



Left: Chris Mason, *Reclining Nude*, 2015, ceramic, 19.5 x 35.5 x 42 cm. Right: Bronwyn Hack, *The Body Piece*, 2017, calico, material, mixed media, stuffing and thread, 48 x 35 x 5 cm.

Auto Body Works Curated by **Patrice Sharkey, Director of West Space**

OPENING: Saturday 16 June | 3pm to 5pm | Arts Project Australia

EXHIBITION DATES: 16 June – 21 July 2018

Opening Saturday 16 June, *Auto Body Works* brings together artists from **Arts Projects Australia** and elsewhere whose work considers human beings in their object-ness in many different ways: figuration, masking, costuming, anthropomorphism, automation, internal systems, limbs, organic forms and more.

Curated by **Patrice Sharkey, Director of West Space**, the exhibition explores bodies and skin as a boundary between inside and outside, and features works by: **Fiona Abicare, Tully Arnot, Kara Baldwin, Georgina Cue, Emily Dober, Saskia Doherty, Lewis Fidock** and **Joshua Petherick, Bronwyn Hack, Miles Howard Wilks, Spencer Lai, Chris Mason, Tim Noble, Lillian Palsler Barto, Steven Perrette, Jason Phu, Lisa Reid, Ander Rennick** and **Terry Williams**.

The show is centred on visual studies of the human body, alongside experiments with materials—such as cloth, fabric and organic matter—and other referents that stand in for the human form, including ghosts, monsters, machines and animals.

Throughout *Auto Body Works*, there are many different interpretations of how bodies be represented and reimagined. From bodybuilding as a practice of control to more desirous ideas of flesh and excess.

As Sharkey explains, “I’ve been thinking about abstracted forms or the presence of the body from many different angles, whether these be internal, external, machine-like or the objectified / sexualised body.”

“Ultimately what links these and ideas and forms is the duality of the body, and the way it functions as a space between the individual and the rest of the world,” says Sharkey.

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ARTS PROJECT AUSTRALIA

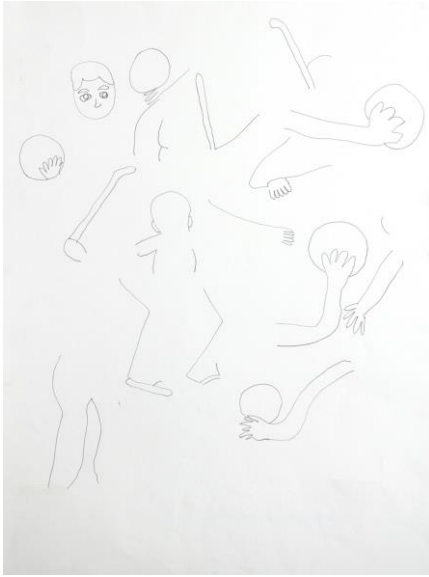


Image left: Bronwyn Hack, *The Body Piece*, 2017, calico, material, mixed media, stuffing and thread, 48 x 35 x 5 cm.

Image right: Lisa Reid, *Life Drawing (multiple poses with ball)*, 2002, greylead pencil on paper, 66 x 50cm.

Each year, Arts Project Australia invites exciting and prominent curators to work with Arts Project Australia to curate an exhibition that places the work of Arts Project studio artists alongside the work of other Australian contemporary artists in our Northcote gallery space – *Auto Body Works* is the first externally curated exhibition of 2018.

Further extending our external curators for 2018, we're thrilled to announce artist **Rhys Lee** will curate ***The Art of Living***, showing from 28 July – 8 September. Meanwhile **Dr Rebecca Coates, Director of Shepparton Art Museum**, will be curating a show in October 2018.

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 the last two years Arts Project artists have exhibited at a variety of external galleries including **National Gallery of Victoria, Museum of Old and New Art, Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Spring 1883, Gertrude Contemporary, West Space, Artspace** and **Darren Knight Gallery**. These exhibitions are proudly supported by Art Guide Australia.

VENUE: Arts Project Australia | 24 High St Northcote VIC 3070 Australia
EXHIBITION: 16 June – 21 July 2018
LAUNCH: Saturday 16 June | 3-5pm
TIMES: Monday-Friday 9am-5pm, Saturday 10am-5pm
MORE INFO: www.artsproject.org.au
ENTRY: FREE

MEDIA CONTACTS: further information, interviews or high-resolution images

Curator Patrice Sharkey is available for interviews. [High-res images are here](#) (captions in file names).

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