

The Write/here Project

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hobart, March 2007

During late March and early April 2007, as part of the biennial Ten Days on the Island Festival in Hobart, Tasmania, artists Justy Phillips and James Newitt have orchestrated a city-wide intervention utilising every advertising billboard in Hobart. The write/here project is part community event, part temporary public art project and part media intervention.

The write/here project is a critical exploration of public and personal relationships with Hobart. The artists have been motivated to transform bill-board advertising space from impersonal representations of materialist aspirations and ideals into intimate revelations which represent individual's everyday stories and marginalised micro-histories.

Each billboard will host a single narrative text - a personal response to life in Hobart written by someone who calls this city home. These texts will be selected from responses recorded from different community groups: recent arrivals to Tasmania from Iran, Sudan, Sierra Leone and the Congo; inmates at Risdon Prison; clients at nursing homes; college students; Aboriginal Elders; and anonymous submissions from general public through a number of writing workshops and a web forum.

The texts of the write/here project will be installed across every advertising billboard in Hobart CBD (26 sites in total) and also at one site at Hobart Airport.

This is an ambitious project which we think would be of interest to your readers. Tasmania is, as you know, a small island state at the very Southern tip of mainland Australia. Tasmania is well known and widely promoted for its wilderness and natural beauty - but little is publicly revealed about Tasmania's true social environment.

**Please contact Justy Phillips and James Newitt via email at:
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Visit our website: www.writehereproject.org and blog:
www.writehereproject.blogspot.com**

We look forward to hearing from you soon.