

firstdraft

Gallery 4

6 April - 19 May

Why is my age important?

Kate Coyne

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Kate Coyne's studio practice explores how experience can be embodied and the nature of the relationship between the body/experience and materiality in a socio-political feminist context. The language of materials and process enable an exploration of the nongendered body and vulnerability.

Kate's work is shaped from 'king and queen'-sized foam mattresses and inflatables. The site-specific work fills the space and embodies the ageing form and a posthuman feminist view of time and gender from new and found materials. The work transforms sheets of foam and inflatables into a series of large wall and floor based forms which hover between painting and sculpture.

A large foam installation shows the physical and mental embodiment of the abject, 'waiting' and the ageing body. Temporality, the progression of past, present and future is inherent, with materials discolouring over time and gravity taking over form and identity in the same way that it does with an ageing, sagging body.

Her ongoing exploration of the readymade informs the inflatables, an assemblage of inflated bodies. The work is given form by means of inflation, resulting in a form that is created by air that has political and environmental connotations. There is a suggestion of surrender in the sagging, deflating forms that are inherently unstable and vulnerable to puncture. The abject look of a body in the work is a physical manifestation and the mental embodiment of the results of ageing and acknowledgement of the fact that age renders invisibility. The title of the show queries the need for an age of the artist to be supplied in the application /proposal process.

Gallery 1
Ellen, Eduardo, Emma
Unruly Edges

Gallery 2
Firstdraft
Class S2

Gallery 4
Ali Noble
Cubbyhouse (Nothing is certain, said the curtain)

firstdraft
gadigal land
13-17 riley street
woolloomooloo
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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 Creative Australia, its principal arts investment and advisory body.



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Kate Coyne finds connections between posthuman feminism, materiality, phenomenology, and non-gendered bodies with practice-led research in the field of expanded painting. She is interested in encounters with materials, processes, transformations and a bodily engagement with materials and form in space. These processes involve manipulation of materials and verbs such as wrestling, resisting, scrunching, morphing, twisting and tangling as processes to engage in aspects of embodiment.

Working on Dharawal land, Kate is an older Australian-born emerging artist having recently completed an MFA at the National Art School after graduating from Sydney College of the Arts with a Bachelor of Visual Arts (1st Class Honours) and the Arterial Gallery Mentorship Award. Kate was also the recipient of the 2017 Sydney College of the Arts Undergraduate Painting Prize and a Fauvette Memorial Artists Exchange Scholarship which allowed her to spend a semester in Boston at Massachusetts College of Art and Design. Kate's work has been included in a number of solo and group exhibitions, most recently in a show of selected graduates from NAS at the New England Regional Art Museum. She has also been a finalist in the Ravenswood Art Prize (Emerging Artist), Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize, the Women's Art Prize and the Mosman Art Prize.

Artworks

Kate Coyne

It's just a little harder to be seen, 2024

clear plastic inflatables

dimensions variable

Kate Coyne

Unfolding in their time, 2024

polyurethane foam, staples

dimensions variable

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