

firstdraft

Gallery 2

5 May – 13 Jun 2021

Sometimes when I feel empty, I eat a second breakfast.

Laetitia Olivier-Gargano

Sometimes when I feel empty, I eat a second breakfast. is a sculptural response to the everyday. In 2019, Laetitia Olivier-Gargano undertook a research trip to Japan to learn how their iconic fake food displays are made – since then, she has been creating “hyper-surrealistic” resin cast sculptures combining food, plants and an odd sense of storytelling. Delicately painted plastic forms look good enough to eat, but utterly uncanny in their presentation. This visual feast playfully incites both a sense of wonder and unease. Using organic shapes, flora and everyday objects to draw on emotions and memories, her incredibly intricate sculptures explore mixed cultures and identities as well as sharing the wonderful, the awful and the often hilarious combinations that can arise when we play with our food.

Laetitia Olivier-Gargano's practice is driven by a close survey of food, plants and everyday objects, through surreal, sculptural reimaging. By blurring the boundaries of complex yet recognisable forms her work at once sparks feelings of fascination and repulsion. These edible and domestic items speak to deeply personal emotions, recollections and associations. Laetitia is an emerging artist, currently based in Melbourne. She graduated in 2016 with a Bachelor of Fine Art (Honours) from Monash University. Her work has been exhibited nationally at institutions such as Perth Institute of Contemporary Art (PICA), Cement Fondu and UNSW Galleries, Sydney, and has also featured in publications including *Broadsheet*, *Artist Profile* and *Art + Australia*. In 2019 Laetitia received the Freedman Foundation Travelling Scholarship for Emerging Artists, administered by NAVA. She undertook research in Japan, learning how to make their iconic plastic food samples. Laetitia's practice often involves “hyper-surrealistic” resin cast sculpture, stop-motion animation and works on paper.

This project was assisted by The Freedman Foundation Travelling Scholarship for Emerging Artists, administered by the National Association for the Visual Arts (NAVA). This project is supported by the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria.



Gallery 1

Traversed Differences

Curated by Sineenart Meena

Gallery 3

to make a basket

Edwina Green

Gallery 4

'Enea Mānea

Morgan Hogg

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

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Artworks (clockwise from left)

All works POA. For sales enquiries, please email contact@laetitiaoliviergargano.com

Scarecrow #2, 2021

polyurethane resin, polymer paint, faux plant, stone, garden stakes, cable ties, leather glove
30 × 30 × 160 cm approx.

Nonna made polpette, 2020

polyurethane resin, polymer paint, polymer clay, beer bottle, gum branch, ceramic plate, dung beetles
30 × 30 × 60 cm approx.

Cereal pond, 2020

polyurethane resin, polymer paint, terracotta pot, plastisol, ceramic bowl, plants, water
50 × 50 × 25 cm approx.

(grouping of three on milk crates)

Noodle soup, 2021

resin, polymer clay, pigment, plastic
20 × 20 × 10 cm approx.

Nattō, 2020

resin, polymer clay, polystyrene
10 × 10 × 5 cm approx.

Pie vine, 2020

polyurethane resin, polymer paint, faux plant
10 × 10 × 5 cm

Scarecrow #1, 2021

polyurethane resin, polymer paint, faux plant, stone, garden stakes, cable ties, solo can
30 × 30 × 160 cm approx.

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(cont.)

(grouping of three on bread crates)

Egg Orchid #4, 2021

polyurethane resin, polymer paint, wire,
aluminium can
25 × 25 × 50 cm approx.

Egg Orchid #2, 2020

polyurethane resin, polymer paint, wire,
aluminium can
10 × 10 × 25 approx.

Egg Orchid #3, 2020

polyurethane resin, polymer paint, wire,
aluminium can
10 × 10 × 25 approx.

(grouping of two on white plinth)

Quonquot, 2021

polyurethane resin, polymer paint,
handwritten label
15 × 15 × 5 cm approx.

Glass half empty, 2020

polyurethane resin, polymer paint, resin, glass
10 × 10 × 15 cm approx.

Junk food-eating Venus flytrap, 2020

polyurethane resin, polymer paint, faux plant,
popcorn, lollies, aluminium can
10 × 10 × 25 approx.

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