

DIAMORPHIC HEDONISM. Down in the bowels of inner Sydney's Off Broadway arena, where "Real punks can't spell cappaccinno" and "Apathy breeds terrorism", where rent is still relatively cheap and large warehouse space abounds, are the adjoining developments of the Darling Harbour Scheme and artist run initiatives. Their co-existence is no accident. When Brisbane's Expo was under construction and during preparations for the America's Cup in Fremantle, cheap and temporary space was made available to artists in these cities. This situation facilitated an upsurge in ARIs. Currently the majority of ARIs are in Sydney and tenuously occupy locations such as Ultimo and Chippendale, suburbs marked for partial demolition and refurbishment.

Existential parameters form a loose framework around which a nebulous flow of particles proliferate in the ebb and flow of discoursive practice. Unusual entities dissassociate pre-mediated dichotomies, disaffected desires articulate in a maelstrom of neryous penance.

ARI maintains a tenuous point of focus, resisting seductive translocations and establishing an interference pattern in relation to sublime responsibilities and hidden agendas. As an amorphous activity, ARI is forced to continually re-examine its own narrative flow. It encourages participation in, and promotion of, a divergence of response in a process oriented scenario: a re/definition and re/negotiation of unknown parameters. An artists' initiative is a response to cultural confines and involves the maintenance of disequilibrium. A simulacra of dissimilarities establishes an agenda pertinent to the concerns of artists within a broad, cultural context.

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WORKING AND LIVING, ONE IOTA. SPECULATION, HOUSING AND LAND DEALINGS IN THE MARKET PLACE. A CITY THE SUM OF ITS PARTS AND IS SOMEWHERE AND HOW THE ART OBJECT IS CREATED. BUYERS DO NOT CREATE THE SPACE AT REASONABLE PRICES. REAL ESTATE IS WHEELED AND DEALT AND SO WITH ARTISTS A NEED TO PRE-SENT THEIR OBJECTS AND A CASE: THAT THEY APPRECIATE THE LOW COST REAL ESTATE DEVELOPERS LIKE AS A MEANS TO PROSPER. SOMEHOW ARTISTS MUST MAKE OBJECTS AND SPACE. A CITY IS A SUM AND BODIES MAKE LITTLE CONCES-SIONS. IT IS THE ARTISTS WHO AP-PRECIATE INTOLERABLE CONDITIONS. WORKING AND LIVING IN REAL ESTATE.

NEIL HAWKES