red, travelled to and treat year estated in trans for your medium to work on your final war ong. 11 years is a long time het great. About me? I still thinking my idea. I really interested in your ideas around exploring neation in your work in relation to physicality. saw that news before about the sand-blesting imagine making and processing your experience gans. That will be good information for me to ness mongh printing mat is form physical arevelop my idea. I knew many brand they stop mitional must have been a very powerful experio used this kind of type to wash or paint the in sporce about finding new forms' to fit the ean. Sound good but In my brain one decurence tas you mand to express what ways do please in my mind. My fancy high heels". This is a gree to do mis? Even though I have paint on leasy in my mind. My fancy high heels". This is a a materiality and possible ways to evone trutory bakind the high-healed shoes. That film ohoses second and centery qualities the started in he footprint of famous high-healed shoes brands from ner materials. There new materials and native to Russian border to the Manhattan. Now York. using installation are opening up my praction poor countryside to the bloody scene. where tell allows wonder and surprise into the work lows and take the stin then to the fashional and hour in ways we teen exploring using tomoon etropolitan. We can see the influence of Globalization atter and growing crystall to far. Photograph the world through pairs of high hels This decumen to plays an important vote in my new worker can see from extreme poverty to extreme wealth. like your list of artists. I give tham anome were the world is falled with a sign of the difference remover reading an while from the your ational borders. Class and gender leople alway think fashion

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e other side of the world.

For more information on Coalesce ARI please visit www.coalesceari.weeblv.com/

BUILDING 2 LEVEL 2. BOWEN STREET, MELBOURNE

**COORDINATOR** Stephen Gallagher **ADMINISTRATOR** Andrew Tetzlaff

INTERNS Amanda Airs & Adriane Hayward GRAPHIC DESIGN Gracia Haby & Louise Jennison

TELEPHONE +61 3 9925 4971 GALLERY OPENING HOURS Monday – Friday 10.00am to 5.00pm

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Acknowledgements

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Thank you to the staff and volunteers at RMIT Link Arts for supporting Coalesce ARI and all our associated projects and to all MFA teaching staff and students.

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arls<del>8</del> culture

A special thanks to all the postmen who were involved in this project















TUESDAY 19 JUNE TO FRIDAY 29 JUNE 2012 **OPENING** WEDNESDAY 20 JUNE 5-7PM





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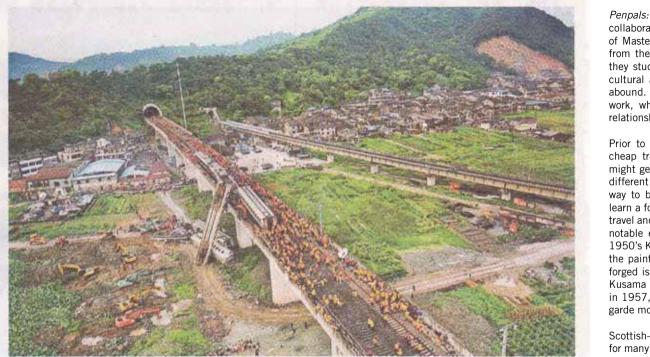
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## Penpals: Post-Conversation









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關股份及債券哀鴻遍野。 (黄料圖片)

Penpals: Post-conversation is an experimental, artistic like "penpal" letters in that they united artists on different collaboration, through hand-written correspondence by a group of Master of Fine Art students from the School of Art working from the twin locations of Melbourne and Hong Kong. Whilst they study the same program, they work in two quite distinct, cultural and geographic locations. Similarities and differences abound. As penpals, each pair of artists has sought to construct work, which both navigates and interprets this long distance told me "When I was in my final year at art school near London

Prior to the ubiquitous use of email, social media sites and thought I'd better write to ten artists around the world in the hope cheap travel, having a penpal was one of the few ways one of getting three positive replies to my letters. To my surprise and might get a personal glimpse of a life lived somewhere entirely delight seven of the artists replied with catalogues, slides and different from the place one normally called "home". It was a CVs. The art world is a very collegial place." Today social media way to become familiar with the unfamiliar and perhaps also has very much taken the place of pen- pal letters sent from a learn a foreign language or establish a friendship. Often it led to post-office. However, Hill told me "Although I have a web-site travel and precipitated major changes in people's lives. One such and use Facebook and email. I still get a thrill from placing a notable example is the renowned artist Yavoi Kusama. In the physical envelope into a postbox in Australia and knowing it will 1950's Kusama was writing and sending drawings to her penpal. turn up inside someone's house in Shanghai, Glasgow or Paris the painter Georgia O'Keeffe in America. The relationship they a few days later. That is the joy of being, or having a pen-pal." forged is largely credited with providing the encouragement for Kusama to leave her native Japan and move to New York City Penpals: Post-conversation continues this well established in 1957, after which she became a leader of New York's avanthuman desire to transcend the limitations of the familiar world garde movement and rose to international fame. and forge new connections limited only by the imagination and

Scottish-born Australian artist Peter Hill worked as a "mail artist" for many years during the 1980's. These postal projects revolved Associate Professor Kevin White mainly around issues such as Nuclear Disarmament, Ecology Deputy Head of International Development and Gender issues as well as "open projects" which might cover anything from painting to conceptualism. They were very much

We are largely a group of artists from the generation who grew continents and forged life-long friendships and collaborations. up writing letters to penpals whom we never met, nor needed to. We made friends in faraway places: Finland, America, France Usually these projects worked on the idea of "no rejections, no returns" and the work was eventually gifted to a local university. and Hong Kong. We learnt about the world from the perspective art school or hospital. Very often a poster was produced after of children overseas. Fast forward twenty-odd years and the event and on the back of it would be listed the names and collaboration through letter writing presented continual surprises addresses of all the participating artists from Berlin to Hong and challenges. Kong, Suddenly you had penpals all over the planet. Hill also

> The very proposition of avoiding email as a form of communication was met with apprehension and this hesitation proved to be well founded, as emails crept in between the sending and receiving of postal letters. Other parameters for the project, such as a weight restriction of 500grams for final artworks and the number of letters exchanged, were also stretched to the limit.

Despite these constraints, the artists in this project have succeeded in establishing relationships with each other across oceans and borders. These handwritten letters have been carried. re-read. shared and studied, and concepts of growth, space, time and wonder have been discussed back and forth in considered responses over the past six months. We are excited to present our shared concepts and artworks in this exhibition and look forward to continuing the relationships and dialogues we have developed

## Lizzy Sampson

Coalesce ARI

I decided to write my exeges on three contemporary artists. I

the simple act of writing a letter.

Dragon court 

into the future.