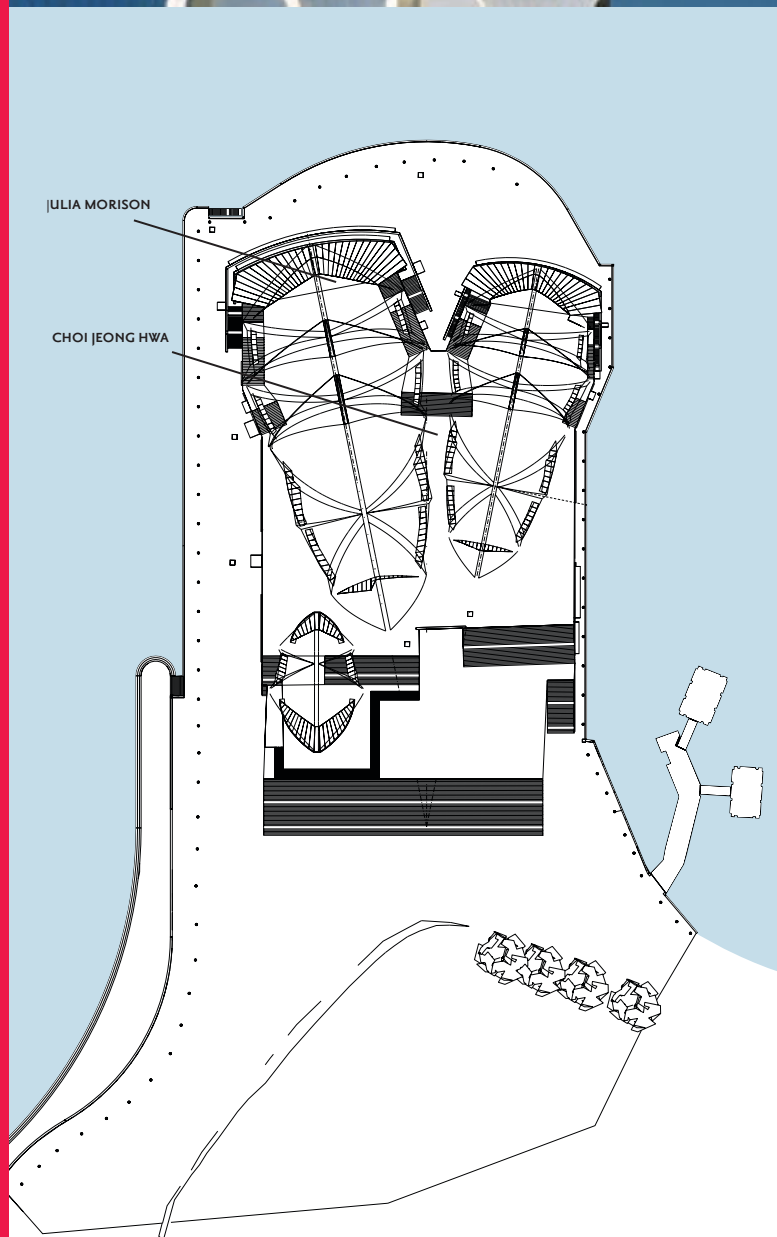


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## ART AGAINST ARCHITECTURE

Sydney Opera House was the venue for the first Biennale of Sydney in 1973, which took place at the time of the building's opening. A World Heritage Listed architectural icon, the Sydney Opera House is one of the world's best known performing arts centres.

The work of the four artists shown here is consciously in conversation with the Opera House's architecture as well as with the history of its surrounds.



### CHOI JEONG HWA

Born 1961 in Seoul, Korea  
Lives and works in Seoul

Choi Jeong Hwa is a Seoul-based artist and designer. He works across many disciplines – art, graphic design, industrial design and architecture – using a broad range of media including video, moulded plastic, shopping trolleys, real and fake food, lights, wires and kitsch Korean artefacts. Choi has recently worked in oversized floral-form inflatables, including lotus blossoms. This celebration of a seemingly superficial object honours the beauty of nature, and the need for imagination when living in urban cultures with a diminishing natural aesthetic. His playful practice comments on the privileged environment of art institutions and questions the prized status of artworks amidst a consumer-frenzied world. Choi will create a site-specific architectural intervention, *Hubble Bubble* (2010), outside the Sydney Opera House, and *The unbearable lightness of being* (2010) is presented in the Royal Botanic Gardens.



Choi Jeong Hwa  
tree | 2009  
Courtesy the artist  
The artist's Biennale project was made possible  
through the generous support of Look Print

### JENNIFER WEN MA

Born 1973 in Beijing, China  
Lives and works in New York, USA

Jennifer Wen Ma's work takes a variety of forms, from video projections and sculptures, to drawings and interactive installations. *New Adventures of Havoc in Heaven III* (2010) is a spectacular animated projection that appears on a cloud of airborne smoke, high above the Sydney Opera House. The projection shows us Sun Wukong, the Monkey King, a popular and irreverent figure in Chinese mythology. He takes on a blue cast against the Sydney night sky, recalling stories in the classical Chinese novel *Journey to the West*, in which differently coloured smokes appear to symbolise the sundry natures of demons and fairies. Ma also shows a new work at the Art Gallery of NSW. *Petrified Garden* (2010) is a large bonsai composition made out of Australian native plants, whose foliage has been completely blackened with Chinese ink. The flowers remain in their natural colours, creating a striking contrast, made all the more strange by the colour of new growth that occurs throughout the exhibition.



