MEDIA RELEASE – for immediate release

ARTS PROJECT AUSTRALIA

19 March 2015

RUTH HOWARD & THAT'S FUNNY A solo show and humour from the studio

Arts Project Australia launches its next two exhibitions for 2015: a solo exhibition by RUTH HOWARD & a group exhibition *THAT'S FUNNY*. Both exhibitions open Saturday 28 March from 3-5pm in Northcote, with THAT'S FUNNY being opened by Denise Scott as part of the Melbourne International Comedy Festival.

Ruth Howard's solo exhibition launches a new collection of small-scale, refined paintings and ceramics, which reveal her love of animals, transport and the world around her. Ruth Howard has been a regular studio artist at Arts Project Australia since 1998, and has been included in numerous group exhibitions throughout Australia and overseas. This is Ruth Howard's first solo exhibition.

Coinciding with *RUTH HOWARD* is *THAT'S FUNNY*, curated by Glenn Dalton and Sandy Fernee, which celebrates the wacky and sometimes outrageous humour of the artists at Arts Project.

THAT'S FUNNY will showcase art that tickles the funny bone and promotes a giggle. From Cathy Staughton's idiosyncratic knife throwing self-portrait to Samraing Chea's detailed drawings that are a social commentary on life as he sees it, this art makes life more interesting and fun. THAT'S FUNNY coincides with the Melbourne Comedy Festival.

Curators Glenn Dalton and Sandy Fernee said, "Humour is most definitely subjective, often provocative, but always celebrated in our studio. Our intention for this show is to share with the audience a little glimpse into the wacky, weird and sometimes downright outrageous humour of the artists at Arts Project." Denise Scott, comedian, actor and writer, will open both exhibitions.

ARTISTS INCLUDE Steven Ajzenberg, Michael Camakaris, Samraing Chea, Boris Cipusev, Alan Constable, Leo Cussen, Samuele Fenech, Matthew Gove, Bronwyn Hack, Thomas Iacono, Adrian Lazzaro, Anne Lynch, Chris Mason, Eden Menta, Jenny Ngo, Cindy Nguyen, Tim Noble, Chris O'Brien, Gavin Porter, Lisa Reid, Mark Smith, Cathy Staughton, Malcolm Sturrock and Terry Williams.

Artists are available for interview. High-resolution images are available on request and artists can be photographed with their work. *RUTH HOWARD* & *THAT'S FUNNY* will be featured at Arts Project Australia from Saturday 21 March – Friday 24 April 2015 at 24 High St Northcote VIC 3070. The gallery is open Monday – Friday 9am-5pm, Saturday 10am-5pm.



Ruth Howard *Not titled* 2014 acrylic on paper



Gavin Porter *Megapowerhouse!* 2014 texta and felt tip pen on paper

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RUTH HOWARD & THAT'S FUNNY

A solo show and humour from the studio

QUICK REFERENCE DOCUMENT

WHERE: Arts Project Australia, 24 High St Northcote VIC 3070 Australia

DATES: OPENING: Saturday 28 March, from 3-5pm

EXHIBITION: 21 March – 24 April 2015

SPEAKER: Denise Scott, comedian, actor and writer

TIMES: EXHIBITION OPEN: Monday – Friday 9am-5pm, Saturday 10am-5pm

INFO: EVENT PAGE: <u>RUTH HO</u>WARD & THAT'S FUNNY

WEBSITE: <u>www.artsproject.org.au</u>

ENTRY: FREE

KEY MESSAGE

- RUTH HOWARD is a solo exhibition that launches a new collection of paintings and ceramics
- THAT'S FUNNY is a group exhibition exploring humour in the Arts Project studio
- THAT'S FUNNY is part of the Melbourne International Comedy Festival program
- THAT'S FUNNY presents work by 24 artists from Arts Project Australia
- RUTH HOWARD & THAT'S FUNNY is an exhibition of work on paper and ceramics
- RUTH HOWARD & THAT'S FUNNY artwork is available for sale at the exhibition
- Arts Project Australia is a centre of excellence that supports artists with intellectual disabilities, promoting their work and advocating for inclusion within contemporary art practice

KEY EVENTS

EXHIBITION OPENING

Saturday 28 March 2015, 3-5pm

Join Arts Project Australia President Bronwyn Johnson, Executive Director Sue Roff and comedian, actor and writer Denise Scott to open these two extensive exhibitions.

Cost FREE

MEDIA CONTACTS

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