

OUT & ABOUT
SA, WA

Edited by Alistair Jones
Full reviews of new films will appear in
The Weekend Australian on Saturday.

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JAMES CROUCHER

APRA lauds Little's life work

RESPECTED Aboriginal entertainer Jimmy Little has won the 2010 Ted Albert Award for Outstanding Services to Australian Music. Presented by the Australasian Performing Right Association, the award acknowledges a significant contribution to the shaping and development of the Australian music landscape. Little began his recording career in 1956, had a hit with *Royal Telephone* in 1963 and has been a leading country music performer since the 1970s. In the 80s he began to take a mentoring role in indigenous education and continues as an ambassador for literacy and numeracy programs. The accolade, which will add to his 2004 Order of Australia award and designation as a Living National Treasure, will be presented on Monday at the 2010 APRA awards at the Sydney Convention Centre.

ALISTAIR JONES

NOW SHOWING

Mademoiselle Chambon (M)

This moving French love story, directed with quiet, measured intensity by Stephane Brize, draws its strength from the closely observed reality of everyday working lives. Jean (Vincent Lindon), a bricklayer, falls for his young son's schoolteacher (Sandrine Kiberlain), leaving audiences to reflect on the fate of the relationship and the unexplained longings that bring the lovers together. A powerful story, weakened by will-they-or-won't-they guessing games and musical interludes that seem too much like art-house contrivance.

EVAN WILLIAMS ★★☆☆☆

Sex and the City 2 (M)

The action has moved to Abu Dhabi and it doesn't seem right. And the four friends seem stuck in the same old attitudes. Perhaps if SATC were a sociological documentary in which the

to a particular people, country and period — that is, a history — acts against the idea of representing something as historical.

Contemporary Art Centre of South Australia, Porter Street, Parkside. Tuesday to Friday, 11am to 5pm. Weekends, 1pm to 5pm. Free. Inquiries: (08) 8272 2682. Until July 18.

LIVE MUSIC

Gyroscope

From Perth, Gyroscope is rock band of the moment, ramped up on its *Cohesion* album tour. The raw force of the group when playing live is something to be reckoned with. It's also impressive that the same line-up has been cranking it out with gusto for the past 13 years.

HQ Adelaide, North Terrace, Adelaide. Tomorrow, 8pm. Tickets: \$35. Bookings: 132 849.

Wanda Jackson

First queen of rockabilly Wanda

Illusions of the spotless mind

VISUAL ART

Pierre Bismuth
Fremantle Arts Centre,
until July 18.

TED SNELL

PIERRE Bismuth is the first contemporary visual artist to win an Oscar.

Considering his artistic practice has consistently critiqued, undermined and subverted the medium of film, it must have been an unexpected accolade.

Of course, the irony of winning the most coveted film industry award for an hour's work writing a treatment of an idea he had discussed with his friend Michel Gondry over a Parisian restaurant meal is not lost on the artist.

Their film, *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*, was based on Bismuth's question to himself about what it might be like if you could erase memories: what situations would arise, and how a person might deal with those possibilities. As he explains it, "For me all activity — art, film, etc — are traces that occupy space, even if you are only trying to do something simple. By erasing you are simply adding."

When they collaborated again on another project, Bismuth and Gondry refocused those ideas to explore how erasure might be seen as a constituent element in creation. *The All Seeing Eye*, now on show at the Fremantle Arts Centre, is the result.

Their disquieting video shows a sophisticated apartment full of designer furniture and contempor-



Kate Winslet and Jim Carrey in the 2004 film *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*, which plays in the background at the exhibition



One of the rare Bibles

ary art in an endless 360-degree pan that scans the room in a seemingly repetitive loop, accompanied by the soundtrack for their film *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*, which is playing on the

television in the room. As Jim Carrey announces, "I don't understand what I'm looking at; why am I standing here?", the audience asks the same question as items in the room keep disappearing on each pan across the room.

The Eames chair, the Warhol Brillo box, the mirrors, rugs, the le Corbusier chaise longue all vanish until finally nothing is left but a white cube, the archetypal domain of art.

