

schmick contemporary

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DIAMONDS in the sky MARCH 6-MARCH 27
2.706. george st. chinatown

Diamonds in the Sky brings together two recent works by Courtney Coombs and Jordan Azcune queer the landscape, and the body. The works in this exhibition explore the potential for abstract forms to present intensely subjective experience, while still allowing for open dialogue and connection.

Courtney Coombs

Title: *Horizon line (bright)*

Medium: Neon

Size: 1200mm high

Year: 2021

Price: \$1650

Jordan Azcune

Title: *Lifeline*

Medium: Beeswax, pigment

Size: 1828 x 220 x 220mm

Year: 2020

Price: \$9000

Sales enquiries:

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Courtney Coombs

Horizon line (bright) looks to the horizon line during the blue hour of which they have spent much time looking out to during periods of insomnia. Courtney is currently borrowing from different states of the blue hour, to explore as a starting point for negotiating thoughts and feelings through a queer (abstract) lens.

Courtney Coombs makes art, writes, facilitates and collaborates to make sense of the world and their place in it. They are fascinated by the potential for, and power of, connection and disconnection and explore this by re-imagining every-day and seemingly banal moments of encounter. Employing a queer methodology, their work adopts an array of materials and

approaches, presenting subjective, vulnerable, and earnest moments, often by way of metaphor, to prompt different ways of seeing, understanding and being. Suspicious of the spectacle, Courtney offers gestural propositions with the hope of disrupting dominant narratives about value, prompting instead, moments of reflection, connection, and a celebration of difference.

Courtney was awarded a Doctor of Philosophy (practice-based research) from QUT in 2015. They have exhibited throughout Australia as well as internationally in solo and group exhibitions. Recent solo exhibitions include: *I can't sleep when I'm anxious: thinking through the blue hour*, CARPARK Milani Gallery, Brisbane; *The time of light*, Metro Arts, Brisbane; *Field of Vision*, IMA Belltower, Brisbane; *Sometimes it's the little things*, Boxcopy Contemporary Art Space, Brisbane; and *Drifting*, Casa Lu, Mexico City. Courtney has also attended national and international residency programs and was recently awarded the Australia Council for the Arts Helsinki International Artist Programme residency (2020). Their work is held in public and private collections.

Insta: [courtney.combs](https://www.instagram.com/courtney.combs)

Jordan Azcune

Lifeline, is a coloured gradient of beeswax casts standing six-foot-high, the height of the artist, and also the depth one is usually buried. Considering the Fayum Portrait death masks as well as larger memorials of mass that remember void, Azcune explores new ideas of queer and abstract portraiture through sculptural form. Originally exhibited at Toowong Cemetery, the work was produced with People-Artist-Place, Jenna Green, and Metro Arts. This work was produced with the supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland. Special Thank you to Lincoln Austin for his support and encouragement.

Raised as a Jehovah's Witness and growing up queer, Jordan Azcune's art practice is influenced by biblical theology and filtered by personal experience. Azcune uses this knowledge as a device to reveal understandings on architecture, body, and space with layered historic, and contemporary readings. Azcune is currently investigating the ideas of spirituality, offering and memorial through materials of bee's wax, pigment, glass and gold.

Azcune lives and works in Meanjin (Brisbane), Queensland. In 2016 he completed Honours in Fine Art at Queensland University of Technology and has since completed a mentorship in Public Art with Lincoln Austin and UAP. Azcune is a current finalist in the 66th Blake Prize and recipient of the Brisbane Lord Mayor Young and Emerging Fellowship. Solo shows *Naughty Crosses* at Wreakers Artspace Brisbane, and *Post-Christian Camp* at Seventh Gallery Melbourne will both open March 2021. His work has been exhibited nationally across Australia and has conducted research residencies in Australia, United States of America, and in 2022 India.

Insta: [jazcune](https://www.instagram.com/jazcune)

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