



MEDIA ALERT

Official Artist and Curator return from Afghanistan

The Australian War Memorial is pleased to announce the return of its latest Official War Artist, Shaun Gladwell, and curator Nick Fletcher, from Afghanistan.

Shaun spent several weeks living and travelling with Australian troops, capturing their day-to-day duties and experiences to create a body of work that will include video and photography. The art will become part of the national collection once completed.

Nick Fletcher focussed on identifying general items used by Australian soldiers that may be added to the Memorial's broader collection.

A critically acclaimed artist, Shaun Gladwell's work explores personal history, memory and contemporary cultural phenomena through photography, performance, painting and sculpture. He recently represented Australia in the 2009 Venice Biennale.

Gladwell joins a long line of official war artists; a tradition that began during the First World War.

The visit is part of the Memorial's ongoing collecting and official art programs, and was developed with the assistance of the Australian Defence Force.

A limited number of interviews are available with Shaun Gladwell by telephone.

Who:	Interview with Nick Fletcher Official curator to Afghanistan
When:	9.30am, Friday 6 November
Where:	Australian War Memorial Entry via Security behind HMAS Brisbane Treloar Crescent Campbell ACT

Other times by arrangement.

Further information:

http://www.awm.gov.au/encyclopedia/war_artists/

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