

# James Powditch exhibition – new work

## It's the End of the World as We Know It (And I Feel Fine)

Flinders Street Gallery, 61 Flinders Street, Surry Hills | Director Jason Martin  
Tel: 9380 5663 Email: [info@flindersstreetgallery.com](mailto:info@flindersstreetgallery.com)

Exhibition Wednesday 22 August - Sunday 16 September 2007  
Opening drinks Saturday 25 August 4-7pm  
Gallery hours Wednesday - Saturday 10am-6pm & Sunday 11am-6pm

### The future has arrived.

We live in interesting times. The reality of global warming has finally hit a critical mass and entered the public consciousness. But its effects are not just going to be the well publicised dramatic cataclysms of melting icecaps, rising oceans, widespread wild weather and economic mayhem.

In his solo exhibition of large mixed-media, assemblage panels, *It's the End of the World as We Know It (And I Feel Fine)*, James Powditch draws attention to some of global warming's more subtle acts of devastation: mass extinctions, shrinking bio-diversity and the loss of distinctive seasons as well as his own growing sense of unease.

As a self confessed "mad science nut", and child of the seventies, Powditch has been tracking the imminent arrival of environmental melt-down for quite some time. He grew up watching what he calls, "the holy trinity of apocalyptic sci-fi films", B-grade classics starring Charleton Heston: *The Planet of the Apes*, *Soylent Green* and the *Omega Man*. For Powditch, living in the present is like seeing the dark prophesies of these cult movies come true.

But, Powditch isn't pointing the finger and preaching politics. Like many of us he admits, "I hate being hit over the head with a message." Instead he lets his artworks speak for themselves.

In, *Enjoy Soylent Green*, Coca Cola's trademarked dynamic line and the imperative "enjoy!" dominate the panel, a reminder that American consumer culture is fast becoming our global mono-culture. Powditch adds found cheesy landscapes prints from the fifties as a nostalgic reminder of the good old days. Large painted versions of science texts stand in for the achievements, hubris and complicity of man, while Penguin Book's signature mascot clutches a thermometer; the mercury is rising and he waves a final farewell.

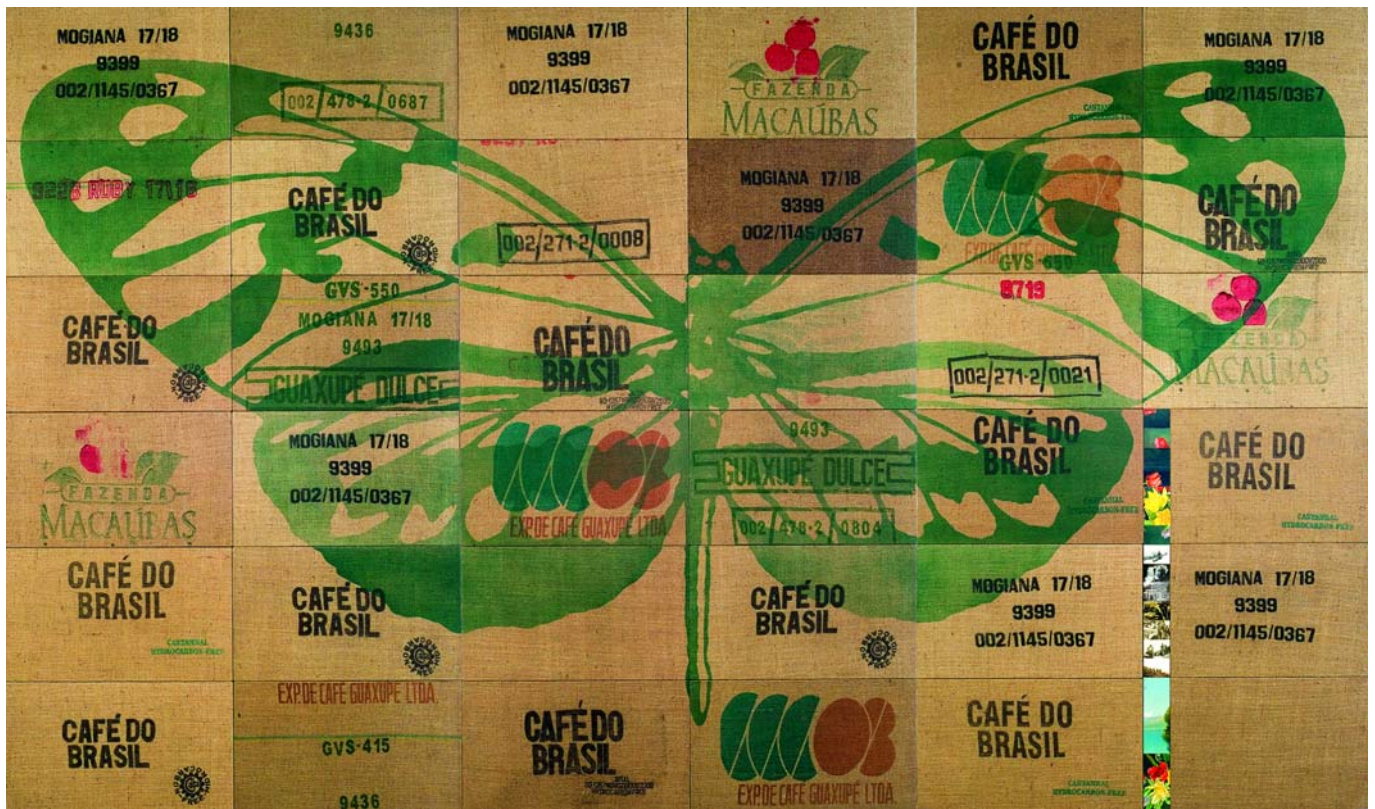
In 2005, Powditch was co-winner of the *Blake Prize for Religious Art*. He exhibits regularly in nationally acclaimed exhibitions including, the *Wynne* and *Sulman Prizes* and the *Salon des Refuses*.

For more information, interviews or high resolution images contact James Powditch 0425 343 646 or [james@jamespowditch.com.au](mailto:james@jamespowditch.com.au) and visit [www.jamespowditch.com.au](http://www.jamespowditch.com.au)



*Enjoy Soylent Green* 2006 mixed media 300x130cm

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*The Emerald Forest* 2007 mixed media 214x362cm



*On the Beach II* 2006 mixed media 188x86cm