

MEDIA RELEASE

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‘Mad Love’

A new series of illustrations by Chris Yee

Mad Love is a contemporary art exhibition featuring a series of manga-style illustrations by **Chris Yee**. **The Japan Foundation, Sydney** presents this as part of **The Japan Foundation Gallery’s** Contemporary Art Mini Series. The works will be exhibited for the first time at **The Japan Foundation Gallery in Central Park** from **11 June to 1 July**. A public opening reception will be held at aMBUSH Gallery, Central Park.

Mad Love explores the experience of growing up amidst the currents of mass media and Japanese pop culture. And the subjects depicted allude to a **playful** and obsessive outlook of heroes, idols and friendships as dictated by the outside world.



One of the works in Mad Love, by Chris Yee

The series of illustrations pay homage to **Japanese art** by using **calligraphy** ink and incorporating a manga style. Yee especially created the art works for **The Japan Foundation, Sydney** and incorporated a minimalist colour palette which is different from the vivid colours in his previous solo exhibitions.

The works depicted in **Mad Love** allude to a larger theme at the intersection of local and multicultural realities of growing up in Australia. “I want to bridge the gap between the experiences of Sydney suburban youth and growing up with global influences,” shares Yee, who is a Sydney-native himself.

Yee will also lead an illustration workshop for children at The Japan Foundation, Sydney as part of this exhibition program.

ABOUT CHRIS YEE



Beginning from a graphic design background, **Chris Yee** is a Sydney based artist/illustrator who specializes in traditional “pen and paper” methodologies. Raised by the power of print, Chris’ main influences stem and vary from 90’s post-apocalyptic manga, rap and punk aesthetics and the legendary work of Jack Kirby. Through his imagery he constructs narratives ranging from the humorous to the monstrous and macabre.

Chris Yee has exhibited widely in Australia, with two solo exhibitions and participation in various group shows. His first solo show ‘Menace’ at Kind Of Gallery in 2013 was completely sold out on the opening night. He has also created art works for VIVID Sydney, Sydney Art & About, and various commercial outlets.

ABOUT THE CONTEMPORARY ART MINI SERIES

The contemporary art mini-series of exhibitions by The Japan Foundation Gallery showcases contemporary works by both Japanese and Australian artists. The series will feature two exhibitions and showcase three different Sydney-based artists who work across various media: Chris Yee (illustrator), Haruyo Morita (painter), and Jennie Feyen (video artist). Their body of work is influenced by Japanese tradition with a modern interpretation, showcasing the collaboration between Japanese and Australian art and culture.

ABOUT THE JAPAN FOUNDATION, SYDNEY

The Japan Foundation, Sydney is the Australian arm of The Japan Foundation, which was established by the Japanese government to promote cultural and intellectual exchange between Japan and other nations. It runs a diverse range of programs and events, including exhibitions, talk events, grant programs and Japanese language courses for all levels from beginner to advanced. The Japan Foundation was established in 1972 and currently has a global network of 22 offices in 21 countries. The Australian office was founded in 1978.

Gallery hours

Monday – Thursday: 10am – 8pm*
Friday: 10am – 6pm
Select Saturday (13 June): 10am – 3pm
** Open 10am-3pm on 29 June – 1 July*

Closed Sundays & Public Holidays

Special Events

11 June

6:30pm – 8pm

Public Opening Reception

at aMBUSH Gallery, Central Park

20 June

12:30pm – 2pm

Illustration workshop for children by Chris Yee

at The Japan Foundation, Sydney

Venue:	The Japan Foundation Gallery The Japan Foundation, Sydney Level 4, Central Park 28 Broadway Chippendale NSW 2008
Admission:	Admission is free RSVP essential for special events
Enquiries/RSVP:	reception@jpf.org.au / 02 8239 0055
Website:	www.jpf.org.au



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