Jennifer Wen Ma  
*New Adventures of Havoc in Heaven III* | 2010  
Courtesy the artist  
Photograph: Michael Corridore

### JENNIFER WEN MA

–  
*New Adventures of Havoc in Heaven III* (2010)

SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE

FRIDAY 14 MAY

PERFORMANCES AT 6 PM, 7 PM AND 7.45 PM  
(5–10 MINUTES IN DURATION)

Please check [www.BOS17.COM](http://www.BOS17.COM)  
in the case of inclement weather

Witness the Monkey King ride on a cloud high over the Sydney Opera House. Jennifer Wen Ma presents a spectacular smoke projection, beaming an animated image of Sun Wukong, the Monkey King, a popular and irreverent figure in Chinese mythology, onto a cloud of smoke in the sky. The movement of the smoke is choreographed by the graceful movements of a trained performer, and the Monkey King dances overhead in a playful fusion of tradition and technology.

**JULIA MORISON**

Born 1952 in Pahiatua, New Zealand  
Lives and works in Christchurch, New Zealand

Julia Morison works in a variety of media, including painting, photography, sculpture and installation. In a career spanning over three decades, she has established a unique background to her practice – an artistic vocabulary based upon mystical orders of knowledge such as Hermeticism, the Kabbalah and alchemy. Morison has long worked to a ten-by-ten pictorial structure that became an ‘unconscious skeleton’ for her work. Geometric forms have recently become connected with symbolic references in her work, mixing formal abstraction with surrealism. The *Myriorama* works, started in 2008, are comprised of large-scale modules that reference a Victorian parlour game in which illustrated cards were arranged in many different ways. By using multiple panels, Morison invites the viewer to imagine a similar myriad of configurations. She has made a continuation of this series, *Myriorama#7: Network* (2010), specially for the Concert Hall Northern Foyer in the Sydney Opera House.



Julia Morison  
*Myriorama #7: Network* | 2010 (detail)  
Courtesy the artist and Two Rooms, Auckland  
This project was made possible through the support of Two Rooms, Auckland and the assistance of Adrienne, Lady Stewart

**DJON MUNDINE OAM**

Born 1951 in Grafton, Australia  
Lives and works in Sydney, Australia

Djon Mundine, writer, artist and activist, is currently based at Campbelltown Arts Centre as Aboriginal Curator of contemporary art. A member of the Bandjalung people, Mundine has been involved in the visual arts since the late 1970s. *The Song of Bennelong and Pemulwuy* (2010)\* has been conceived by Mundine as a gift from the freshwater Tharawal people to the saltwater Gadigal people and follows an age-old practice of art creation as ritual exchange. It signifies two great themes of Aboriginal history since 1788 – resistance and engagement – and is based on enlarged figures of men from traditional rock art, which will be carved into the tall rock face on Tarpeian Way, a part of the Royal Botanic Gardens opposite the Sydney Opera House. This project will stand as the first permanent Aboriginal memorial in Sydney and refers to the freedom fighter Pemulwuy (c. 1750–1802) who fell in battle, and Bennelong (c. 1764–1813) who first taught the English colonists about Aboriginal culture.

\*This project is in the process of being realised.



Djon Mundine  
concept image for *The Song of Bennelong and Pemulwuy* | 2010  
*The Song of Bennelong and Pemulwuy* has been produced by Campbelltown Arts Centre in association with the Biennale of Sydney

SIGNIFYING TWO GREAT  
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HISTORY SINCE 1788  
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AN AGE-OLD PRACTICE  
OF ART CREATION AS  
RITUAL EXCHANGE

**Biennale Visitor Survey**

Complete our visitor survey at a Biennale venue or online for your chance to win VIP treatment at the Sofitel Sydney Wentworth with a package valued at \$750. Conditions apply.

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**YouSay**

The 17<sup>th</sup> Biennale of Sydney introduces YouSay, an online activity designed to give Biennale visitors the chance to share their experience of the exhibition and to hear what others think. Record and upload your own audio review and listen to comments that other people have left.

Reviews and podcasts are shared via the YouSay microsite, accessible from your web-enabled mobile phone or the free Biennale of Sydney iPhone app.

Join the conversation from home, in-venue, or at our Education Hubs located on Cockatoo Island, the MCA and Pier 2/3, Walsh Bay.

YouSay provides a platform for discussion, ideas and debate. Whether you're new to contemporary art or an expert, get involved and have your say!

To see how it works, visit [WWW.BOS17.COM/YOUSAY](http://WWW.BOS17.COM/YOUSAY)

This project was made possible through the support of the Nelson Meers Foundation and obii.mobi

