



1



2



3



4

- [1] Installation view, including Rodney GLICK & Lynette VOEVODIN, *I love animals and most of nature, feral camel*.
- [2] Erica America, *The Watchers*, installation (detail).
- [3] Laura Adel JOHNSON, *Sandy loves Ringo and Ringo loves Sandy*, fairylights, tape.
- [4] Bevan HONEY, *BFG (the big friendly giant)*, cast polyurethane.



In our visual arts spotlight this week, we look at the *Innovators 4 – Linden 1968* exhibition at Linden – Centre for Contemporary Arts.

Based in St Kilda, in a converted Victorian mansion, Linden's Innovators Program creates opportunities for artists to present new, innovative and uncompromising art in a professional and accessible environment. The Innovators Award, presented annually, which allows the winning artist to travel to the Venice Biennale Vernissage, one of the world's most prestigious visual arts events.

Linden 1968 is a multi-layered exhibition featuring works by a range of artists from Western Australia exploring the spirit of '68, a year of political turbulence and popular uprisings in Paris, Prague and other cities; the year Martin Luther King Jr and Bobby Kennedy were assassinated, and Australian Prime Minister Harold Holt drowned.

Facing geographical limitations, Western Australian artists' work can often be characterized by an ambitious and inquiring interest into the world around us and our relationship to each other. This isolation allows a freedom from influence that in turn permits the production of truly original, radical and unorthodox art. There is also a sense of experimentation and hybridity, with visual artists often adopting performative modes within their practice. The model of *Linden 1968* is a perfect fit for these artists as it is conceptually complex yet wide open to interpretation, offering an opportunity for the playful and improvised.

Each of the artists has been asked to create artworks that respond to the history of the site – specifically, Linden's role as a private guest house in 1968 – and the significant events of the year. The results, as you can see here, are truly remarkable.

Innovators 4 – Linden 1968 at Linden – Centre for Contemporary Arts, 26 Acland Street, St Kilda. Now showing until December 14. Gallery hours 1pm-6pm Tuesday-Sunday. www.linden.org.au

Spotlight on Linden 1968

