



MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday 26 September 2013 | Chapter House Lane | not-for-profit contemporary art space | Melbourne

OCTOBER SHOW: APATHY IS NOT MY FRIEND, 3 OCTOBER – 3 NOVEMBER

- In a first for Chapter House Lane, we present a group exhibition curated by gallery director Louise Klerks and featuring new work by Ronnie van Hout, Feiko Beckers and Malcolm Whittaker.
- For the artist, the point of making can seem somewhat absurd. 'Apathy is not my friend', as the title suggests, signifies the artist's resistance to the state of apathy by personifying it as unwelcome company. In this exhibition, the artists take a stance against apathy using humour as a repellent.
- If you accept the human situation as absurd, the only thing left is to revel in the 'essence of human experience.' To which end, living and making in all its forms, actions, and a reception of the illogical are key. For an artist to question *why* might not be the point, rather the question becomes: why not?
- Dutch artist, Feiko Beckers uses video and performance to create a language of the absurd inflected with sarcasm and humour. Recurring themes of failure and the incongruous appear in everyday scenes drawn from his life. He sets up engaging tales then interrupts the narrative unexpectedly, eliciting an altered reaction from his audience.
- Ronnie van Hout, a New Zealander represented locally by Kalimanrawlins, unleashes his humour on the ego, positioning himself as subject in previous sculptural works *Ersatz* and *The Thing*. His new work once again serves as a comic substitute for the self-effacing reality of an arbitrary existence.
- Malcolm Whittaker is an interdisciplinary artist, writer and performer based in Sydney. He plays with conventions, rituals and spectacles of the everyday – seeking to close a critical distance between the work and the viewer, opening up a shared space of experience, exchange and possibility. In addition to his solo work, he's a member of the collective Team MESS.
- Ronnie van Hout has been selected for the forthcoming 'Melbourne Now' exhibition at the NGV, and this year, Beckers has been an artist in residence at the Palais de Tokyo, Paris

ANDRZEJ NOWICKI:

- Andrzej Nowicki, who exhibited at Chapter House Lane in 2012 and 2013, has a new show opening at Tristian Koenig, 2 October. He will also represent Chapter House Lane in an exchange as part of the Dispatch program. His work will be displayed at Current Projects at Ryan Renshaw in Brisbane from 18 October. Chapter House Lane will host an artist as part of the program mid-2014.

NOVEMBER SHOW:

- Helen Johnson's 'Time enough for love' will wrap up our second year, with new work by the local artist unveiled at our second anniversary exhibition opening, Thursday 7 November.

AUSTRALIA CULTURAL FUND:

- Chapter House Lane can now receive tax deductible donations through the Australia Cultural Fund.

FOR MORE:

- facebook.com/chapterhouselane | chapterhouselane.org.au | instagram.com/chapterhouselane
- Amy Rudder, Managing Director | 0414 625 525 | amy@chapterhouselane.org.au
- Louise Klerks, Gallery Director | 0404 118 105 | louise@chapterhouselane.org.au
- Chapter House Lane, entry via Flinders Lane, Melbourne (alongside St Paul's Cathedral)

Chapter House Lane is proudly supported by:

