

Foreword

Speaking Out exhibition brings together an array of painters, printer makers, installation artists, sculptors, writers, photographers and performers who have come together because of their particular interest in the issue of gender violence.

Speaking Out attempts to capture and deal with a very challenging subject which is perhaps rarely exposed to the world and here has been translated into a deeply meaningful exhibition. The focus is on the survival aspects of the artists/victims who have chosen to reflect this dark subject matter through their art. Their medium has empowered them to reflect on this sensitive subject. Their powerful imagery has captured this harrowing area in a beautiful, poetic way.

Through this exhibition the artists have convey many messages. Some speak without fear or without hesitation, reflecting thoughtfully the traumas they have personally incurred or seen. The artists have through their artwork given the voyeur a glimpse of their own journey and in effect they are now speaking out!

I would like to thank all the artists who contributed to making this an inspirational exhibition, Dr Nicole Fayard who was the catalyst for *Speaking Out* and author of the catalogue and finally to Angela Chorley for her patience and creative skills in the design of this catalogue.

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