

MEDIA RELEASE

15 February 2018

The Human Condition

From 2 March to 29 April Tuggeranong Arts Centre will present *The Human Condition*, a suite of free public programs that invite the community to explore the challenging themes and questions emerging from the exhibition *Another Day in Paradise*.

Schools, other educational institutions, artists and community groups will respond creatively to Myuran Sukumaran's paintings and his story, culminating in a series of events, exhibitions and performances.

Highlights of *The Human Condition* will include:

- 2 March – 29 April** *No Place Like Home* - A preview of new work by stencil artist Luke Cornish (ELK). Luke Cornish's current practice is focussed on the war ravaged streets of Syria, and the individuals caught in the conflict. More specifically, Cornish aims to put a human face to the effects of war, and to portray the hope and positivity which he encountered there. His works are a mixture of stencil, aerosol and sublimation on aluminium and canvas.
- 3 March** *The Human Condition Death Café* - An open, facilitated discussion about death with no agenda or objectives...but with afternoon tea.
- 17 March** *A Vigil for the Moon* – Young performers from across Canberra present music, dance and poetry that reflects on the themes of loss, imprisonment, redemption and hope that resonate through *Another Day in Paradise*. Come to see the exhibition and enjoy moving, poignant and beautiful performances by the Woden Valley Youth Choir's Australis and Centauri Voices, the Fresh Funk dance ensemble, cellist Ariel Chou and others.
- 22 March** *Just Punishment* – A screening of Canberra filmmaker Kim Beamish's documentary film about the trial and execution of Van Nguyen in 2005, with a talk by the Director.
- 24 March** *Penalties and Purpose* – A panel discussion facilitated by award-winning journalist Ginny Stein, who covered the reintroduction of the death penalty in the Philippines. The panel will discuss the global use of the death penalty, the prospect of rehabilitation and redemption, and related questions for Australia about the purpose, impacts and aftermath of incarceration.

Panel members:

- Julian McMahon SC – Barrister, President of Reprieve Australia and campaigner against the death penalty.
- Dr Amanda Porter – A descendant of the Brinja clan of the Yuin nation and a Chancellor's Postdoctoral Fellow at Jumbunna Institute of Indigenous Education and Research, the University of Technology Sydney. Her published and ongoing research is mainly focused on the politics of policing and police reform since the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody. She is an editor of the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology, *Ngiya: Talk the Law* and the Journal of Indigenous Policy.

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- Tasneem Chopra – Human rights activist, author and cross-cultural consultant. Through her consultancy, she speaks across the private and public sector to issues of cultural competence, diversity, leadership and intersectional discrimination.

- 5 & 7 April** *Orana Steiner School Drama Performance* – Senior drama students will perform their dramatic response to *Another Day in Paradise* in the gallery, in conversation with the artworks.
- 14 April** *Poems for the Human Condition* – Poetry reading in the gallery focussed on the stories of Myuran Sukumaran and Andrew Chan, and the themes of forgiveness, compassion and hope.
- 17 April** *Myuran Sukumaran's Birthday* – the gallery will be open for extended hours and a special event.
- 27 - 29 April** *The Final Hours* - To mark the third anniversary of Sukumaran's death and the conclusion of the *Another Day in Paradise* exhibition, local artists, writers, poets and musicians will participate in a creative vigil.

Full details of the program are available on the Tuggeranong Arts Centre website.

In addition to the public program, Tuggeranong Arts Centre will be providing free guided group tours of *Another Day in Paradise* with prior registration.

The Arts Centre's full 2018 program can be found online at www.tuggeranongarts.com.