



Jayne Dyer / *Wish*, Taiwan 2010, digital print, 90 x 60cm. / *Wish* project funded by Asialink artist residency, Taiwan and Australia Council for the Arts. 500 text based, still photograph, video and audio interviews conducted in Tibet, Taiwan, Hong Kong, mainland China, 2007-2012. © Jayne Dyer / Licensed by Viscopy, 2013.



Pat Hoffie *Artefact and Ideology (with Malayalam subtexts)* 2012, stitched felt, plastic, feemo, chilis, 3 x 2.5 m. Installed in *Re-picturing the Feminine: a survey of new and hybrid realities by contemporary Indian and Australian Women* at OED Gallery, satellite exhibition for the 2012 Kochi-Muzuris Biennale, Cochin, Kerala, India.

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Jayne Dyer

China: *WHAM* in an (increasingly) reflective world? Encounters: initially direct, later complex, still later contradictory. Core: quintessentially mono cultural-social-cyber Middle Earth. Scale: 1.3 billion population, extremes, inconsistent infrastructure. Transitional: a generational (r)evolution every six years. Education: top down, linear. Culture: circular, circumspect, pragmatic, open to (economic) negotiation. Art: trajectory still geared to fame (and fortune) as international agencies look elsewhere and the world market shudders. Art practice: still overwhelming in scale, content predominantly literal and politically cautious, emerging artists still mime successful artists. Speed: industry maintains excessive consumption as the government levers to slow-down. Environment: headlong financial hedonism while the country gasps for air, drains resources, dries up. Read: Jonathon Watts *When a Billion Chinese Jump*.

Pat Hoffie

My over three decade involvement with artists and communities in the Asia-Pacific region is part of my consciousness of who I am as an Australian. It's affected all levels of my life – family, community, work, art. The focus on contemporary Asia-Pacific art could give us the means through which to think about histories as well as the present. It offers a rich source from which to re-examine parallels, connections, convergences and differences with our own culture; but so much of that still (regrettably) remains to be done.