

P U B L I C N O T I C E



"I don't feel tied to the fashion treadmill of the art world, and I'm not interested in propagating any form of cynicism. I see cynicism as a toxic substance we need to purge from the system".

Bill Viola *Art In America*,
March 1998

BILL VIOLA

in his only public
lecture in Australia

Saturday 17 October 6.30pm
Auditorium, RMIT Storey Hall
344 Swanston Street

Melbourne

Tickets: Full \$15/Concession \$10

Bookings: Ticketmaster 13 61 66

Internationally acclaimed video artist Bill Viola represented the United States at the 1995 Venice Biennale and in 1997 was the subject of a 25 year retrospective organised by the Whitney Museum, New York which is touring Europe.

Viola's video installations offer a journey into the unexpected where sensory experience is heightened and the viewer is invited to explore the human condition, the nature of creativity, mortality and consciousness.

Viola's video sequences explore the phenomena of sense perception as a language of the body and an avenue for self knowledge. Inspired by Eastern and Western philosophies, Viola instills his work with a spiritual view of human nature and a belief in the transformative power of art.

The Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, 200 Gertrude Street and Centre for Contemporary Photography are proud to present Bill Viola in his only public lecture in Australia as part of 'Videor' for the 1998 Melbourne Festival. His lecture is supported by the Australia Council, Arts Victoria and the Medici Society for the Arts, RMIT University.

In conjunction with Viola's lecture, the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art and the Melbourne Festival present BILL VIOLA: THE MESSENGER commissioned for the Durham Cathedral by the Chaplaincy to the Arts and Recreation in North East England September 1996. The exhibition tour is managed by The Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh and in Australia by the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art. The installation is at the Old Melbourne Gaol Chapel and will run 17 Oct - 1 Nov 1998.

Contact the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art on 9654 6422
for further details/information on press opportunities.