To disrupt our reading even further, we slowly realise the room isn't an actual room, it's a scale model and the scenes initially de-

scribed outside the windows draw together the sights of Moscow, Paris, Brussels and New York. It's all deception and we are left with the unnerving thought that our reality is a construct that can be so easily ruptured.

The all-seeing eye of the work's title ends up seeing nothing at all.

Bismuth is an internationally significant artist who prompts us to consider how we live in the world and how we create our sense of reality. It's a coup for the Fremantle Arts Centre to have secured this show, as well as Bismuth, who was present for the

opening, a showing of *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* and a lecture about his work.

Above all, the centre was able to help Bismuth realise a new work that extends his project, *The Most Read Book in the Least Spoken Language*. Curator Jasmin Stephens was able to track down five Bibles translated into the five least spoken languages in the world, including the Ilocano language of The Philippines, with 10 million native speakers, and Bislama, which is spoken by about 20,000 people on Vanuatu.

Presented in vitrines that iso-

The all-seeing eye of the work's title ends up seeing nothing at all

late them even further from the world, these five books glow under the gallery lights like arcane treasures, showcasing what remains as much as recording what has been lost.

Translation and the disjuncture of language are also features of the third work on show at the Fremantle Arts Centre. Bismuth has long been fascinated by children's ability to watch the same film over and over again, and in his representation of Walt Disney's *Jungle Book* he dubs the voices of each character in one of the range of languages in which the film has been produced. So Mowgli speaks in Spanish, Shere Khan the tiger in English, Baloo the bear in Hebrew and Kaa the snake in Italian. It's a bizarre experience and while it lacks the resonance and poignancy of the other works in the show, its presentation in a gallery revamped as a kids' nursery is quite cute.

It is ambitious for a small, locally based organisation such as the Fremantle Arts Centre to embark on an international program of this kind, but its success reinforces the potential for any organisation to think beyond artificial restrictions and claim a foothold on the international stage.

It will be interesting to chart the impact of having Bismuth in Fremantle, as the 100 or more artists who engaged with him over the past two weeks explore the ideas generated from this contact.

Album launches in US but illness forces Gurrumul to cancel tour



IAIN SHEDDEN

THE snowballing international career of indigenous singer-songwriter Geoffrey Gurrumul Yunupingu continued yesterday with the release of his debut album, *Gurrumul*, in the US. Unfortunately, the blind performer from Elcho Island in northeast Arnhem Land wasn't there to launch it.

Last night Gurrumul, as he is known, should have been making

the US until July 8. However, a mystery illness has forced the singer to cancel all dates and he remains in Arnhem Land under doctor's orders, according to a press statement issued by his US record company, Dramatico.

The cancellation of the tour came at the last minute. Tour crew members and Gurrumul's minder, producer and bassist Michael Hohnen had already flown to New York for the opening night.

Yesterday Hohnen expressed

plane for five days to the launch of the US release and the tour, and having to go to Melbourne and back to Arnhem Land for his visa, and of course all the excitement in the lead-up, this is a great disappointment to Gurrumul, his family and to us," Hohnen said in New York. "But the support from the US is still good, with the label there adapting a new strategy for the album's release and the hope for a tour at a later stage."

Gurrumul has become Austr-

album has earned him awards and multi-platinum sales at home, but he has become a star in Europe as well, where he has played to sell-out crowds in London, Paris and other European capitals.

Earlier this year he performed one of his own songs and the Police's *Every Breath You Take* with Sting on French television.

Early reviews of his album in the US have been positive, with one Philadelphia reviewer calling his voice "transforming and some-

Starbucks pick-of-the-week free download in association with iTunes next month.

Gurrumul has toured extensively locally and overseas during the past 18 months. His Australian record company, Skinnyfish Music, expressed disappointment at the US tour's postponement.

"We postponed the trip due to illness but the US launch is still going ahead, albeit without performances for the time being," Skinnyfish boss Mark B. Gurrumul