



Bill HENSON, Untitled, 1985–86, one print from a series of 154, chromogenic print, 106 x 86 cm, Monash Gallery of Art, City of Monash Collection



SAMSTAG
MUSEUM

Media Release

See and hear Australia's best-known contemporary photographer, Bill Henson, at the Samstag Museum of Art

Bill Henson 'in conversation' with Paul Grabowsky

5.30pm, Monday 21 November 2011

Bill Henson: early work from the MGA Collection, with selected recent landscapes

14 October – 16 December 2011

In a highly anticipated event, **Bill Henson will be 'in conversation' with Paul Grabowsky**, Artistic Director of the 2012 Adelaide Festival on **Monday 21 November at 5.30pm**. Presented in association with the 2012 Adelaide Festival and the Art Gallery of South Australia, this special **FREE event** will be held at the University of South Australia, City West campus on North Terrace. **Bookings are essential**, unisa.edu.au/samstagmuseum.

The 'in conversation' event is a highlight to accompany a very special exhibition at the Samstag Museum from one of Australia's most distinguished artists. *Bill Henson: early work from the MGA Collection, with selected recent landscapes* offers South Australians a unique opportunity to experience the power and beauty of the work of Bill Henson, Australia's best-known contemporary photographer. This is the first exhibition dedicated to this major artist's work ever to be presented in Adelaide.

The exhibition features twenty-nine iconic images from many of Henson's major series from the 1970s through to the early 1990s, all drawn from the Monash Gallery of Art, who hold one of the largest collections of Henson's work in the country.

For many, the experience of Henson's extraordinary work has been through its reproduction in the media. However, it is important to view the actual photographs as this offers a much richer visual experience. All of the early work in the exhibition was printed by hand in the darkroom, and consequently the uneven surfaces of the black and white photographs have a mysterious, alchemic quality not present in reproductions of Henson's images.

Alongside the MGA Collection exhibition, the Samstag Museum is presenting a selection of recent landscape photographs by Henson. These are works of compelling power and continue the artist's fascination with a diverse range of subject matter. Through them we explore an island of rocky outcrops, monoliths rising dramatically from the ocean and waterfalls captured in a blaze of light.

An education resource for this exhibition is available at unisa.edu.au/samstagmuseum.

Samstag Museum of Art opening hours are Tuesday to Friday 11–5pm, Saturday and Sunday 2–5pm. Free admission.

For further information contact Erica Green, Director, Samstag Museum of Art, T 08 8302 0872, M 0438 821 239 or visit unisa.edu.au/samstagmuseum.

Anne & Gordon Samstag Museum of Art
University of South Australia
55 North Terrace Adelaide SA 5000
www.unisa.edu.au/samstagmuseum



roslyn oxley8 gallery



Bill Henson: early work from the MGA Collection is a Monash Gallery of Art travelling exhibition and the development of this exhibition is assisted through Arts Victoria's Exhibition Development Fund (EDF), supported by the Victorian Government through Arts Victoria and the Community Support Fund.