

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

## Stories from the North, Tales from the West

Franck Gohier & Chayni Henry

**In their first joint exhibition, Franck Gohier and Chayni Henry present a selection of paintings that reflect their engagement with the Kimberley landscape and their home city of Darwin. *Stories from the North, Tales from the West* is on view at Fremantle Arts Centre in the Main and Hall Galleries from 21 July – 2 September 2007.**

**Franck Gohier** brings a pop-inspired twist to the politics and topography of the Kimberley cattle industry. Inspired by American pop culture, particularly cowboy sub-cultures and Country and Western music, Franck presents two series of works, one of which has never been exhibited before.

In the tradition of political posters, Franck draws on his love of cowboy culture, a favourite fifties children's novel *Cowboy Small*, and his admiration for the contribution made by Aboriginal people to the Kimberley cattle industry.

An established artist, Franck taught and editioned prints in communities across the Northern Territory for many years. He now pursues his own socio-politically motivated practice fulltime. Franck Gohier is represented by Ray Hughes Gallery.

**Chayni Henry's** paintings reveal funny and often awkward moments in her life. Intensely biographical, Chayni works spontaneously and quickly, painting directly onto the canvas juxtaposing images and narrative text.

Predominately self-taught, her paintings embrace the scope of her experiences, stories both intimately personal and also unique to living in the Northern Territory.

Chayni's frank and offbeat style is proving immensely popular with audiences and collectors alike. A natural story-teller with a compulsion to share her experiences, viewing the works is akin to reading her diary.

Chayni is currently Artist-In-Residence at Charles Darwin University in Darwin and was included in *Primavera 2006: exhibition by young Australian artists* at the MCA in Sydney.

**Opening event: 3pm Saturday 21 July**

Gallery talk by Chayni Henry and screening of artists' film *Franck Gohier: Going My Own Way* with refreshments and exhibitions viewing

Also on view *Projector Video Works, Good Counsel* and *Kath and Kim: portraits from the City of Fremantle Art Collection*.

Fremantle Arts Centre is located at 1 Finnerty Street, Fremantle.  
Admission is free, open daily 10am – 5pm.

Ends-

**For more information, images or to arrange an interview:**

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