Ephemeral but Eternal Words: Traces of Asia

6 April 2010 – 1 May 2010 (official opening 13 April)
ANU School of Art Gallery, Canberra

Exhibiting artists
Chihiro Minato, Tsubasa Kimura, Phaptawan Suwannakudt and Savanhdary Vongpoothorn

The physical and visual presence of writing has a special place in many Asian cultures. This exhibition, Ephemeral but Eternal Words: Traces of Asia, showcases the significance of words and writing through the brush and lens of four artists with connections to Asia: Tsubasa Kimura, Chihiro Minato, Phaptawan Suwannakudt and Savanhdary Vongpoothorn. Working in various media and styles—from calligraphy and painting to photography and mixed media—the ‘writing’ presented in this exhibition are physical traces of time and space, embodying what is ephemeral and what is eternal in our life. We leave traces of ourselves throughout life, be it visible or invisible. Words, whether spoken, written, imagined or visualised, are traces unique to humans. Some words disappear while others remain only in memory or leave physical traces as writing or text. These traces are the theme of this exhibition.

Curated by Fuyubi Nakamura of Research School of Humanities and the Arts at ANU, it is a visual reflection on the themes of the “In the Image of Asia: Moving across and between locations” conference at RSHA (13-15 April 2010), co-convened by Ana Dragojlovic and Fuyubi Nakamura.

Supported by the Research School of Humanities and the Arts, ANU and the ANU School of Art Gallery
The Japan Foundation and the NAVA Janet Holmes à Court Artists’ Grant

The Janet Holmes à Court Artists’ Grant is a NAVA initiative, made possible through the generous sponsorship of Mrs Janet Holmes à Court and the support of the Visual Arts Board, Australia Council for the Arts.