

International artists connect with remote WA communities

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Spaced 2 is the sequel to a socially engaged art project, commissioning new works in distinct Western Australian sites.



M12001: M12 Collective, Ornitarium, Denmark, spaced: art out of place, 2011, image courtesy and © the artist

The second incarnation of *spaced: art out of place*, a project initiated by Marco Marcon, continues on from the work done in the original, further fostering the development of new models of interaction between artists and remote areas.

Linking artists with carefully selected communities, *spaced 2: future recall* aims to address issues that contemporary art often misses and, as Marcon tells artsHub, has benefits for both artists and locals.

'There are a lot of contemporary artists who live in the inner city and they tend to address urban issues; there seems to be a lack of cutting edge contemporary art that addresses rural or regional issues,' Marcon says.

'What we want to achieve is to be able to create artworks that respond to situations that are seldom addressed by contemporary art. On a local level it is more like a cultural exchange.'



Dpeltz06: Daniel Peltz with Gumula radio broadcaster Tadam Lockyer and Beena James collecting mining sounds for the Sounds of Mining Workshop as a part of spaced 2: future recall, Tom Price, 2013. Image courtesy and © Daniel Peltz.

The structure of the program is based on series of one-to-one partnerships between *spaced* and various community organisations. The program develops communication with communities that want to be involved and then puts out an international call-out, matchmaking selected artists with each community.

They work out the logistical needs such as basic support at a local level, as well as community liaison, and then make the final decision as to which artist will be paired with which community. The artist then travels to that community and makes a piece responding to his or her surrounds.

The final works created throughout 2013-14 will be displayed a group exhibition at the Western Australian Museum (WAM), Perth in early 2015.

Marcon has had a lot of success with his development of the *spaced* program, and was one of the five Sidney Myer 2013 Creative Fellows. The program developed out of International Art Space Kelleberrin (IASKA), a program which operated for 15 years, developing residencies and exhibitions within the Kellerberrin community.

So far the projects have been as diverse as the communities they were placed in. The works created in the first incarnation of the project are embarking on a national tour, and have just wrapped up in Geraldton, with Morwell in Victoria next on the list in

February 2014.

Spaced aims not only to link art with regional/remote communities, but to open up the issues of these communities to the rest of Australia and the world, as well as providing skills for those living in regional communities to connect with artists.

For more information visit: <http://www.spaced.org.au> (<http://www.spaced.org.au/>)

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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