Media Release

## SCREEN SPACE

## VIRAL INFECTIONS

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## Experiment 02 - Biological Empathy Virus Carl Scrase Tuesday 8th of May 6-9pm One Night Only

This one-night only event will present a developmental showing of a new multi-channel video work by Carl Scrase. The work comes straight from Carl's recent residency at the prestigious and world-renowned SymbioticA biology labs at the University of Western Australia, and offers a unique glimpse into the world of contemporary genetic research. Carl embarked on the residency with an apparently unattainable goal: the creation of a 'human empathy virus.' The result was an experiment that traverses the borders of science and art, revealing the human processes of both: their failures, triumphs and role in our everyday life. The multi-channel video to be previewed at Screen Space takes Carl's work in a new direction formally, but thematically continues to elaborate his recurrent interest in intersections between concepts such as empathy, dialectical thinking, co-creation, perspective, systemic change and creativity.

Since graduating from Monash University in 2008, Carl Scrase has featured in numerous group exhibitions. Notable solo exhibitions have included Linden (2009), John Buckley (2009), Edinburgh Sculpture workshop (2010) and Platform, Melbourne (2010). He has participated in many of Australia's best arts festivals including Next Wave (Melbourne), Art Month Sydney, and This Is Not Art (Newcastle). In 2010 Carl produced a significant public-art commission for the music festival Splendour in the Grass: a fourteen metre high inflatable hand in the shape of a peace (or "up yours") sign. Carl has received various prestigious awards and grants including the New Work Grant (2009) and Artstart (2011) from Australia Council, and the City of Melbourne Presentation Grant (2010). Carl became notorious in late 2011 for his participation in Occupy Melbourne – 2012 will see Carl running for Mayor of Melbourne.

For all enquiries please contact Simone Hine: simone@screenspace.com

Carl would like to thank SymbioticA, the University of Western Australia, Screen Space, the National Association of Visual Arts, Splendid Arts Lab and John Buckley Gallery for their support in the development of this project to date. Carl has been awarded both the Freedman Foundation Travelling Scholarship and CAL Cultural Fund for his residency at SymbioticA. This project has also been made possible by the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts its arts funding and advisory body.

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