



3 x 3 | Solo Shows

Ruth Howard, Miles Howard-Wilks + Amani Tia

3 x 3: Ruth Howard, Miles Howard-Wilks + Amani Tia

OPENING: Saturday 15 September | 3pm to 5pm | Arts Project Australia

EXHIBITION DATES: 15 September – 20 October 2018

3 x 3 presents three solo shows by Arts Project Australia studio artists Ruth Howard, Miles Howard-Wilks and Amani Tia, opening Saturday 15 September at Arts Project Australia.

Ruth Howard's *Living Forms* will display a collection of recent works on paper and ceramics, depicting wild animals and organic matter in abstract form, conjuring a unique elegance and beauty. Meanwhile, **Miles Howard-Wilks' Magpies, Sharks, Crocodiles and Trains** will pursue his ongoing fascination of oceanic scenes and landscapes, gesturing towards a totalising perception of the dominant sites of existence: earth and water.

For his second solo show, *MOMENT*, **Amani Tia** will present a series of portraits created from 2014 – 2017, combining a sense of homage combined with a desire to depict life in a realist, yet fluid, style. These will be accompanied by an ephemeral wall painting performance piece that Tia will draw and paint in the gallery on opening day, capturing fleeting moments as the visitors move through the space.

The exhibition will be opened by **Claire Watson**, Senior Curator, Bundoora Homestead Art Centre.

Ruth Howard

Ruth Howard is a multi-disciplinary artist working in small scale in the mediums of painting and ceramics. Her minimalist paintings often portray a single object on a flat plane, while her sculptures depict wild animals or organic matter in abstract form – from amphibians to insects and birds. Her dedication to this theme has enabled her to refine her idiosyncratic, bold style to quirky levels of elegance and beauty. Her ceramic creatures and sculptures appear as if newly formed directly from the earth or sea. Ruth Howard has worked in the Arts Project studio since 1998, and held her first solo show at Arts Project in 2015. She has been included in group exhibitions including *Spring 1883, The Establishment*, Sydney; *Turning the Page*, Gallery 101, Ontario, Canada; and *Hybrid Making – new work from Australia, Canada and Scotland*, Project Ability Gallery, Scotland.



Image left: Ruth Howard, *Not titled*, 2017, ceramic, earthenware, 15.5 x 15.5 x 2.
Image right: Miles Howard-Wilks, *Magpie in the nest with eggs*, 2017, earthenware, glaze, 7 x 8 x 8 cm.

Miles Howard-Wilks

Miles Howard-Wilks is a multi disciplinary-artist, specialising in painting, ceramics, photography and digital art. Thematically his practice is distinctly Australian, featuring landscapes and seascapes with recurring motifs of iconic animals, landmarks and transport. While the imagery in 2D work often combines several themes in one complex vision, Howard-Wilks is singular in his focus, creating detailed compositions featuring trams, magpies and reptiles and their eggs and bones with character and elegance. Miles Howard-Wilks has worked in the studio at Arts Project Australia since 2000. Solo exhibitions include *Sharks and Everything*, Arts Project Australia Gallery, Melbourne, 2004; and *My solo with a magpie in it*, West Space, Melbourne, 2015. His work is held in collection at National Gallery of Australia (NGA), National Gallery of Victoria (NGV), Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA), City of Melbourne, as well as in private collections throughout Australia.

Amani Tia

Amani has made a craft out of looking, and it's his eyes that ultimately reach out toward the viewer through his portraits: through the eyes of each subject we sense the artist's humility. Framed by this rare sincerity, his works are endowed with both a fragility and a strength. After a catastrophic moment in Amani's life, and short-term memory loss, Amani lives in the moment, and his practice invests everything in capturing the immediacy and significance of the private and public moments of his subjects. He enjoyed early success in the appropriation of iconic paintings by some of the great masters, including Manet, Gauguin and Picasso. Tia was selected for the Victorian Indigenous Art Awards 2014, Art Gallery of Ballarat, Victoria, and the Belle Arti, Chapman and Bailey Gallery, Melbourne (2013) and has exhibited at Richmond Town Hall (2018), Yarra Gallery, Federation Square, Melbourne (2014). In 2017 Tia undertook the Bundoora Nebula Residency at Bundoora Homestead Art Centre.

Arts Project Australia is a studio and gallery that supports artists with intellectual disabilities, promoting their work and advocating for inclusion within contemporary art practice. In recent years Arts Project artists have exhibited at **National Gallery of Victoria, Museum of Old and New Art, Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Spring 1883, Gertrude Contemporary, West Space** and **Artspace**.

High resolution images (with captions in file names) are available [here](#).

MEDIA CONTACTS: further information, images or interviews

Tiarney Miekus | Communications | tiarney.miekus@artsproject.org.au | +61 3 9482 4484 or 0421 624 156
Sim Luttin | Gallery Manager & Curator | sim.luttin@artsproject.org.au | +61 3 9482 4484 or 0437 448 758