

# Mythopoetic

Women artists from Australia and India

## Exhibiting artists

Dhruvi Acharya INDIA

Kate Beynon AUS

Di Ball AUS

Laini Burton AUS

Marnie Dean AUS

Simone Eisler AUS

Fiona Hall AUS

Pat HOFFIE SCOTLAND/AUS

Sonia Khurana INDIA

Pushpamala N. INDIA

Ann-Maree Reaney AUS

Jill Kinnear AUS

Mandy Ridley AUS

Sangeeta Sandrasegar AUS

Shambhavi INDIA

10 April – 18 May 2013

Griffith University Art Gallery  
QCA Project Gallery  
QCA Webb Gallery

All at Griffith University's South Bank campus, Queensland College of Art, 226 Grey Street, South Bank, Brisbane

Thursday 18 April 2013, 2pm.

Curator's lecture.

Join exhibition curator/artist Marnie Dean for an in-depth talk on curating 'Mythopoetic'.

Venue: QCA Lecture Theatre

Thursday 16 May 2013, 2pm.

Artist tour and talks.

Meet at Griffith University Art Gallery to tour all three exhibition venues with exhibiting artists Pat HOFFIE, Di Ball, Laini Burton, Marnie Dean, Simone Eisler and Ann-Marie Reaney.

Venue: Griffith University Art Gallery, QCA campus, 226 Grey Street, South Bank, Brisbane Q-4102

Saturday 11 May, 2-4pm.

Celebration Event.

Join us to celebrate 'Mythopoetic' exhibition and the opening of the Encounters:India festival, with guest speakers and a live performance by renowned Indian musician Rajesh Mehta on 'Hybrid Trumpet' in the QCA's Webb Gallery (3pm performance).

Venue: QCA campus, 226 Grey Street, South Bank, Brisbane Q-4102.

## Group/school bookings:

Griffith University Art Gallery

Email: guag@griffith.edu.au

phone: 07 3735 7414

Webb Gallery and Project Gallery

Email: Cassandra.schultz@griffith.edu.au

phone: 07 3735 6106

## A Cyborg Manifesto: Science, Technology, and Socialist-Feminism in the Late Twentieth Century

Donna Haraway

I would rather be a Cyborg than a Goddess.<sup>1</sup>

In this statement she summarised her findings: that the old archetypes and goddesses were no longer adequate in gendered representations of women, and that women needed to create new mythologies in order to provide a conclusive account of themselves in modern times.

Haraway's work also scrutinised the historical prevalence of identifications made between women and nature. Instead she proposes that cyborgs are capable of identification not only with nature but with technology as well, and that therefore, the characters of the cyborg and of women might be thought of as derived from themes of hybridity and multiplicity.

Contemporary artists participate in the development of new knowledge within diverse and often

overlapping cultural realms. For some female artists, artworks can specifically open up an awareness of potential zones for new thinking, through which women might imagine who they are and what they could become. Perhaps the outcome of an exhibition that brings together multifarious disciplines could take Haraway's notion of new mythologies in new directions.

The exhibition Mythopoetic—women artists from India and Australia was born out of Griffith University's festival ENCOUNTERS: INDIA, the fourth in its series of encounters catalysed through the Conservatorium of Music. In 2013, ENCOUNTERS becomes a precinct-wide affair and we are proud to take this opportunity to look at the strong contemporary art emerging from India and the intersections this provides artists locally and nationally within Australia.

Mythopoetic women artists from India and Australia will survey the way in which artists are re-picturing, re-contextualising and re-imagining the feminine. The new mythology referred to, is the collective embodiment and themes of the stories, histories and images in the body of work and history of practice of each artist addressing subjects such as: the physical body, identity, subjectivity, gendered roles, and sexuality. In addition, the exhibition will include artworks that explore the permeable boundaries of binary classifications of gender.

<sup>1</sup> Donna Haraway, "A Cyborg Manifesto: Science, Technology, and Socialist-Feminism in the Late Twentieth Century," in *Simians, Cyborgs and Women: The Reinvention of Nature* (New York: Routledge, 1991), pp.149-181. Full article available online on the Stanford University website at: <http://www.stanford.edu/dept/HPS/Haraway/CyborgManifesto.html>