

Annabelle McEwen

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Education

The National Art School, **Bachelor of Fine Art** Majoring in Printmaking 2020

The National Art School, **Masters of Fine Art** Majoring in Printmaking 2022

Selected Exhibitions/Prizes/Award

- 2024 Solo Show *The Smartest Horse in the World*, at Ethan Frome, Sydney
Finalist in *National Photographic Portrait Prize*, at National Portrait Gallery, Canberra
Finalist in *Small Works Art Prize* at Brunswick Street Gallery, Melbourne
DISRUPTION PRINT FOLIO at King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang, Bangkok, Thailand
National Art School Art Auction, The National Art School, Sydney
- 2023 Finalist in *Canberra Contemporary Photographic Prize*, Manuka Arts Centre, Canberra
Finalist in *Mullins Conceptual Photography Prize* at Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre, New South Wales
Finalist in *The Burwood Art Prize* at Burwood Library and Community Hub, Sydney
Finalist in *The Lloyd Rees Emerging Artist Award* at Gallery Lane Cove + Creative Studios, Sydney
DISRUPTION: Discourse and Exchange at 16 albermarle project space, curated by Dr Carolyn McKenzie-Craig, Sydney
Sydney Contemporary with The National Art School, Sydney
A Conveniently Timed Presentation with Laila Gallery and Animal House Fine Arts, Sydney
Edition Four at Gallery Lane Cove + Creative Studios curated by More Than Reproduction, Sydney
Close Encounters at Schmick Contemporary, Sydney
Apocalyptic Sublime by Darlings at Puzzle Gallery, Chippendale, Sydney
- 2022 Finalist in *Fisher's Ghost Art Award Exhibition* at Campbelltown Arts Centre, Sydney
BLACK BOX at Schmick Contemporary, Sydney
Edition Three at Bankstown Arts Centre curated by More Than Reproduction, Sydney
Freaks of Nature at Ambush Gallery as part of art festival 'Bein' Narly', Sydney
Catwalk at Schmick Contemporary, Sydney
- 2019 Winner of *The Ellen O'Shaughnessy Printmaking Award*, Sydney

Selected Collections

The National Art School Archive | The City of Sydney Art Collection | The National Library of Australia | Many others

Selected Publications

Soft Stir Issue 03: Stories of Collision 2024 | Exhibition Essay for *Schtick* at **Schmick Contemporary** 2024 | Mentioned as a "printmaker... for whom big things are predicted" in the *Sydney Morning Herald* 2023 | *Image Transfer and The Virtual Gaze* in The Print Council of Australia's *IMPRINT Magazine* Summer issue 2023 | Interview for Graduate Student Profile in **The National Art School's 2022 Annual Report** | Featured artist and interview for **More Than Reproduction** 2021

Selected Professional Experience

Director at ARI Schmick Contemporary 2024 - present

Lecturer at The National Art School 2023 - present

Printmaking Technician at UNSW Art and Design 2023 - present

Developer and Facilitator of Workshops at Institutions including:

The National Art School | Campbelltown Arts Centre | Pine Street Creative Arts Centre | Galley Lane Cove + Creative Studios | 16albermarle Project Space | UNSW Art & Design | Bankstown Arts Centre

Education

The National Art School, **Bachelor of Fine Art** Majoring in Painting 2020

The National Art School, **Masters of Fine Art** Majoring in Painting 2022

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2024 **death of the six packs (prizzed possessions), absence of value and meaning**, Rustafied - AU long W6

