



NOBODY
LIKES A
SHOW OFF

RICHARD LEWER

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FREE PUBLIC DISCUSSION

THURSDAY 13 AUGUST 4.30–6PM

Curator: Kirrily Hammond

Venue: Monash University Museum of Art | MUMA

Ground Floor, Building 55, Monash University, Clayton Campus, Mel ref 575

**RICHARD LEWER, DR ELIZABETH BURNS COLEMAN,
LISA SULLIVAN AND CONVENED BY ROSEMARY FORDE**

Marked by a sceptical humour and a focus upon the darker sides of human behaviour, place and social identity, Richard Lewer's work involves subjective encounters with family, sport, religious and criminal subjects, leading to insightful and absurd narrative reflections on good and evil, life and mortality. Encompassing drawing, painting, animation and installation, and new work developed specially for MUMA, this survey exhibition features key works from public and private collections in Australia and New Zealand.

Richard Lewer

Richard Lewer was born in 1970 in Hamilton, New Zealand, and relocated to Melbourne in 1996. He has exhibited regularly in Australia and New Zealand since 2001, and was recently awarded the Colin McCahon House Residency, New Zealand in 2008, and the prestigious Wallace Art Award, which provides the artist with a six month residency in New York in 2010. His work was included in the recent group exhibitions *I Walk the Line: New Australian Drawing* at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney (2009) and *True Crime - Murder and Misdemeanour in Australian Art* at the Geelong Art Gallery (2008). Richard Lewer is represented by Oresart, Auckland.

Dr Elizabeth Burns Coleman

Elizabeth Burns Coleman is a Lecturer in Communications and Media at Monash University. Her research is engaged in debates about multiculturalism and religious pluralism in contemporary liberal societies, particularly as they relate to cultural policy and law. Recent books include *Aboriginal Art, Identity and Appropriation* (Ashgate, 2005) and the edited collections: *Negotiating the Sacred: Blasphemy and Sacrilege in a Multicultural Society* (ANU E-press, 2006, co-edited with Kevin White) and *Negotiating the Sacred II: Blasphemy and Sacrilege in a Multicultural Society* (ANU E-press, 2008, co-edited with Maria-Suzette Fernandes Dias).

Lisa Sullivan

Lisa Sullivan is Curator at Geelong Gallery where her most recent curatorial project was, in 2008, the exhibition *True Crime - Murder and Misdemeanour in Australian Art*, which included Richard Lewer's series *True stories - Australian crime*. Prior to joining Geelong Gallery in early 2005, she was the Collections Curator at the Ian Potter Museum of Art at the University of Melbourne. Lisa completed post-graduate studies in Art Curatorship at the University of Melbourne in 1998, and in 2003, a study of the British Museum's Prints & Drawing Collection as the Harold Wright Scholar.

Monash University Museum of Art

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Tues-Fri 10am-5pm; Sat 2-5pm

Bookings on 03 9905 4217 or
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Rosemary Forde (convenor)

Rosemary Forde is an independent curator and writer originally from New Zealand. In 2008 Rosemary was editor of *un Magazine* and she has contributed to magazines *Art World*, *Broadsheet* and *SPEECH* online, as well as numerous catalogues including *New Art Now: Contemporary Art in Australia and New Zealand* for the Auckland Art Fair 2009. Rosemary is a former Director of the Physics Room Contemporary Art Space in New Zealand. She is currently completing a MA thesis in art history at the University of Melbourne and has taught in the art theory department at Monash University Faculty of Art & Design. Rosemary has written on Richard Lewer's work for catalogues and *Art Monthly New Zealand*, and invited him to exhibit at the Physics Room in 2004.