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Front Matter

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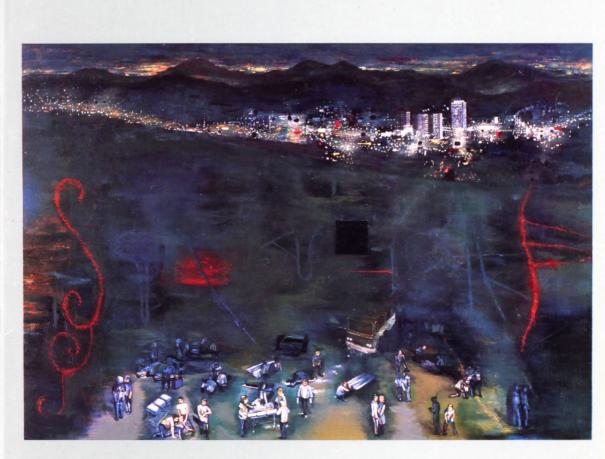
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Antipodes

A North American Journal of Australian Literature

The Publication of the American Association of <u>Australian Literary Studies</u>

JUNE 1 996



About the cover

"Woden Waiting" John Cattapan 1992-93 oil on linen 195 x 330 cms

"Woden Waiting" is part of a cycle of works that has developed from my obsession with urban identity and its attendant darker side. The paining was done in 1992 while I was living in Canberra, a constructed capital city that has been superimposed on the Australian bush. Canberra as a protected vision of planned, dense, urban containment was overtaken earlier this century by the automobile. Cars and flawless highways became important signs of expansion. And so the Woden Valley is one of a number of interconnected satellite suburbs. The office buildings, shopping malls, and perfect rows of tiered car parks present themselves as competition to the rich spectacle of the surrounding Brindabella Mountains.

"Woden Waiting" is, in essence, a commentary on the effects of a pristine, ordered, but alienating environment on its inhabitants. One thing that everyone who lives in Canberra feels is the horror vaccui of so much open unattended, manicured space—Can-berra has the largest green acreage perperson of any Australian capital city. The notion of a "chance encounter therefore is improbable.

The image of an accident in Woden Waiting" stands first as a metaphor for a desire for the unexpected literally a chance encounter. Second, the accident scene represents the idea of disruption or indeed derangement—the surreal urban disaster of the foreground takes place as a disembodied, nocturnal vision.

Drifting across the surface are cryptic hieroglyphiclike markings. They stand for an unseen, spontaneous "atmosphere" of information—a kind of automatic transmission. Blown up from doodles, the markings are, like the narrative of the painting, a stage intervention that reinforces the desire for "something (anything) to happen."

John Cattapan

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publication. Trying to think of a way to tie this fact in the "Editor's Notes," I decided to take a sentimental

Antipodes, the official journal of the American <u>Antipodeş</u> Association of Australian Antipodes ______ Association of Australian A North American Journaterary Studies, is or Australian Literaturfublished by the The Publication of the sociation twice a year, American Association the sociation twice a year, Australian Literary Studies into its tenth year of ublication. Trying to think of a way to tie this fact the "Editor's Notes," I decided to take a sentimental Antipodes is published in Concernition with the

Australian Liferary Studies and December. the 'Editor's Notes,' I decided to take a sentimental Cooperation with the cooperation with the cooperation with the Edward A. Clark Center for Australian Studies at the Hamper 1 of Antipodes. It had been a long time since had looked at the Inaugural Issue, and I feared that I • Essays on any aspect of Australian literature and/or might shudder with embarrassment. Much to my culture are invited; comparative studies are especially surprise it didn't look all that different from the encouraged. The essays should not exceed 5000 word becember 1995 edition. should conform to the MLA style, be double spaced. Certainly the fiction and poetry selections were contain internal documentation, and include a list of works; impressive, including stories by Thea Astley, Barbara drama, and poetry by Australian writers are invited. •Hathrahan, Gerard Windsor, and B. Wongar, along wi submissions should be accompanied by a return, strampedapter from a novel by Thomas Keneally. Poets envelope. International postage coupons are requested dresented included Kevin Hart, Les Murray (Les A. order to return overseas mail. Otherwise manuscripts will ray in those days), A.D. Hope, Fay Zwicky, Alan not be returned. • Antipodes publishes only fiction, potertion and some have been the subjects of essays. Antipodes assume no responsibility for contributors' There were three articles focusing on the theme opinions. • Antipodes is indexed in the annual MLA inter-tailan/American Literary Connections." Brian national Bibliography and in AUSTLIT (Australian Deferminal adout "Connections and Disconlies with the authors. Permission to reprint critical materians." Carolyn Bliss discussed how Australian must be obtained from Antipodes. ISBN 0893-5580-© 1996 Antipodes.



Bennett compared Willa Cather and Henry Handel

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Richardson. All three of these essayists are still active members in the AAALS, with Carolyn Bliss assuming the Association's presidency this year. The interview statistic active members in the AAALS, with Carolyn Bliss assuming the Association's presidency this year. The interview statistic active statistic active Richardson. All three of these essayists are still active Kiernan, English Dept., University of Sydney, NSW 2006 cil of Editors of Learned Journals' Annual Contest to be entered into the "New Journals" division. Of course, it didn't receive a prize. One of the judges found the whole project distasteful, objected to the overuse of rules (lines), and predicted an early death

The American Association of Australian Literary Studies ively produced," then adding that "it was obviously very ex-a professional organization whose members are drawn from the structure interest in so obscure a subject." was organized in 1986. An invitation to membership fae other two judges, I recall, rather liked the journal, extended to all those interested in Australian Literature Antipode methods. was organized in 1986. An invitation to membership file other two judges, i recail, fatter fixed the journal, extended to all those interested in Australian literature. Antipodes probably still uses too many rules, and it Dues for one year include subscriptions to Antipodes applied expensive to produce—back then we didn't the newsletter, both published twice a year: \$40—singlen have a four-color cover and perfect binding, just student/retired membership; \$30—graduate produce between two includes applied in the while Make check payable to AAALS, in U.S. dollars. Matthaking its subject less obscure. address: Robert Ross, #220, 5353 Keller Springs Road, Dallas, TX 75248. Australians wishing to join the AAALS may pay their fees in Australian dollars. Please add A\$10 to each of the above sums. Mailing address: Brian Kiernan Antipodes acknowledges financial assistance fron each of the above sums. Mailing address: Brian Kiernan Antipodes acknowledges financial assistance fron

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