SOUTHERN CROSS

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ART

with Estelle Lovatt

Graham Fransella; Erotica
The Rebecca Hossack Gallery
35 Windmill street, W1
Until October 26

NOT at all pornographic, Graham Fransella could hardly be more witty as he explores the roles of nude figures. Expressing life, nature and art, Fransella celebrates the sexual moment when bodies, senses and juices are connected and integrated, as in his comical *Two Figures* series of prints. Then there's his *Three Figures* etching ...

Based in Melbourne, Fransella is head of printmaking at the Victoria College of Art and his work hangs in the Australian National Gallery, Canberra and The National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne.

Worth going to see to play the role of voyeur and participate in some harmless fantasy.



Mapplethorpe

Hayward Gallery, South Bank, SE1 Until November 17

Children under 18 only admitted if accompanied by an adult

ROBERT Mapplethorpe's glittery, glamorous and camp photographs will transform, offend, excite and distress you simultaneously. Mapplethorpe, who died of Aids aged 42 in 1989, captures art, pornography, homo-

erotica and obscenity as one and the same thing.

Showing that art and culture are naturally exclusive insights, Mapplethorpe transforms the ideals of beauty in the mind's eye. He treats the body as a landscape that is celebrated with a tremendous intimacy of pleasure and torture. A wildly gifted photographer, Mapplethorpe objectified everything he shot, from a white woman's nipple to a black man's penis. Breaking down class and race barriers, Mapplethorpe's extroverted form of photography looks at life with honesty, delicacy and vulnerability. Portraits, floral studies and sexually explicit prints incite society's values and prejudices with praise and disapproval.

An incredible, enjoyable portfolio of photos that responds to the human spirit with clarity.