

MEDIA RELEASE
For immediate release

**Fremantle
ArtsCentre:**

GUY BENFIELD:
Expanded Ceramithèque Drug Time Present

30 January – 14 March

Fremantle Arts Centre

Guy Benfield returns to Fremantle Arts Centre to present *Expanded Ceramithèque Drug Time Present*, an exploration into 1970s and 80s ceramics.

A quasi-anthropologist, Benfield takes cues from architectural structures and material culture of utopian groups. He immerses himself in the brown, encrusted ceramics synonymous with the era: relics and reminders incorporated into his own pop-psychedelic aesthetic.

In a rare glimpse into the City of Fremantle Art Collection, dated ceramics are incorporated with gusto into Benfield's chaotic installation. The result is an eclectic collection of objects and textures – the homely brown ceramics of the City of Fremantle Art Collection alongside those of his own creation, contrasted with the faux-wood grain, woven textures and silver foils that permeate his own personal style.

Expanded Ceramithèque Drug Time Present is a point of reflection on the history of ceramics in Fremantle. Still a vestige of creativity in WA, Benfield has used his time in Fremantle to capture the vibrancy and honesty of the ceramic craft.

Joined by artist and collaborator Constanze Zikos, Guy Benfield's opening night performance will transform the gallery space through a séance like disco. His choreographed chorus of silver and clay reflects upon a recent era in which the hand-made, the backyard and the local seemed paramount.

Guy Benfield is an Australian artist who lives in New York. He is represented by Kaliman Gallery, Sydney and Uplands Gallery, Melbourne. He is the fourth artist to engage with the City of Fremantle Art Collection.

Image Caption: Guy Benfield, *Nite Store*, 2009, photo Kathy Morano

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Also on view

Justin Spiers: *The Detour*

Sohan Ariel Hayes and Laetitia Wilson: *Datadrum v.2.04 Imagining the Sixth Dimensional City*

Clare Davies: *a miraculous memory*

Dix-Neuf Sixante-Treize from the City of Fremantle Art Collection

Fremantle Arts Centre

1 Finnerty St, Fremantle WA

fac.org.au

Free admission, open 7 days: 10am-5pm

~Ends

For more information, images or to arrange an interview contact **Kathryn Doust**, Communications Coordinator: (08) 9432 9564; kathrynd@fremantle.wa.gov.au



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