

2008 Basil Sellers Art Prize

James Angus

James Angus is concerned with how real objects might be compromised by hypothetical events. In a work such as *Soccerball dropped from 35,000 feet* (1999), he conjures an unlikely scenario, performing visual tricks via disorientating strategies of scale, space, form and colour. Angus's works occupy hallucinatory realities, prompting us to reconsider the physicality of objects from fictional perspectives.

James Angus was born in Perth in 1970 and currently lives in Sydney and New York. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (Fine Arts) from Curtin University of Technology, Perth, in 1990. In 1998 Angus was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship, and went on to complete a Master of Fine Arts at Yale University School of Art in the United States. He has held solo exhibitions at leading galleries and museums, including the Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth (2007); Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney (2006); Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney (2004); and Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth, New Zealand (2000). His work has been selected for major national and international exhibitions, including *21st century modern*, Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art, Art Gallery of South Australia (2006); *Face up: contemporary art from Australia*, Nationalgalerie im Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin (2003); and *Fair game: art + sport*, the Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia, Melbourne (2003). Angus has received numerous grants and awards, including Australia Council grants in 2004, 2001 and 1998. James Angus is represented by Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Sydney, and Gavin Brown's enterprise, New York.

- Angus, James, 'On making "Manta ray"', in Britta Schmitz (ed.), *Face up: contemporary art from Australia*, Nationalgalerie im Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin, 2003.
- Cook, Robert, 'James Angus', in Linda Michael (ed.), *21st century modern*, Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art, Art Gallery of South Australia, 2006.
- Grayson, Richard, 'James Angus', in Britta Schmitz (ed.), *Face up: contemporary art from Australia*, Nationalgalerie im Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin, 2003.
- Holubizky, Ihor, *Truck corridor*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, 2004.
- Rees, Simon, 'James Angus', in Ewen McDonald (ed.), *(The world may be) fantastic*, Biennale of Sydney, Woolloomooloo, NSW, 2002.