

Along white lines

Sylvia Schwenk

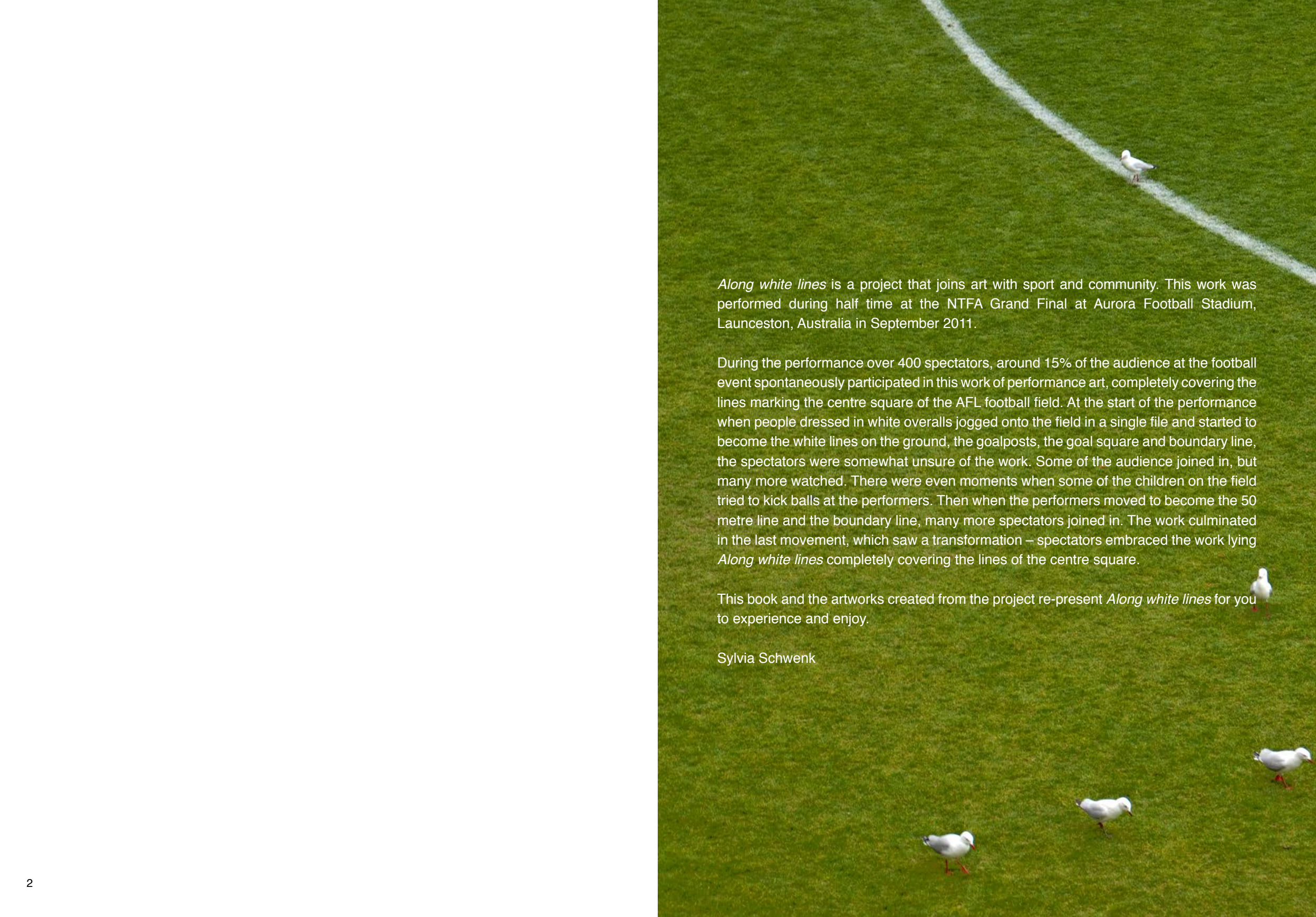


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with an essay by Andrew Frost

