

Embodied

Limitless 2025 Commission Series

Curated by Jo Salt

23 August - 4 October

Limitless is a landmark exhibition series that invites APA artists to undertake ambitious commissions on a significant scale. Launched with two inaugural bodies of work, the series establishes a framework for immersive, long-form creative development, building momentum toward new possibilities and opportunities.

It affirms APA's commitment to seeing neurodivergent artists and artists with intellectual disabilities central to the national and international arts landscape - visible, valued, and flourishing in their practice. The initiative builds upon APA's longstanding foundation - one that has consistently supported experimentation and artistic growth. It foregrounds risk-taking, collaboration, and innovation, and fosters both individual and collective development.

In doing so, it offers artists the opportunity to expand their practice and explore new directions in their work. As the first exhibition in the Limitless series, Embodied signals a focus on artistic rigour and experimental, process-driven practice.

Featuring major new commissions by Mark Smith and Bronwyn Hack, the exhibition frames the body as both subject and metaphor, inviting expansive and deeply personal interpretations.

Bronwyn Hack

Born 1979, Melbourne, Australia

Lives and works on Wurundjeri Country, Naarm/Melbourne VIC

Practising with Arts Project Australia since 2011

Bronwyn Hack's multidisciplinary practice spans sculpture, ceramics, painting, drawing, and printmaking, and is grounded in material experimentation. Across media, her work is shaped by a tactile, process-led approach to form and surface. Her subject matter is varied and highly particular, consistently reflecting themes of deep personal significance. A long-standing focus on anatomy forms a central thread, explored with sustained, intuitive intent.

Hack's installation marks an expansive evolution in her practice. Working with hand-sewn textiles, Hack explores the body in ways that are visceral and unfiltered, embracing its physicality and form, both internal and external. Her process is intuitive and materially driven, producing richly textured surfaces that reject refinement and celebrate excess and vulnerability. At times, the works incorporate traces of her own image.

At the centre of the installation is a suspended suite of soft sculptures, extending Hack's focus on the heart and vagina to include a broader range of internal organs. Adorned with sequins, pleather, faux fur and other embellishments, these works reframe bodily imagery that is often censored or considered unpalatable. Her signature 'bling' aesthetic amplifies their theatricality. Mirrored walls reflect both the works and the viewer, drawing the viewer's body into the installation. The tasselled brain, placed on a circular mirror, invites reflection - literal and metaphorical.

As a counterbalance to these suspended forms, the installation includes thirteen smaller wall-mounted pieces and three large floor-based sculptures that evoke the form of breasts. Fluffy, vibrant, and irreverent, these plush works resist comfort and assert a bold physical presence. While suggestive of softness, they refuse utility; instead, they anchor the space with a kind of sensual absurdity.

The installation proposes a radical reimagining of the body - not as a clinical subject or site of shame, but as complex, strangely beautiful, and worthy of reverence.



