

Dott. Renata Summo-O'Connell  
Architect of the Academie Itinerante des Echanges Arts et Langues Europeenes  
(AILAE)

Dear Renata

**AILAE Custodianship of the Mates Collection by Kevin Shaw**

Following the successful inaugural assembly of the AILAE at Palazzo Vaj Monash-Prato in Italy May 2007 and the Exhibition of the Mates Collection, I confirm my decision to place the Mates Collection in the custodianship of the AILAE.

The intention of this decision is to make the Mates Collection available for continuous exhibition throughout Europe in accordance with the philosophy, values and spirit of reciprocity of the AILAE.

‘The Mates Collection of images evolved from the book that I photographed and wrote called Mates: Images and Stories from the Kimberley (2003). These images commemorate and celebrate life. I hope that they will inspire and motivate people to put sustainable ecology ahead of the impulse for money obtained by mortgaging our planet. It is within our capacity to create a peaceful sustainable planet where people are predisposed to love and creativity in all manner of things that sanctify life.’

The Collection is comprised of forty-six photographic works created in the West Kimberley region of Western Australia (they are described in an attached list).

The AILAE’s custodianship of the Mates Collection shall endure for as long as mutually agreed by both the AILAE and Kevin Shaw. Both parties shall give the other three calendar months notice in writing of any decision to cancel the agreement, or a greater or lesser period as otherwise agreed.

During the inaugural assembly of the AILAE the Mates Collection was also exhibited at Dryphoto in Prato and has now moved to Spazzi in Torino. Exhibitions are also proposed for Circolo Degli Artisti in Torino in July, and Paris in September 2007.

Kevin Shaw  
Derby  
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