

firstdraft

Gallery 2

13 October - 26 November

Homo “Bozo” Sapiens Problemo

Dustin Voggenreiter

Homo “Bozo” Sapiens Problemo is a series of digitally animated GIFs, displayed on large LCD screens, partially concealed by prison-cell window frames. The project explores the idea of our limited capacity to understand the world around us - As creatures born with sense organs geared towards survival, we grasp at making sense of the complex, chaotic reality we inhabit.

Large swathes of this work are absorbed by darkness and concealed by metal bars - poetically eluding to the gaps in our species ability to understand reality. This is an idea which extends from Plato’s famous cave shadow allegory (500+ BCE) to avant-garde theories proposed by Cognitive Psychologist Dr Donald Hoffman, all of which highlight the inadequacy of human perception. We are, in essence, trapped.

Homo “Bozo” Sapiens Problemo utilises the monotony inherent in the GIF format as a means of channelling the looping, unresolved nature of these ideas. The animated GIF portion of the work further speaks to the shared human condition – being based around ‘shooting stars’ falling through the night sky. My African ancestors spoke of these stars as omens and signs of imbalance and foreboding within our physical life on earth.

It is my conjecture as an artist, that we can only ever begin to resolve the plethora of issues presenting us as a species, once we understand and accept the biases and unresolved design ‘flaws’ which evolution has endowed us with. We peer through a narrow perceptual window at reality.

Gallery 1
Nqa+Antoinette
Mantle II

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

Gallery 3
Above and Below
and Individual Works
Ozanam Learning Centre Artist
Group

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.

Gallery 4
Firstdraft Screening Program
Dawn Beasley, Peter Blamey, Emily Norton, Miška Mandić



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Dustin Voggenreiter

Dustin J Voggenreiter, b 1983, Fremantle, Western Australia

Dustin Voggenreiter is an artist who grapples with big ideas, reaching back towards the dawn of time to explore the evolution of human perception. His work addresses the limited window of human perceptual experience, through a practice spanning animation, sculpture and monochromatic post-painting abstraction.

Working with this eclectic material pallet, the artist translates Darwinian accounts of our uniquely human visual perceptions into objects which allude to a tenuous grasp of reality. As a species, our perceptual experience appears intuitive and veridical; however, evolution science explains a reality that appears alarmingly opposed to those experiences.

Dustin’s works are at once pleasurable explorations of texture and colour, as well as being a meditation on the invisible forces underlying the contemporary human experience.

He has recently graduated from the MFA program at RMIT, has begun exhibiting at galleries throughout Australia, and has completed the Situate Residency during the first half of 2022.

Artworks (clockwise from left and top to bottom)

Homo “Bozo” Sapiens Problemo Part I, 2023
Steel, LED Screen, Looping Animated GIF
79.5cm x 133cm x 10cm

Homo “Bozo” Sapiens Problemo Part II, 2023
Steel, LED Screen, Looping Animated GIF
79.5cm x 133cm x 10cm

Homo “Bozo” Sapiens Problemo Part III, 2023
Steel, LED Screen, Looping Animated GIF
79.5cm x 133cm x 10cm

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