



MOSMAN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Mosman Art Gallery & Community Centre

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MEDIA RELEASE

Date:	19 May 2011
Subject:	Nalda Searles: Drifting in my own land exhibition
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“Nalda Searles: Drifting in my own land”

A powerful expression of identity in relation to the unique
Western Australian landscape

Mosman Art Gallery

4 June - 17 July, 2011



Nalda Searles: *Siphon* 2007
common fodder, wool blanket, cotton thread



Nalda Searles: *Kangaroo Couple* 1995-2008
woollen gowns, plant dyed silk, Xanthorrhoea bracts, silk strings, common fodder, cotton mannequins

Nalda Searles is a living icon of Western Australian art. For nearly thirty years she has been an innovator in the use of native plant fibres and found objects from the environment for the production of fibre-textiles, sculpture and installation artworks. *Nalda Searles – Drifting in My Own Land* presents a series of new works created by Searles in an intensive period of creativity made possible through funding from the Western Australian Government. The exhibition is being toured nationally by Art on the Move and Visions of Australia between 2009 and 2013.

Please note all information is correct at time of release

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The exhibition is an expression of identity in relation to physical and social landscape. Searles has drawn on her own life, memories of her parents and the experiences of numerous women she has known in the gradual development of the twenty one exhibition works on view. They make some of the most haunting poetic statements to emerge from Western Australia's fibre textile sculpture movement, and include a grass skull, stately kangaroo-headed figures, a vessel woven from the artist's own hair and a salvaged pram watched over by a flock of grass birds.

The exhibition is accompanied by a major publication presenting Searles' works within the context of her remarkable three decade career and is complimented by an evocative DVD, *Nalda Searles - A Stitching of Words. Interpretations of Making and Making Do*, that introduces the artist, her thinking processes and working habits – in her own voice.

Nalda Searles – Drifting in My Own Land provides insight into the vision of one of Western Australia's unique and evocative practitioners.

The exhibition will be opened by Therese Kenyon, Artist, specialist curator of prints and works on paper and former Director of Manly Art Gallery & Museum, on Friday 3 June, 2011 at 6.30pm

Exhibition Public Program

Free Exhibition Tour

Saturday 4 June and Saturday 2 July, 11am, Presented by the Mosman Art Gallery Guides

Nalda Searles: Entwined in Textiles

Saturday 25 June, 3.00pm

Nalda Searles is a living icon of Western Australian art. For close to thirty years she has been an innovator in the use of native fibres and found objects from the environment to produce fibre-textiles, sculptures and installation artworks. Join the artist and exhibition coordinator Christina McGuiness, for an exhibition floor-talk revealing the imagery and processes that have informed the art practice and vision of one of Australia's unique and evocative practitioners. Free admission, talk followed by refreshments.

Book online at - <http://www.trybooking.com/10801>

For further media enquiries please contact:

Mosman Art Gallery: Julie Petersen (02) 9978 4186

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The national tour of this exhibition is managed by ART ON THE MOVE, which is assisted by the Commonwealth Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body. ART ON THE MOVE is supported by the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy, an initiative of the Australian, State and Territory Governments.

The exhibition has been supported by the National Exhibitions Touring Structure for Western Australia Inc. through the State Exhibition Development and Touring Funds.

The State of Western Australia has made an investment through the Department of Culture and the Arts in association with the Lotteries Commission in ART ON THE MOVE the National Exhibitions Touring Structure for Western Australia Inc.

This exhibition is supported by Visions of Australia, an Australian Government program supporting touring exhibitions by providing funding assistance for the development and touring of cultural material across Australia.

