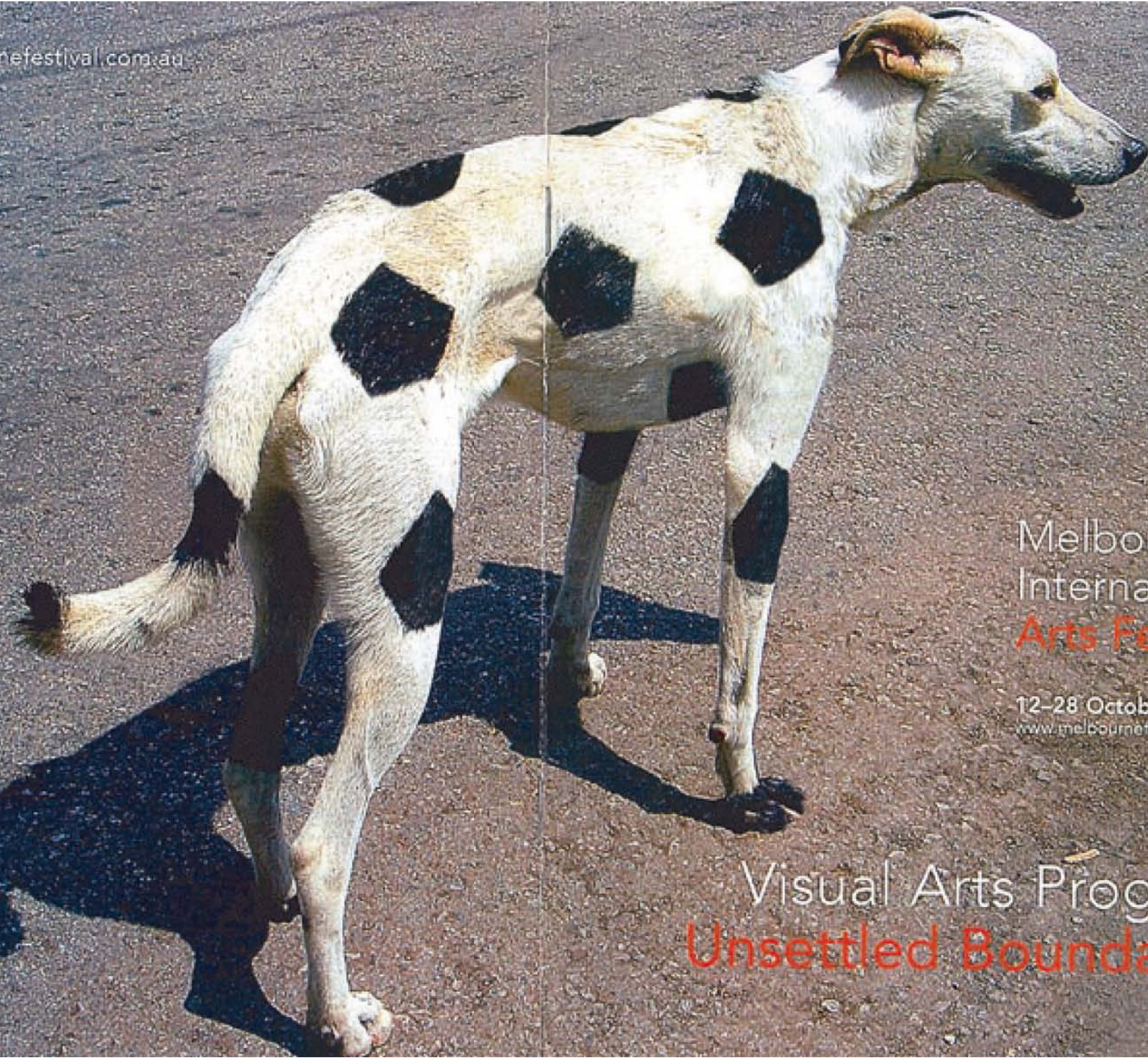


[www.melbournefestival.com.au](http://www.melbournefestival.com.au)



Melbourne  
International  
**Arts Festival**

12-28 October 2006 -  
[www.melbournefestival.com.au](http://www.melbournefestival.com.au)

Visual Arts Program  
**Unsettled Boundaries**



Ariel Orozco, *Dog Ball*, 2001, digital print, 66 x 88 cm.  
Image courtesy of the artist and MYTO Gallery, México City



Ariel Orozco, *Ride*, 2002, digital print, 30 x 160 cm.  
Image courtesy of the artist and MYTO Gallery, México City

## Ariel Orozco (Cuba)

Span Galleries, 45 Flinders Lane, Melbourne  
12-28 October

Working across installation and performance media, and with rigorous documentation intrinsic to his practice, Ariel Orozco develops multiple layers of meaning from elegant actions. An abused stray dog is dyed with a soccer ball's pattern, transforming it into a unique creature that, ironically, will not be kicked. Wealthy diners relinquish parts of their meal to the artist, the bones of which are reassembled in the manner of museum displays. Orozco is an exciting young artist whose emerging practice reflects the vast chasm separating first and third worlds, while at the same time his unique performances force them to collide.

Orozco works and lives in México. His most recent solo exhibitions include *What happens and cannot be seen*, Myto Gallery, México City, México; and *Weight Exercise*, Asclepio Clinic, Havana, Cuba. His work has been exhibited at MACO, México City, México; Art Basel Miami Beach, USA; Art Positions, Miami Beach, USA; Salon of the Rewarded, Development Center for the Visual Arts, Havana, Cuba; Oscar Fernandez Morera Provincial Salon, Provincial Center of Art, Sancti Spiritus, Cuba; II Festival of Ephemeral Sculpture, Experimental Center of Plastic Arts 23 and C, Havana, Cuba, and Exposition of Sound, Development Center for the Visual Arts, Havana, Cuba.

*I am interested in public space as an extremely rich and complex zone – a human arena full of meanings and enigmas.*

*I have tried to slightly alter places, orders and behaviours in order to affect meanings and significances, gestures and social mechanics that don't seem apparent or evident at simple sight. That's why I sometimes feel I play more the role of an archaeologist who's in constant pursuit of the codes that lead to an answer to conflicts of personal, political and social dimensions.*

*Many of my actions are the result of daily accidents and observations where I try to extract the essence of those events. Sometimes the essence is not perceived or experienced immediately, and my objective in the exhibition space is for the withholder to spontaneously crack the codes at an intimate level, leading more towards a recognition than a discovery.*

*For me everyday life is an enormous laboratory where we evaluate not only what happens in our lives and imagination, but where we also evaluate the complex system of human interaction between individuals and their political and social contexts.*

*Every object or document I have produced derives from an action or its notion. For me the resulting objects are a mere manifestation of my intervention, actions, sculptures and installations, and are sustained by a gesture which is the substance of my work.*

Ariel Orozco

Ariel Orozco has been commissioned by Melbourne International Arts Festival to produce a performance piece during the first week of the Festival. For details visit [www.melbournefestival.com.au](http://www.melbournefestival.com.au)

Ariel Orozco will appear in *Conversation with the Artistic Director of the Festival, Kristy Edmunds* – see page 48 for details