



AUSTRALIAN COMMERCIAL GALLERIES ASSOCIATION

MEDIA RELEASE

BILL HENSON & ROSLYN OXLEY9 GALLERY

23 May 2008

The Australian Commercial Galleries Association expresses its deep concern at reaction to the current exhibition of photographs by Australian artist, Bill Henson, at Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery in Sydney. The removal of artworks by police together with threatened prosecutions raises a number of serious issues concerning the limits of artistic freedom of expression.

Mr Guy Abrahams, National President of the ACGA today said: “Hysteria and witch hunts are not conducive to good policy or good judgement. The ACGA calls for the exercise of calm and restraint and the promotion of rational, informed discussion about the issues, including the depiction of children, which have been raised by these events.”

Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery is a highly regarded member of the ACGA of some twenty-five years standing. Mr Henson, whose artistic career spans over thirty years, is one of Australia's leading contemporary artists. His works are held in every leading art institution in Australia and are included in prestigious art museums worldwide. Both Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery and Mr Henson are internationally recognised and respected.

Contact: Guy Abrahams, National President: (03) 9428 6099
Phoebe Dunn, Chief Executive Officer: (03) 0528 6144