Bronwyn Hack

The Vagina 2025

beads, cotton, cotton
thread, material, mixed
media, stuffing

20 x 8 x 4 cm

BRHA3D25-0027

\$650



Bronwyn Hack

Spinning Around 2025

beads, cotton, cotton
thread, material, mixed
media, stuffing

23 x 25 x 7 cm

BRHA3D25-0029

\$650



Bronwyn Hack

Heart 2025

beads, cotton, material,
mixed media, string,
stuffing, thread, wire

27 x 30 x 19 cm

BRHA3D25-0013

\$700



Bronwyn Hack

Dancing Penis 2025

beads, cotton, cotton
thread, material, mixed
media, stuffing

45 x 15 x 12 cm

BRHA3D25-0022

\$850



Bronwyn Hack

Kidney 2025

beads, cotton, material,
mixed media, string,
stuffing, thread, wire

31 x 7 x 7 cm

BRHA3D25-0010

\$650



Bronwyn Hack

Love on my Heart 2025

beads, cotton, cotton
thread, material, mixed
media, stuffing

18 x 16 x 7 cm

BRHA3D25-0020

Sold



Bronwyn Hack

Period 2025

beads, cotton, cotton
thread, material, mixed
media, stuffing

40 x 29 x 8 cm

BRHA3D25-0028

\$850



Bronwyn Hack

The Lips 2025

beads, cotton, cotton
thread, material, mixed
media, stuffing

5 x 10 x 3 cm

BRHA3D25-0026

\$600



Bronwyn Hack

Penis Having Sex 2025

beads, cotton, cotton thread, material, mixed media, stuffing

38 x 21 x 8 cm

BRHA3D25-0030

\$800



Bronwyn Hack

Penis 2025

beads, cotton, cotton thread, material, mixed media, stuffing

37 x 16 x 7 cm

BRHA3D25-0025

\$800



Bronwyn Hack

Uterus 2025

beads, cotton, cotton thread, material, mixed media, stuffing

26 x 18 x 7 cm

BRHA3D25-0024

\$750



Bronwyn Hack

Dancing Heart 2025

beads, cotton, cotton thread, material, mixed media, stuffing

23 x 18 x 12 cm

BRHA3D25-0023

\$750



Bronwyn Hack

Boobies of the World 2025

beads, cotton, cotton thread, material, mixed media, stuffing

18 x 24 x 17 cm

BRHA3D25-0031

\$750



Bronwyn Hack

Heart 2025

beads, cotton, material, mixed media, string, stuffing, thread, wire

30 x 26 x 9 cm

BRHA3D25-0012

\$800



Bronwyn Hack

Appendix 2025

beads, cotton, cotton thread, material, mixed media, stuffing

40 x 21 x 14 cm

BRHA3D25-0018

\$950



Bronwyn Hack

Liver 2025

beads, cotton, stuffing, wire, thread, mixed media

52 x 27 x 17 cm

BRHA3D25-0008

\$750



Bronwyn Hack
Lungs 2025
 beads, cotton, cotton
 thread, material, mixed
 media, stuffing
 63 x 50 x 20 cm
 BRHA3D25-0019
 \$1200



Bronwyn Hack
Vagina with period 2025
 beads, cotton, cotton
 thread, material, mixed
 media, stuffing
 45 x 40 x 15 cm
 BRHA3D25-0021
 \$850



Bronwyn Hack
Kidney 2025
 beads, cotton, stuffing,
 wire, thread, mixed
 media
 61 x 48 x 15 cm
 BRHA3D25-0006
 \$950



Bronwyn Hack
Happy Heart 2025
 beads, cotton, stuffing,
 wire, thread, mixed
 media
 69 x 30 x 19 cm
 BRHA3D25-0003
 \$1100



Bronwyn Hack
Kidney 2025
 beads, cotton, material,
 mixed media, string,
 stuffing, thread, wire
 40 x 22 x 14 cm
 BRHA3D25-0011
 \$750



Bronwyn Hack
Bladder 2025
 beads, cotton, stuffing,
 wire, thread, mixed
 media
 60 x 24 x 18 cm
 BRHA3D25-0004
 \$900



Bronwyn Hack
Dingle Dangle (Heart) 2025
 beads, cotton, stuffing,
 wire, thread, mixed
 media
 56 x 24 x 16 cm
 BRHA3D25-0002
 \$1100



Bronwyn Hack
Appendix 2025
 beads, cotton, stuffing,
 wire, thread, mixed
 media
 42 x 22 x 19 cm
 BRHA3D25-0005
 \$800



Bronwyn Hack

Brain 2025

beads, cotton, stuffing,
wire, thread, mixed
media

31 x 54 x 29 cm

BRHA3D25-0007

\$1200



Bronwyn Hack

Boobies 2/3 2025

cotton, material, mixed
media, stuffing, thread

76 x 90 x 90 cm

BRHA3D25-0015

\$1200



Bronwyn Hack

Boobies 3/3 2025

cotton, material, mixed
media, stuffing, thread

76 x 90 x 90 cm

BRHA3D25-0016

\$1200



Bronwyn Hack

Boobies 1/3 2025

cotton, material, mixed
media, stuffing, thread

76 x 90 x 90 cm

BRHA3D25-0014

\$1200

Mark Smith

Born 1976, Melbourne, Australia

Lives and works on Wurundjeri Country, Naarm/Melbourne VIC

Practising with Arts Project Australia since 2007

Mark Smith's practice spans painting, ceramics, video, and textile-based works anchored in an ongoing investigation of the human condition. His ceramic works explore the body's physical presence, using form and texture to question ideas of vulnerability and resilience. In his soft sculptures, Smith embeds emotionally charged words and phrases, creating tactile, multi-layered works that function as philosophical reflections. Drawing on personal experience while speaking to broader social themes, his work invites contemplation of both the self and the collective.

Smith's installation represents a new development in his practice, expanding both the scale of his work and deepening its conceptual focus. *Body Cognition* traces the outline of Smith's own body - intentionally off-balance, asymmetrical, with a raised hand and the faint impression of pockets: incidental features that arose during the process and were deliberately retained. These details reflect his belief that beauty resides in imperfection and that so-called mistakes are an essential, valued part of the process.

Radiating from the figure are branching blood-red lines that echo veins or meridian pathways, linking the body to clusters of handwritten words. These fragments - part internal reflection, part collective memory - chart the emotional, physical, and psychological experiences Smith associates with the body, forming a kind of mind-body atlas. Materiality is central: plush faux fur evokes softness and tactility; pleather introduces sculptural flatness, reminiscent of skin; and the glittering silhouette casts an aura of presence and significance.

Tell Me You Care offers a poignant counterpoint. Taking the form of a quilted banner, wobbly in outline and expressive in feeling, its hand-stitched phrase carries emotional ambiguity: part plea, part challenge, part quiet demand. With these words, Smith addresses the viewer directly, inviting reflection on how we perceive, value, and care for the efforts and contributions of others. Together, the two works invite viewers into a personal yet universal reflection on vulnerability, connection, and what it means to be human.



Mark Smith
Body Cognition 2025
cotton, cotton thread,
embroidery, material,
mixed media, fabric
235 x 495 cm
MASMTX25-0002
\$8000



Mark Smith
Tell Me You Care 2025
cotton, cotton thread,
embroidery, mixed media,
fabric
100 x 130 x 4 cm
MASMTX25-0001
\$3200

ARTWORK ENQUIRIES

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