



Victorian College of the Arts  
**Media Announcement**  
14 March 2007

## **The \$20,000 Keith and Elisabeth Murdoch Travelling Fellowship 2007 Winner**

VCA Art is proud to announce that the winner of the **\$20,000 Keith and Elisabeth Murdoch Travelling Fellowship** for 2007 is **Annika Koops**.

**Annika Koops** graduated from VCA Art with a Bachelor of Fine Art (Honours) in 2004. Annika's aim is to use the Murdoch Fellowship to travel to the Netherlands and embark upon a Master of Fine Art. Annika regards the Fellowship as a unique opportunity for professional and personal development.

The work of **Annika Koops** is concerned with portraiture as a means for expressing the way social circumstance influences the individual, through personal presentation and other factors.

Associate Professor Su Baker, Head VCA Art said today... "What was obvious to the judges was the impact of the winning work and its telling presence. While there was a diverse and disparate range of views, the winning work was one they kept coming back to. It resonated with a complex mix of allegory and literalism and was also a subtle and challenging exploration of the tensions and subtle correlations between painting and photography."

The prestigious **Keith and Elisabeth Murdoch Travelling Fellowship** for VCA Art graduates is one of three biennial awards awarded every two years to VCA graduates of Art, Drama and Music, through the generosity of **Dame Elisabeth Murdoch DBE, CBE, LLD** and must be used to fund travel and study abroad. Previous VCA Art winners of this award include Steven Cox, Jon Campbell, Vera Möller and Andrew Hazewinkel.

The work of **Annika Koops** and the short-listed finalists will be exhibited at the VCA Margaret Lawrence Gallery from March 16 to 31. Annika Koops' work can be viewed here (images not for publication):  
[www.despard-gallery.com.au/artists/koops/koops.html](http://www.despard-gallery.com.au/artists/koops/koops.html)

**The Keith and Elisabeth Murdoch Travelling Fellowship 2007 Exhibition** runs from **Friday 16 - Saturday 31 March**  
**VCA Margaret Lawrence Gallery**, 40 Dodds Street, Southbank. T: 03/ 9685 9400  
**Gallery Hours:** Wednesday to Saturday 12-5pm

---

For **Images, Media Information** or **Interview** please contact:  
**Lisa Montague – Communications Manager 0412 002 544 or 03 / 9685 9371**