

## Basil Sellers Art Prize 2010

### Eric Bridgeman

Eric Bridgeman uses photography, video, performance, installation, sculpture and painting to interrogate constructions of hyper-masculinity and the behaviours associated with Australian football. Recent photographic and video works made for his series *The Sport and Fair Play of Aussie Rules* reveal an eclectic medley of influences from popular media to the carnivalesque. Through his creation of fictional sporting icons, Bridgeman aims to dismantle the fundamental mechanics of gender, race and sexuality that have created certain stereotypes of Australian and Pacific Islander identities.

Eric Bridgeman was born in Brisbane in 1986, with heritage from the Chimbu province in the highlands of Papua New Guinea. Recent solo exhibitions include *Big league balls*, Blindsight Gallery, Melbourne (2010), and *New photographs from Kokwara Trail*, 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art, Sydney (2010). Recent group exhibitions include *Mind games: photography, identity and play*, Australian Centre for Photography, Sydney (2010); *The state we're in: contemporary Queensland photography*, University of Queensland Art Museum, Brisbane (2010); and *Next wave time lapse*, big screen, Federation Square, Melbourne (2009). Eric Bridgeman is a recent graduate of the Queensland College of Art, Griffith University, where he majored in photography.

<<http://www.ericbridgeman.com>>

#### Further reading:

- Fraser, Margie (ed.), 'Fresh produce', *inDesignQld*, no. 7, 2008.
- McRae, Vanessa, 'Art notes: slice and dice', *Art Monthly Australia*, no. 214, 2008.
- Modra, Penny, 'Gayer than all the rest', *The Sunday Age*, 14 June 2009.
- Rickettsen, Kathreen, 'Art notes: pacific storms in Bundaberg', *Art Monthly Australia*, no. 220, 2009.
- Werkmeister, Sarah, 'Busway art+place project', *Four Thousand*, no. 104, viewed 21 July 2009, <<http://www.fourthousand.com.au/look/busway-art-and-place-project/>>.