innocence.

A follow up to *Woolgather* (2012), Pia Murphy's ceramics return to Chapter House Lane with her second solo show, *Land*, from the 6-30 March. Please join us for opening drinks: 6-8pm on Thursday the 6th.

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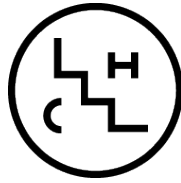
To arrange an interview with the artist, please contact Louise Klerks on 0404 118 105

OTHER NEWS:

Pia Murphy's partner, artist Rhys Lee is having a solo show at Utopian Slumps that opens 15 March.

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FOR MORE:

- facebook.com/chapterouselane | chapterouselane.org.au | instagram.com/chapterouselane
- Donate: creativepartnershipsaustralia.org.au/artist-projects/chapter-house-lane
- Louise Klerks, Gallery Director | 0404 118 105 | louise@chapterouselane.org.au
- Chapter House Lane, entry via Flinders Lane, Melbourne (alongside St Paul's Cathedral)

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