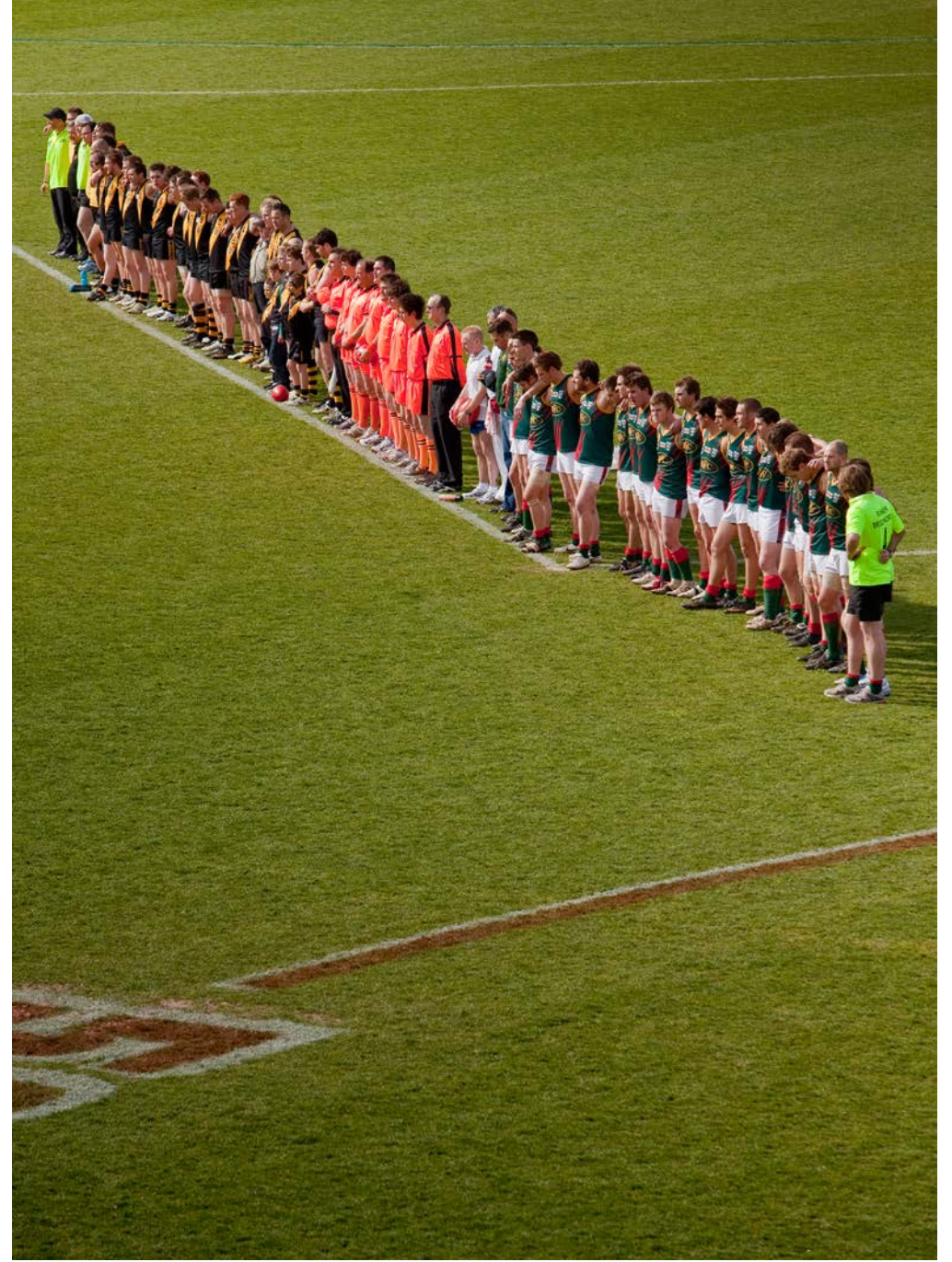


Along white lines is a project that joins art with sport and community. This work was performed during half time at the NTFA Grand Final at Aurora Football Stadium, Launceston, Australia in September 2011.

During the performance over 400 spectators, around 15% of the audience at the football event spontaneously participated in this work of performance art, completely covering the lines marking the centre square of the AFL football field. At the start of the performance when people dressed in white overalls jogged onto the field in a single file and started to become the white lines on the ground, the goalposts, the goal square and boundary line, the spectators were somewhat unsure of the work. Some of the audience joined in, but many more watched. There were even moments when some of the children on the field tried to kick balls at the performers. Then when the performers moved to become the 50 metre line and the boundary line, many more spectators joined in. The work culminated in the last movement, which saw a transformation – spectators embraced the work lying *Along white lines* completely covering the lines of the centre square.

This book and the artworks created from the project re-present *Along white lines* for you to experience and enjoy.

