

Press Release **Victoria Miro Gallery**

Tracey Moffatt

Adventures

20 January – 18 February 2006

Private View, Thursday 19 January, 6 – 8pm

Opening in January, Victoria Miro Gallery presents Tracey Moffatt's recent body of photographs, *Adventures* alongside *Love*, a video work from 2003. Highly regarded for her formal and stylistic experimentation in film, photography and video, Moffatt's work reformulates stylistic motifs of popular and visual arts culture. Mining the images and narratives of her vast visual memory, she draws particular inspiration from the film and television she was exposed to as a child.

In a manner analogous to filmmaking, Moffatt employs cinematic staging, artful composition and orchestrated choreography in her photographs to create the striking comic-strip style tableaux of *Adventures*. Combining 'The Flying Doctors' comic books she read as a child, 1970s television and a dash of '007, Moffatt directs a team of models, designers and graphic artists to manufacture the glossy retro artifice of the photographs. The artist herself is complicit in the action, in one scene cast as pilot steering a plane into a fiery inferno, in another, as temptress.

As is characteristic of her previous work, *Adventures* is driven and styled by an unregulated narrative, in which the stereotypes of race and gender - the poster boy hero, the exotic 'other', the submissive starlet - are played out to ambiguous ends. Each of the ten photographs is divided into three frames, and within each of these an individual story is composed. Deliberately resisting linear narrative, Moffatt prefers to leave the work and its cinematic imagery open to imaginative interpretation.

In the project gallery, Tracey Moffatt presents *Love*, a video piece that revisits the cut-and-paste format used in *Lip* 1999 and *Artist*, 2000, carefully splicing together scenes from some of the artist's favourite Hollywood melodramas. Cinematic cliché gives way to a darkly sexy feminism with hours of film edited to a succession of passionate embraces, acts of betrayal, frenzied violence and finally revenge.

Press enquiries:	phone + 44 (0)20 7336 8109	Victoria Miro Gallery	open Tuesday to Saturday
Bryony McLennan	fax + 44 (0)20 7251 5596	16 Wharf Road	10am to 6pm, admission free
publicity and events	info@victoria-miro.com	London N1 7RW	info@victoria-miro.com
bryony@victoria-miro.com		www.victoria-miro.com	tubes, Old Street and Angel

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Born in 1960 in Brisbane, Tracey Moffatt is Australia's most successful artist internationally. She has produced 10 short films and 17 photo series in the past 20 years and has had many solo exhibitions in Europe and the U.S. with major surveys at the Museum for Contemporary Art, Sydney in 2003, the Centre Nationale de la Photographie, Paris in 1999 and the Dia Center for the Arts, New York in 1997. In the 1980's and early 90's she worked as a director on documentaries and music videos for television. Her film work is critically acclaimed, with two films selected for Cannes Film Festival in 1990 and 1993 respectively. Tracey Moffatt lives and works in New York and Australia.

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