

# Leah King-Smith Family Myths

**Photography** Leah King Smith and Tom King **Stories** Pearl and Tom King  
**Installation design** Leah King-Smith **Sound** Duncan King-Smith

**Opening:** Thursday 18 August 6-8pm  
**Exhibition Dates:** 19 August - 2 October 1994

All families have their myths. The photo album is our most popular shrine. *Family Myths* looks at how, within the family culture, stories and photos help create a vocabulary by which the past is understood and the family history constructed.

Leah King-Smith draws on the historical narratives of her parents, Tom & Pearl King, whose lives speak of the influences of two diverse cultures, to create an installation of sound and images. Her photo collages are adapted from Tom King's collection of photographs. Pearl's stories in this exhibition go back to her childhood in Dirrabandi and her courtship by Tom. Their relationship was controversial; in Queensland at that time it was not considered acceptable for Aboriginals and Euro-Australians to marry. Leah and her husband Duncan have drawn from Pearl's oral history and from Tom and Pearl's home in south-east Queensland to create a complex sound environment for the photographs.

In *Family Myths* Leah deals with her cultural identity by reworking and making public stories which are valued and continually re-asserted and retold within the family. Memories and family photos present us perhaps with as much truth as we can bear, or are happy to reveal.

**For further information please contact Clare Williamson at ACCA:**

**Tel: (03) 654 6422**  
**Fax: (03) 650 3438**

ACCA is assisted by the Commonwealth Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body  
ACCA acknowledges the financial support of Arts Victoria, a division of the Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism