

MATTHEW JONES

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THE AIDS CRISIS IS NOT OVER

SIMON WATNEY INTERVIEWS
GRAN FURY, DIVA TV,
VISUAL AIDS, PAPER TIGER,
DIANE NEUMAIER, RICHARD
GOLDSTEIN, LARRY KRAMER,
DOUGLAS CRIMP AND OTHERS
+ THE CHILDREN'S CRUSADE + SEX
BEFORE CRIME + GAOL AIDS ART
+ PLWA SELF-DOCUMENTATION
+ QUILT PROJECT + G'DAY
GALA.h. + KISS OF LIGHT
+ "WHEN YOU SAY NO..."
+ IMAGING AIDS



t o b e

ILLITERATE

i s t o b e

i s t o b e

BLIND



LITERACY

a

h e a l t h

&

s a f e t y

i s s u e

IMAGING AIDS

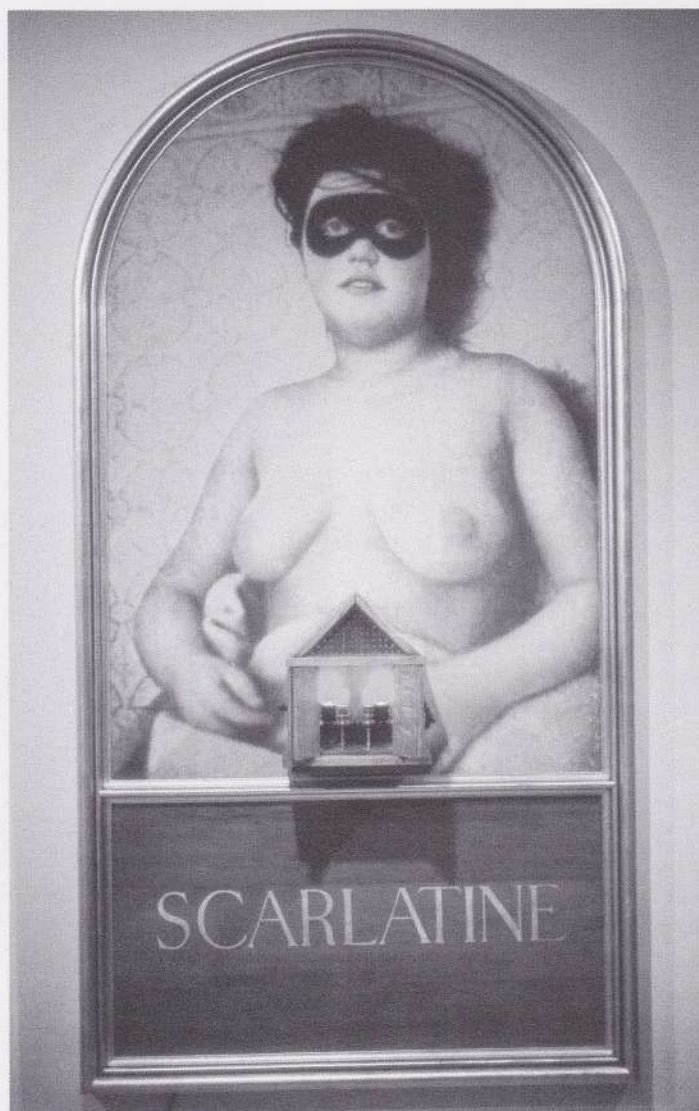
PAUL HAYES

It is only by making death visible that it can be attended to and that each life that precedes it can be given the dignity it deserves --- in order to remind everyone of the continuing rights of all individuals to the healthy respect of others.

Bruce W. Ferguson,
Art Against AIDS - On The Road

The transition of the HIV/AIDS pandemic from a natural phenomenon into what Paula Treichler has called an "epidemic of signification" (*October 43*, MIT Press, 1987) provided the starting point for the *Imaging AIDS* project. Formed in early 1988, the aims of the project are: to promote awareness, and critical analysis, of the many issues surrounding AIDS; to encourage a socially and politically engaged arts practice; and to contribute to fundraising efforts and generating volunteers of AIDS support work.

The exhibition program of the project has, to date, included two exhibitions of work by Australian visual artists in 1989, and a survey of community, government and media responses to AIDS — entitled *mediated aids* — in January 1990. A collection of written work has also been published, including fiction, poetry and a set of essays about specific AIDS-related issues.



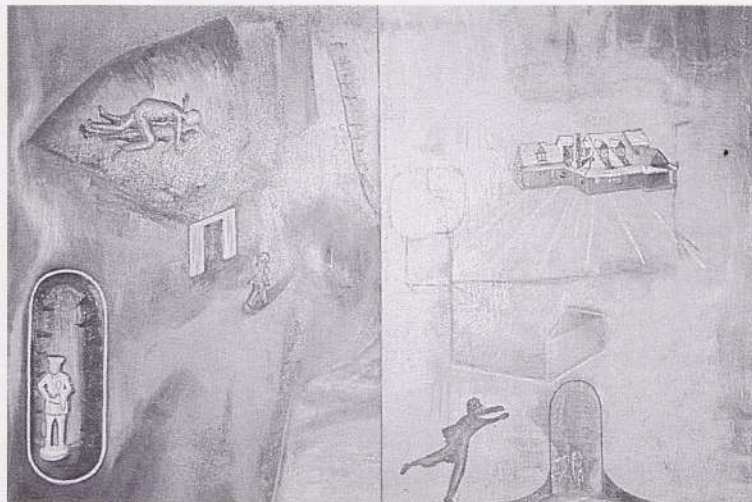
TONY TREMBATH
Scarlatine, 1988
mixed media assemblage

In January 1991, *Imaging AIDS* presents the first in a series of exhibitions of public art. The graphic work of the New York-based AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP) will be exhibited as part of a survey of American AIDS activist work, **ART IS NOT ENOUGH**. The show's title comes from a poster by the ACT UP affinity group, Gran Fury, produced in 1988 as an art institution commission. The poster's text, "WITH 42,000 DEAD, ART IS NOT ENOUGH. TAKE COLLECTIVE DIRECT ACTION TO END THE AIDS CRISIS", effectively distances ACT UP's work from art world complacency and co-option. ACT UP's graphic work, usually produced in response to local crises, has been crucial in forcing the media and governments to constantly rethink the way they present information about AIDS, highlighting the fact that AIDS is a highly politicised disease.

There will also be an exhibition of billboards and posters from *Art Against AIDS — On The Road*, a public art project from the American Foundation for AIDS Research (AMFAR), including works by Cindy Sherman, Robert Mapplethorpe, Keith Haring and Barbara Kruger.

Since *Imaging AIDS* began over two years ago, ACT UP groups have formed in Australia. Along with the documentary exhibition of American work, there will be opportunities for these groups to display their own work in galleries and other, less conventional, public sites. In this way, the *Imaging AIDS* working group aims to avoid the pretence of aestheticism and fulfil its original aims.