2021 **absence of value and meaning**, Virtual exhibition

2020 **Mecha Umbrella**, Nutty Putty Cave, Virtual exhibition

Selected Group Exhibitions

2024 **Foundation**, Darlings, New York, America

2023 **Broken Armor**, Darlings, New York, America

Hooray for Hollywood, Hollywood Hotel, Sydney, Australia

dither_2.0 Launch Event, PACT, Sydney, Australia

FACE XIX, The Flinders, Sydney, Australia

Fractured Visions: A Tapestry Of Transcendence, Disorder gallery, Sydney, Australia

about to be, The Flinders, Sydney, Australia

Diverse Voices, Dentons law firm, Sydney, Australia

horse girl, Puzzle gallery, Sydney, Australia

2022 **YES, DARLING**, Darlo bar. Sydney, Australia

National Art School Post Graduate exhibition, Nas gallery, Sydney, Australia

Wardens last kiss, Wardens gallery, Sydney, Australia.

trigon, darlings gallery, artsy.net

Maidenless behaviour, alpha house, Sydney, Australia.

dancing with no music, ambush gallery, Sydney, Australia.

2021 **Multiply**, Virtual exhibition

Contemporary Ruins, Ambush gallery, sydney, Australia

2020 **National Art school Graduation show**, National Art School Sydney, Australia

Micheal and Wolfgang Saker, Disorder Gallery, Sydney, Australia.

First Idea, Best idea, stairwell gallery, Sydney, Australia.

2017 **Micheal and Wolfgang Saker**, Disorder Gallery, Sydney, Australia

Exhibition Proposal:

Decentralised Corporeality

We propose an exhibition at *Verge* where Annabelle McEwen and Wolfgang Saker use mediated and computationally generated imagery of the body as means to poetically explore the impact of digital technologies and algorithmic curation on corporeality, identity and reality. By traversing online experience, filtering it, and then materialising and exhibiting the visual output IRL, we consider the blurring of online personas and AFK corporeal existence.

McEwen critically interrogates the affect of digitally mediated experiences on users, the paralleling virtual gaze on the body and the resulting shifts in agency of the individual. Correspondingly, Saker excavates the inner psyche of virtual experience, rendering hyperreal dreams [nightmares]. We propose a duo exhibition at *Verge*, providing a platform for synthesis of the material, methodological and conceptual investigations of both McEwen and Saker, cradling a hybrid exploration of the intersection of digital realms and the human experience.

In this proposed exhibition, Saker is excited about embracing new formats of digital output including 3D printing and holograms. Saker also is working on large scale non-linear stories as single channel hd videos. Saker's use of computer optics, online avatars, virtual realities, and other technological components as artistic methodologies highlights his deep interest and relationship to internet culture.

As reality is flattened into semiotic data-streams, McEwen questions how the definition of the real and self is distorted via the power of images. They are drawn to the hyper-mediated reality of virtual worlds, and mimics this experience by filtering immaterial visual information through software including biometric facial recognition, photogrammetry and others. In this proposed exhibition, McEwen wants to extend the process by materialising images onto physical objects, especially experimenting with plaster. They are also planning to create free-standing works on a large scale, generating a grandeur in homage to the body. McEwen is also excited to create their debut video work. They are currently delving into the realm of 3D modelling and video-editing to incorporate their use of photography and digital intervention.

Synthesis of Saker's and McEwen's multi-disciplinary practices at *Verge* would generate a new discourse surrounding the blurred boundaries between the real and the virtual. At this stage in our research and artistic careers, exhibiting at *Firstdraft* is an exciting opportunity for our growth. Our exhibition concept is to create an immersive fusion of digital and physical art, leveraging the distinct spatial dynamics of *Verge*'s concrete floors, blinds and lighting, we aim to challenge traditional perceptions. By integrating interactive digital installations with sculptures, we aspire to spark contemplation on the evolving role of art in the digital era.

This collaboration with *Verge* and The University of Sydney offers not only a platform for showcasing our work, but also a vibrant community for engagement and artistic exchange. We think the opportunity to be a part of the *Verge* and USyd ecosystem by showing would benefit us to explore new technologies and materials in a non-traditional free thinking environment as well as meaningful professional development of our art practices.

Images/Moving Images:

We have put together 10 images/moving images as an online portfolio found here:

https://annabellecewen.com/verge_gallery_2024