

firstdraft

Gallery 4

6 Jan – 14 Feb 2021

Tomb With No Windows

Max Callaghan

In psychiatric hospitals, seclusion is the involuntary confinement of a person, alone, in a bare cell-like room from which free exit is prevented. Since 2014, visions and thoughts of a room with no windows have continually returned to my mind. These thoughts come from a period of my life where I was held, for long periods of time, in a seclusion room in a psychiatric hospital in South Australia and consistently subjected to both physical and chemical restraint by staff.

Tomb With No Windows is an installation of paintings that convey the ongoing presence of memories, bad dreams, visions and unconscious thoughts that derive from my experience of involuntary seclusion. By recalling and sharing my thoughts about this environment I hope to voice an experience that is rarely acknowledged from a patient's perspective, and which lacks public awareness. – Max Callaghan

Max Callaghan is a visual artist from Adelaide/Kaurna Country, South Australia. In 2017 he graduated with a Bachelor of Visual Arts, Honours from Adelaide Central School of Art and was included in *Hatched: National Graduate Show 2017*, at Perth Institute of Contemporary Art. In 2018, Callaghan held his first solo exhibition at FELTspace (SA). In 2019, he was awarded an annual studio residency at ACE Open (SA) and held a solo exhibition at Rubicon ARI (VIC). In 2020, he participated in an artist - writer collaborative exchange program initiated by FELTspace(SA). His work is held in a number of private collections.

Gallery 1
Archaeology of Memory
Sha Sarwari

Gallery 2
EGG
April Phillips

Gallery 3
Unsolicited Advice!
Amy Claire Mills

firstdraft
gadigal land
13–17 riley street
woolloomooloo
nsw 2011
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firstdraft.org.au

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Artworks (top to bottom, left to right,
clockwise from left wall)

For sales enquiries, please
email maxwellcallaghan@hotmail.com
or call +61 411 160 451

Empty room, 2020

oil on canvas
100 x 130 cm
A\$1,300

Blue mattress screaming, 2020

oil on canvas
30 x 40 cm
A\$375

*Dragging your warm face across a cold wall again.
Around and around. Being held down and bitten
by a needle again and then, waking up with the
same scream in your stomach six years later ah,
2020*

oil on canvas,
90 x 120 cm
A\$1,200

Urine evaporating, person leaving their body, 2019

oil on canvas
30 x 40 cm
A\$375

Lounge room, seclusion room, 2020

oil and acrylic on unstretched canvas
200 x 250 cm
A\$6,000

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Unsolicited Advice!
Amy Claire Mills

*Pissing on a pot plant as a child and when I was
twenty two in the corner of a room, 2017*

oil on canvas
100 x 130 cm
A\$1,300

*A blue mattress, pools of yellow water, needles that
hurt, make a face and a headless floating body. I
shared the seclusion room with someone who was
very close to me, they were in there a year before
me. I shared the seclusion room with someone who
was a stranger to me who choked on a sandwich
and had a heart attack and died, they were in there a
year after me, 2020*

oil on canvas
40 x 30 cm
A\$375

*I listen to a voice telling me to listen in a cold room
with no people or windows. you watch from another
room and let someone taste their own warm yellow
water from the floor and then let a snake bite them
to make them go to sleep and then give them a
honey sandwich in the morning., 2019*

oil on canvas
55 x 65 cm
A\$625

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Room filled with tears, 2020

oil on canvas

30 × 40 cm

\$375

Concrete enclosed immanent doom, A pink moon floating, seclusion room. Banging on the door, yelling, Praying, Praying to my parents, to my sister, to my brother, to my family, to my friend, to a stranger, to the prime minister to come and get me, No toilet, go in the corner, Dragging my warm face along the cold walls in a clockwise direction, fading in and out of awareness, The personifications of death, come in and hold you down with the weight of the world on a mattress and inject you and then run out the door shutting it just before you can hold them accountable, You wonder how you are still living and did not die under their weight, you end up staring at the fluorescent lights on the ceiling, that after hours and the blood running to your head because there is no pillow and a sloped mattress, become beautiful, This happened night after night for more nights than I can remember. If you're still in there I'm still thinking of you, 2016

oil and lithium on canvas

90 × 120 cm

A\$1,200

Room with No Windows, 2018

acrylic on unstretched canvas

50 × 60 cm

A\$600

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womb a brown room, held down limbs, urine, turning into sun, sun in a puddle in the corner of a room, 2018

oil on canvas

90 × 120 cm

A\$1,200

Internalized pleas, 2020

oil on canvas

30 × 40 cm

A\$375

doors with no doorknob, ceiling, floor, yellow shorts, knocking, praying needle., 2020

oil on canvas

40 × 30 cm

A\$375

Flowers, 2020

oil on canvas

90x120cm

A\$1,200

Tomb with no windows, 2019

oil on canvas

30x40cm

A\$375

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