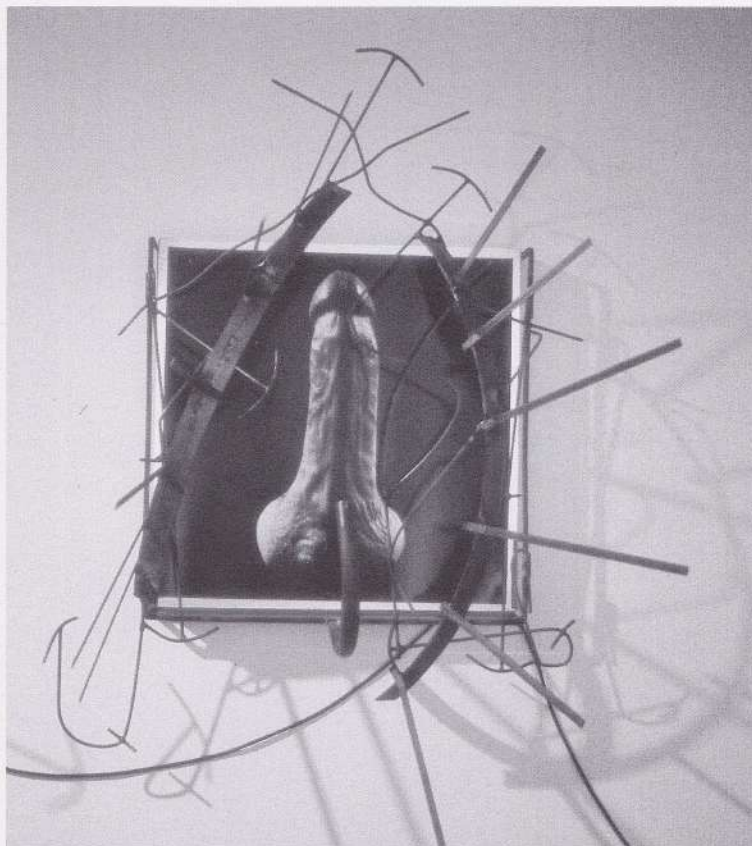
ART IS NOT ENOUGH opens in Melbourne on January 22, then travels to Sydney in February.



