

For immediate release  
Friday 17 April 2009

## **Aboriginal Dreaming in the digital age**

BIG EYE: ABORIGINAL ANIMATIONS presents Aboriginal Australian and Aboriginal Canadian new media artists who draw on digital techniques as a part of ongoing cultural maintenance.

From 29 April to 15 May, BIG EYE: ABORIGINAL ANIMATIONS will be exhibited at The Block, in QUT's Creative Industries Precinct at Kelvin Grove, giving traditional Aboriginal culture a fresh artistic future.

BIG EYE reveals the intersection of traditional Aboriginal culture with contemporary culture and highlights how old and new practices are fused in today's society.

Co-curator and Aboriginal Australian artist Jenny Fraser describes the animations as building upon traditional morals and highlighting current issues important to her culture.

"We strive to honour the past as our teacher, honour the present as our creation, and honour the future as our inspiration," said Ms Fraser.

"This is 'dreaming' in action," she said.

BIG EYE features ultramodern animation techniques such as Computer Generated Imagery, cyberspace and Second Life programming, in addition to traditional techniques like Claymation, where scenes are created from plasticine.

The array of animation used provides a strong visual element to communicate many dimensions of the Aboriginal culture, and online projects introduce cyberspace as a neutral realm where ideas can be tested in an experimental and accepting atmosphere.

BIG EYE artists view the online world as a form of escape to indigenous social politics and an environment to manipulate identity.

By bringing Aboriginal Australian and Aboriginal Canadian art together in one space, BIG EYE foregrounds historical similarities between the two nations' first people and the shared ambitions of modernising their culture.

### **BIG EYE: ABORIGINAL ANIMATIONS**

29 April to 15 May 2009

Open from 2pm Tues-Sat

The Block, QUT Creative Industries Precinct, cnr Kelvin Grove Road and Musk Avenue, Kelvin Grove

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