



Ella Dreyfus is currently completing her Doctorate in Fine Arts at the University of NSW, titled, *Shame and the Aesthetics of Intimacy: Three Contemporary Artworks*. Her most recent photographic exhibition *Under Twelve Under Twenty* was held at Stills Gallery in September 2012. She has exhibited professionally for over twenty years and her artworks can be viewed at www.elladreyfus.com Dreyfus is a lecturer in Photography and Head of Public Programs at the National Art School, Sydney.

ABOVE
Ella Dreyfus © 2012
Grow up
chromogenic print, 90 x 90cm

ELLA DREYFUS

I forgive you every day

EXHIBITION DATES 3 - 20 October 2012



THE UNIVERSITY
GALLERY

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE CALLAGHAN 2308

E gallery@newcastle.edu.au

W www.newcastle.edu.au/universitygallery

T + 61 2 4921 5255

OPEN Wednesday – Saturday 12 noon – 6pm or by appointment



THE UNIVERSITY
GALLERY

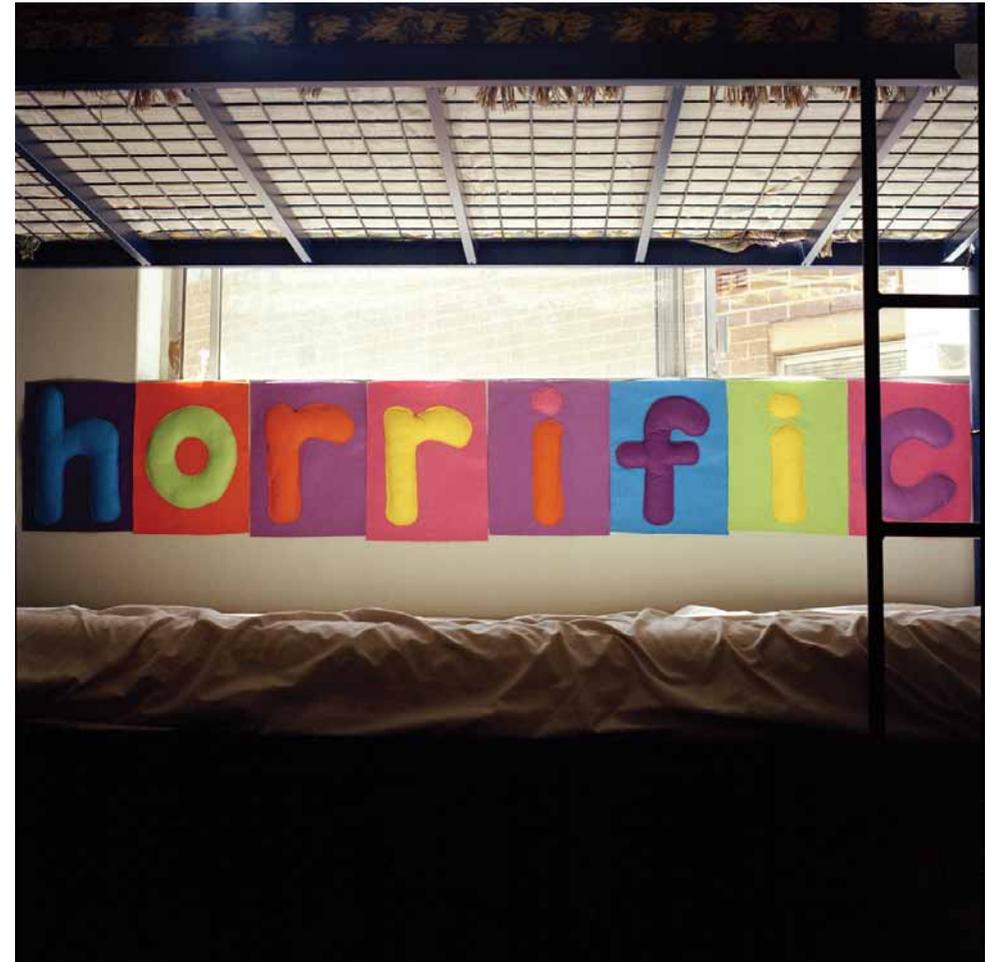


The exhibition *I forgive you every day* is an installation of hand-stitched felt letters and large format colour photographs, which reflect upon childhood perceptions of family trauma. Central to this work is language and the power of words to evoke strong emotions. The words spelt out by Dreyfus are the words of psychological trauma, words of abuse or the impact of abuse.

Scumbag. Horrific. Punishing Silence.

The photographs in the exhibition reveal the words placed within the landscape of an anonymous suburban housing estate, evoking a silent testimony witnessed only by the artist through the camera lens. Dreyfus is demonstrating her concern for our emotionally charged inner and outer worlds.

This complex work evokes a dialogue between childhood, materiality, feelings and language. At the centre sit powerful



phrases which lay bare innermost thoughts. They visually and linguistically inscribe intimate aspects of identity that often remain shamefully and fearfully concealed 'behind closed doors'.

Ella Dreyfus is an award winning artist whose photographs have been widely exhibited and published in Australia. She specialises in subject matter that unsettles the viewer, and can bring about affective emotional encounters with audiences. Her images reflect upon the frailty and physicality of the human condition and on subjects who are often rendered invisible and hidden from view.

ABOVE LEFT
Ella Dreyfus © 2012
Pile of letters
 chromogenic print
 90 x 90cm

ABOVE
Ella Dreyfus © 2012
Horrific
 chromogenic print
 90 x 90cm

FRONT COVER
Ella Dreyfus © 2012
I forgive you every day
 hand stitched felt fabric
 24 x 30cm x 18 works, dimensions variable