

Media Release

3 September, 2012

Tony Curran DIE SEKTIONS

The complexity of individual identity is the subject of *Die Sektionen*, a provocative exhibition of recent works by Tony Curran on display in the E3 art space at Wagga Wagga Art Gallery. *Die Sektionen* features drawings, paintings, photographs and video installation, in a manner that invites the viewer's own sense of self spatially, mentally and socially.

Read as 'Dissections' the exhibition title literally translates from German as 'The Sections'. With this double meaning the exhibition reflects how representations of people can be considered objectifying or even violent, positioning the subject as a powerless figure under the scrutiny of the observer.

Tony Curran is a PhD student at Charles Sturt University, in the School of Communication and Creative Industries. Through his work Tony Curran explores the complexity of individual identity. His works are attempts to expose different sides of the self, playing with how we read the face, how we attempt to get to know another person, and the role that images play in these processes.

Some of the works in *Die Sektionen* were produced with the direct participation of the Wagga Wagga public, as part of Curran's residency project, *Identify, Identity, Identikit* hosted by the Museum of the Riverina earlier this year. During this residency, members of the public were invited to sit for the artist while he drew sections of their face – their eyebrows, eyes, noses or lips – and a database of facial features was produced. From these a series of works have been made, rearranging the facial features to produce composite faces that express and project rich emotional lives and histories.

The artist says of his work that “describing another person is an act of cutting them up into fragments to represent their different qualities. Throughout history the human condition has been dissected in art, science and philosophy in an attempt to understand who we are and what it means to be a self. *Die Sektionen* is an experiment with the aim to understand the relationship between the various slices or fragments that make us a coherent self.”

Die Sektionen will be launched in the E3 art space on the banks of Wollundry Lagoon on Thursday 6 September, from 6pm until 8pm. The exhibition will be open to the public until Sunday 16 September.

Exhibition Launch

When: Thursday 6 September, 6:00pm – 8:00pm
Where: E3 art space, Wagga Wagga Art Gallery
Cost: Free

Exhibition Dates

When: Thursday 6 September – Sunday 16 September, 2012