

PATRICK THOMAS

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To Whom it may concern :

I had the privilege of visiting *The Melbourne Museum of Printing* during my stay in Australia in April 2008 and was moved by the incredible amount of passion and work that Michael Isaachsen has put into it and his generosity in sharing such an incredible piece of working history with us.

The museum's collection and programs are truly unique and it's quite remarkable that the museum exists today at all. Its value is incalculable and it would be a tragedy for future generations of designers in your country if such a valuable resource were to be lost.

I live in Barcelona, Spain where the heritage of traditional printmaking processes was lost with the arrival of modern print technology and I cannot begin to explain the huge gap that it has left in Spanish design education and culture.

Once it has gone it can never be reassembled: please do not let the same thing happen in Melbourne.

Yours sincerely,

Patrick Thomas M.A. (RCA)

Member of *Alliance Graphique Internationale*

Mr. Thomas was engaged by the Australian Graphic Design Association for the 2008 AGDA International Speaker Tour, presenting in seven Australian cities. AGDA had this to say about him:

Patrick Thomas was born in Liverpool, England in 1965. He studied at Saint Martins School of Art and The Royal College of Art, London. After setting up a studio with fellow graduates and the aftermath of Thatcher's 'rule' he relocated to Barcelona in 1991 - partly because of the upcoming Olympics and the prospect of work associated with the event, and partly because he knew of Javier Mariscal's work in 'Raw' magazine. This move did lead to collaborating with Mariscal on 'The Cobi Book' amongst a whole range of freelance work lasting several years.

In 1997, he co-founded the multi-disciplinary art/design Studio *la Vista* with his Catalonian business partner Angela Broggi. He divides his time between directing the studio, working for the International Press and producing silkscreen prints. His collaboration with the Spanish newspaper *La Vanguardia*, for whom he has realized more than 150 covers, has been recognized at the highest international level. He is also a regular contributor The New York Times Op-Ed, Book Review and Weekly Review sections.

In recent years his work has been exhibited extensively. In 2006 he participated in shows at The Victoria & Albert Museum, London; The International Center of Photography and School of Visual Arts, New York; Centro de la Imagen, Mexico DF; The Centre of Contemporary Culture, Barcelona and The Ginza Graphic Gallery, Tokyo. 2007-08 will see his work in exhibitions in LA, Pennsylvania, London, Barcelona, Madrid, Amsterdam, Milan, Istanbul, Seville & Mexico City.

In 2005-06 he was Graphic Research fellow at Liverpool School of Art & Design, Liverpool, John Moores University and is a visiting lecturer at several design schools in Spain.

In Spring 2005 he published 'Black & White', a compilation of his recent graphic work; it was selected by Angus Hyland (Pentagram, London), reviewing for Grafik Magazine, as one of his books of the year (2005).

He is a member of Alliance Graphique Internationale.

HERE IS THE LINK TO PATRICK THOMAS' RECENT SHOW (OCTOBER 2008) IN LONDON:

<http://thedailyduff.blogspot.com/2008/10/patrick-thomas-solo-opening-view.html>