

firstdraft

Gallery 3

6 Jan – 14 Feb 2021

Unsolicited Advice!

Amy Claire Mills

Unsolicited Advice! is a new body of work drawn from a lifetime of awkward, and often insensitive, unsolicited advice I am given after people discover I am disabled. This text-based textile installation deconstructs these interactions – amplifying all the cliché, ill-informed and thoughtless advice disabled people are accustomed to hearing – and highlights the absurdity of our need to save, change or fix disabled people.

Extracts from these conversations have been sewn into vibrant quilts and cushions that the audience is invited to interact with. Although soft and delicate, quilts have the ability to hold within them our emotional weight. Tactile, bright and playful, the quilts contrast against the underlying meaning of the exhibition: that unsolicited advice is unwelcome. *Unsolicited Advice!* aspires to create a safe and soft place within which audiences can emotionally engage and break down their own preconceived biases. – Amy Claire Mills

Amy Claire Mills is a Sydney-based artist whose art practice explores identity and self-preservation through immersive installations and performance, by which she becomes both the artist and subject. Her practice critiques and examines the politics surrounding the female disabled body. Using distinctive, colourful and bold mediums her works encourages the observer to challenge their own paradigms and internalised preconceived bias, with the ambition of deconstructing ableism.

Special acknowledgment and thanks to Shirley Thorpe who has dedicated her time and expertise to assist in making of this work.

Gallery 1
Archaeology of Memory
Sha Sarwari

Gallery 2
EGG
April Phillips

Gallery 4
Tomb With No Windows
Max Callaghan

firstdraft
gadigal land
13–17 riley street
woolloomooloo
nsw 2011
+61 2 8970 2999
firstdraft.org.au

we acknowledge and pay respect to the gadigal people of the eora nation, the traditional owners of the land on which firstdraft is built and operates.

firstdraft is supported by the NSW Government through Create NSW; and assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body.



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Artworks (clockwise from left)

For sales enquiries, please
email amyclaireisabelle@gmail.com

Cure Cushions, 2020

cotton, polyester, slik, organza, taffeta, tulle,
georgette, brocade, lamé, interfacing, sequins,
thread, polyester wadding, metal hooks
dimensions variable, collection of 45 cushions.
60% of this artwork is made from reused
and recycled materials

A\$110 small

A\$130 medium

A\$150 large

Have You Tried?, 2020

cotton, polyester, slik, organza, taffeta,
interfacing, glitter, sequins, thread, wool
& polyester batting

300 × 250 cm (approx.)

90% of this artwork is made from reused
and recycled materials

A\$4,500

Pearls, 2020

cotton, polyester, slik, organza, taffeta, tulle,
georgette, interfacing, sequins, pearl beads,
thread, rope, wool & polyester batting
200cm × 150 cm (approx.)

70% of this artwork is made from reused
and recycled materials

\$4,000

Attitude, 2020

cotton, polyester, velvet, interfacing, sequins,
glitter, thread, tinsel, wool & polyester batting
170cm × 152 cm

90% of this artwork is made from reused
and recycled materials

\$4,000

(centre)

Get Well Soon, 2020

cotton, polyester, slik, organza, tulle, lamé,
interfacing, acrylic gems, wool & polyester batting
130 cm diameter

80% of this artwork is made from reused
and recycled materials

NFS

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