

29th May 1985

Professor Manning Clark  
Australian National University  
CANBERRA A.C.T. 2600

Dear Professor Manning Clark

I am writing to confirm your recent telephone conversation with John Buckley concerning the Australian Visions 1984 Exxon International Exhibition. Both Jenepher Duncan, the Director of the Monash University Gallery and I are delighted that you have agreed at such relatively short notice to open the exhibition at the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art on Wednesday 12th June at 6.00 pm.

The ACCA and the Monash University Gallery will act as joint venues for the exhibition, which was organized by the Solomon R Guggenheim Museum in New York, and shown in September last year. The organization of the show was made possible by the sponsorship of the Exxon Corporation with assistance from the Visual Arts Board of the Australia Council and the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs. Esso Australia Ltd has generously sponsored the Australian tour of the exhibition which is currently showing in Perth.

It is the title of the exhibition which prompted us to think of you as an appropriate opener. Australian Visions is one of several exhibitions which last year introduced a wide range of Australian artists selected by the Guggenheim curator, Diane Waldman, who had, I think, a particular 'vision' of Australian art in mind - a vision tied to a landscape and figurative tradition conditioned by Australia's 'isolation'. Whether this is borne out by the work in the show I will leave you to decide.

The ACCA will be showing the <sup>work</sup> of Peter Booth, Dale Frank, John Nixon and Vivienne Shark LeWitt, whilst at Monash the work of Mandy Martin, Sue Norrie, Jan Murray and Bill Henson will be exhibited. I have enclosed a copy of the Australian version of the catalogue. The larger Guggenheim version will be forwarded.

It is understood, of course, that all your expenses will be paid. Should you wish to view the exhibition both at Monash and ACCA prior to the opening, that can be arranged. After

the opening, Esso has arranged a dinner, the venue yet to be decided, which you would be most welcome to attend. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

We are very pleased that you are able to open the exhibition, and extend our thanks in anticipation.

Yours sincerely

Sue Cramer  
Exhibitions Co-ordinator.

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