

MEDIA RELEASE

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CANBERRA ARTISTS FLY FOR THEIR ART **The Singapore Airlines Travel Award**

In 2010, Canberra-based photographer Lee Grant received the Singapore Airlines Travel Award to travel to Korea to undertake research for a photographic project about migration, place and community.

This award from long-time CAPO supporter Singapore Airlines is open to practicing artists working in any media, discipline or art form and who reside in Canberra or the region. The award provides a return economy airfare to Europe or Asia for travel in the following calendar year, giving artists the opportunity to research in an international arena. CAPO looks for applications where overseas travel will directly enhance the creation of new work.

A recent Master's graduate of the Australian National University, Lee Grant has exhibited widely in Australia in solo and group exhibitions. Lee has been a finalist for the past two years in the National Photographic Portrait Prize and was awarded the William and Winifred Bowness Award in 2010. Her work is in various private and public collections including the Canberra Museum and Gallery and the National Library of Australia.

Lee Grant said, *"My project is about exploring the cultural relationship between Korea and Australia and the ways in which Korean migrants establish a sense of belonging in a new country. I would also like to explore how Korean-Australians, such as myself, continue to negotiate their heritage and affiliation to two starkly different cultures."*

"My intentions are two-fold in that it tells a personal story but also a common one. I was raised in Australia but my mother is Korean having migrated here with my Australian father in the early 1970s. As a Korean-Australian, I have straddled two worlds, yet in many ways, belonged to neither. I am fascinated by this tension in identity and how the merging of two cultures can shape one's experiences and perspectives of the world."

Lee Grant believes that photography can be used as a social tool to inform, educate and inspire audiences about the lives of others. She plans to develop the project into a travelling exhibition and book publication.

CAPO President Neil Doody said, *"Artists need opportunities to travel as part of the development of their careers and CAPO is pleased to facilitate this opportunity through the commitment of sponsor Singapore Airlines."*

Who will fly for their art in 2012? This award and eight others will be announced at CAPO 28 on the 26 November at the National Archives of Australia.

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