

VARIATIONS

Curated by Michael Camakaris

1 - 30 October 2022

"It is important for me to acknowledge that I too have disabilities, so the narrative voice is someone who is coming from a similar place. My aim is to not only present the work of disabled artists, but to also represent how the artists see themselves, thereby giving them agency, voice and empowerment."

Michael Camakaris, 2021

Arts Project Australia respectfully acknowledges the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation, the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet, exhibit and create art.

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The focus of the exhibition touches on the relationship between the disabled artist, their lived experience and their choice of artistic expression. I chose this particular theme to advocate for disabled artists, as they are generally under-represented, and often lack a say in how they are presented. Their work is rarely placed front and centre. Often their inclusion is a token gesture toward equality.

It is important to me that the artists have had some input into the works that were chosen, as well as a voice to complement their works. Also, it is important that all the work I chose was based on artistic merit. The fact that the artists are disabled is not the point. Instead my aim is to shine a light on a certain part of the spectrum of humanity that is too often put in the shade. I believe this can enrich our lives.

In looking across the work of the artists, similar themes emerged – the representation of the body and the environment it inhabits, the use of words and the appropriation of art history. This is often done with a playful attitude.



KIEREN SEYMOUR

Study, 2021

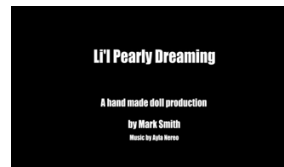
oil paint on canvas

54 x 43 cm

EWKISECV21-0003

\$2,800

Represented by Neon
Parc, Naarm/ Melbourne



MARK SMITH

Lil Pearly Dreaming, 2020

video

MASMA19-0001

\$ POA

Represented by Arts Project
Australia, Naarm/ Melbourne



MARK SMITH

Yeah! Nah, 2022

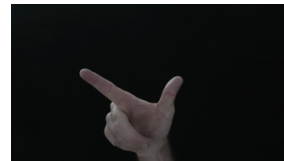
glazed earthenware

10 x 63 x 2.5 cm

MASMC22-0001

\$400

Represented by Arts Project
Australia, Naarm/ Melbourne



MARK SMITH

Im In the Market For You,

2020

video

MASMA19-0002

\$ POA

Represented by Arts Project
Australia, Naarm/ Melbourne



MARK SMITH

Untitled, 2022

glazed earthenware

8 x 14 x 21 cm

MASMC22-0005

Sold

Represented by Arts Project
Australia, Naarm/ Melbourne



MARK SMITH

Persistence, 2020

video

MASMA20-0003

\$ POA

Represented by Arts Project
Australia, Naarm/ Melbourne



MICHAEL CAMAKARIS

Put in a corner, 2011

oil pastel, pencil and conte on
paper

28 x 38 cm

MICA11-0001

\$330 framed

Represented by Arts Project
Australia, Naarm/ Melbourne

ARTWORK ENQUIRIES

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