Sylvia Schwenk





Date: 7 February 2012 12:04:33 PM AEDT
From: Sonya Brough
Subject: Hi

Hello Sylvia

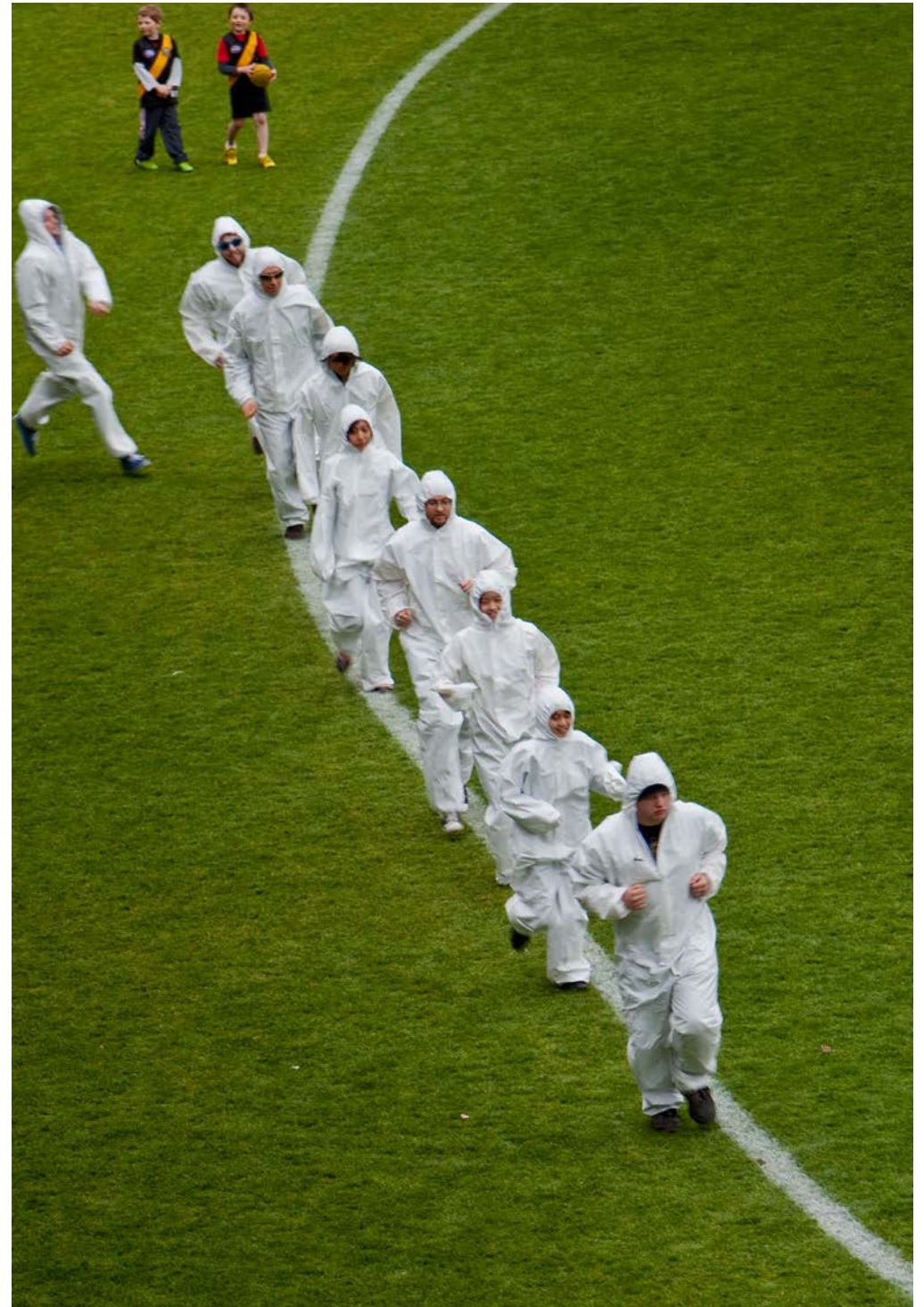
Just a quick note to say hi and that I often think of you and your residency here at the School of Visual and Performing arts. My family love talking about laying down on white lines at the football match. Alex said he was thinking of giving it ago [at a match] in Longford in the up and coming season.

Cheers
Sonya

(Performer from Along white lines)



Alex at rehearsal





Along white lines was performed on 17 September 2011 during half time at the NTFA Grand Final at Aurora Stadium, Launceston, Australia.

Special thanks to all those involved.

Images:

Front cover: Sylvia Schwenk, *Along white lines I*, (detail), 2011-12

All images in this book are from the project *Along white lines*, 2011-12

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Sylvia Schwenk

Sylvia Schwenk is a German born artist who lives and works in Sydney, Australia and Berlin, Germany. Her practice is interdisciplinary and revolves around the relationship between performance and the everyday, reflecting upon the significance and beauty of commonplace activities and spaces. Sometimes Sylvia captures a moment, space or action with photographs, videos, text and/or installations. Other times she creates works which focus on inter-human relational practices that emphasise collaboration, dialogue and audience activation. These socially based works of participatory performance art use what she calls *performosis* – a process where everyday people become performers, and spectators and passers-by performing their daily activities become active parts in the performance.

For more information please see: www.schwenk.com.au

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