

## Basil Sellers Art Prize 2010

### Ponch Hawkes

Ponch Hawkes's photography has captured Australian culture and social and political life since the early 1970s. Hawkes has been the photographer for, and a member of, Circus Oz since its inception in 1978. Mostly working in photographic series, her theatrical portraits often depict moments of physical performance and movement.

Ponch Hawkes was born in Melbourne in 1946. Selected solo exhibitions include *Seeing is not understanding: Ponch Hawkes*, Monash Gallery of Art, Melbourne (2010); *Seeing is not understanding*, Horsham Regional Art Gallery, Vic. (2009); *Trading places*, Heritage Hill Museum, Dandenong, and the Immigration Museum, Melbourne (2006); and *Risk*, Monash Gallery of Art, Melbourne (2005). Group exhibitions include *Timelines: photography and time*, NGV International, Melbourne (2010); *Step right up! The circus in Australian art*, George Adams Gallery, Melbourne, and tour (2009); *Josephine Ulrick & Win Schubert Photography Award*, Gold Coast City Gallery, Surfers Paradise (2009); *Raised by wolves*, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth (2007); and *Murray cod: the biggest fish in the river*, Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery, Vic., and tour (2006). Hawkes's photographs are included in Victorian collections including the National Gallery of Victoria, State Library of Victoria, Monash Gallery of Art, City of Melbourne and Albury Regional Art Gallery, as well as in the National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, and the Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane.

Ponch Hawkes is represented by Chrysalis Gallery & Studio, Melbourne.

#### Further reading:

- Allen, Christopher, *Art in Australia: from colonization to postmodernism*, Thames & Hudson, London & New York, 1997.
- Burke, Janine, *Field of vision—a decade of change: women's art in the 70s*, Viking, Ringwood, Vic., 1990.
- Crombie, Isobel & Sandra Byron, *Twenty contemporary Australian photographers from Hallmark Cards Australian photographic collection*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, and Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, 1990.
- Kirker, Anne & Clare Williamson, *The power to move: aspects of Australian photography*, Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, 1995.
- McCulloch, Alan, Susan McCulloch & Emily McCulloch Childs, *The new McCulloch's encyclopedia of Australian art*, Aus Art Editions in assoc. with the Miegunyah Press, Carlton, Vic., 2006.