JOHN CATTAPAN

Safe House, 1988

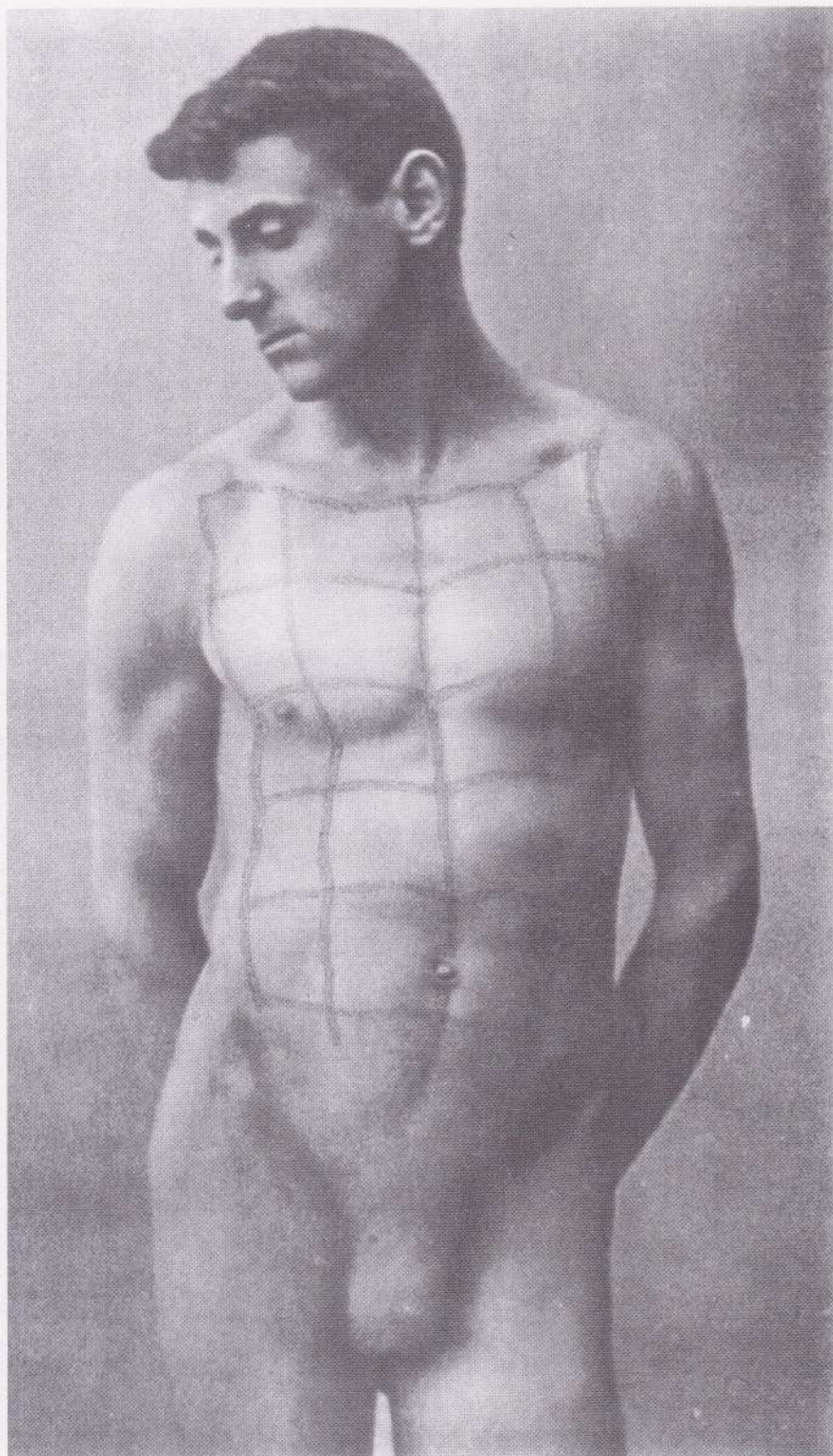
oil on canvas



ANNE MacDONALD and LUTZ PRESSER

The Gates to Heaven and Hell (detail), 1988/89

welded metal, photography and light boxes



MATHEW JONES
Tableaux (detail), 1989
photo emulsion on linen

WHEN YOU SAY NO... SAY NO TO MARIE TEHAN

FACT: 220 men under the age of 24 have tested HIV positive in Victoria during 1986-90.

FACT: 234 men between the ages of 25 and 29 have tested HIV positive in Victoria during 1986-90. Many of these men may have been infected before the age of 24.

When the Victorian AIDS Council released its education campaign for young gay and bisexual men, *When you say yes... say yes to safe sex* [see back cover], the Opposition spokesperson on health, Marie Tehan, was its most vocal opponent.

Whereas the VAC were working for knowledge, community and acceptance, Marie Tehan's response was grounded in fear, ignorance and bigotry.

Through official complaints from other conservative groups, the Advertising Standards Council banned the advertisement from being printed in its member publications.

ACT UP Melbourne started our campaign in response to the blatant homophobia of these reactions. We believe and wholly support that safe sex messages must foster positive self-images. Tehan's fear and revulsion at a positive image of two gay men kissing reflects the depth of homophobia in our culture. Such hatred and ignorance not only limit and confuse safe sex messages, they also seek to deny the existence of gay and bisexual men and their rights.

Tehan and those like her deny young gay and bisexual men the right to know themselves, the right to express their sexuality in a positive, healthy, safe way, and to see an image that offers them hope, encouragement and reassurance. Tehan would have it that these young men should know nothing of safe sex, and should instead feel guilt, shame and isolation.

We assert: *Marie Tehan cares nothing for these young people's health.*

This is why we ask you to think and to say no to bigotry, fear and hatred, say no to Marie Tehan and say yes to *life*.

ACT UP Melbourne



When you say no...

say no to Marie Tehan.

Victoria's Shadow Minister for Health says NO to ads which acknowledge some young people have gay sex.
Marie Tehan says NO to AIDS education in schools, says NO to gay men and NO to people living with AIDS.

FIGHT BACK
ACT UP
FIGHT AIDS

When you say NO... **ACT UP** ...say NO to Marie Tehan.

When you say yes...



say yes to safe sex.

Making the first move might be scary, but more guys than you think have sex with other guys. It's natural, and if you're safe you'll have a great time.

And what's safe? Kissing, cuddling, licking, stroking, wanking, oral sex (avoid cum in the mouth), vaginal and anal sex with condoms and water-based lube.*

For more information on safe sex and discussion groups for young gay and bisexual men, call Mark at the Victorian AIDS Council ☎ 417 1759

* (such as KY-gel)

Produced by the Victorian AIDS Council 1990

