

Born Sarawak, Malaysia. Lives and works in Berlin.

Education

2014 Bachelor of Fine Art (Honours), Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne
2010 – 2014 Bachelor of Fine Art, RMIT University, Melbourne

Select Solo and Two-Person Exhibitions

- 2025 *Impressions*, Mackintosh Lane, London (forthcoming)
Spencer Lai and Elizabeth Newman, May Fair, Auckland (forthcoming)
- 2024 *Modes*, Neon Parc, Melbourne
- 2023 *Let us be silent so that we may hear the whisper of God: strained tremors of life rise from dark billows of muteness as a modern wind soars beneath engineered wings*, Neon Parc, Melbourne
He has left us alone but shafts of light sometimes grace the corners of our rooms: Lotus-Eaters, Asbestos, Melbourne
- 2022 *Academy for the Sensitive Arts*, Theta, New York
Oriental Painting., Neon Parc, Melbourne
A Patience Game (with Jürgen Baumann), Holden Garage, Berlin
- 2021 *buddhaminefield.*, Ge Hinnom Small Group Love, London
- 2018 *Air becomes metallic scented as anger is emitted, a bounding animal halts as blood in crimson unfurls in still waterhole*, Kimberly-Klark, New York
A smile becomes a grimace as the world spins -- it is funny, the sound of laughter – it is like god's hands on the shoulders of a troubled world, Bus Projects, Melbourne
hushed pupils, Fort Delta, Melbourne
- 2017 *Contaminant, figures*, Fort Delta, Melbourne
- 2016 *LENTO VIOLENTO*, TCB, Melbourne
B E AT P E ACE, lovely, lovely, Fort Delta, Melbourne
- 2015 *youth, born at brunch*, George Paton Gallery, Melbourne

Select Group Exhibitions

- 2024 *The Possibilities are Immense: Fifty Years of the George Paton Gallery*, George Paton Gallery, Melbourne
All Good Things, Hulias, Oslo
At Home with Painting, School of Art Gallery, Sydney
- 2023 *Frozen Blood*, Neon Parc
Backwash, Drill Hall Gallery, Canberra
Figuring Ground, Grafton Regional Gallery, New South Wales
Menagerié, Asbestos, Melbourne
- 2022 *You're Finally Awake!*, Theta, New York
Comfort the Afflicted, Envy, Wellington

More Love, Asbestos, Melbourne

- 2020 *Improvements & Reproductions*, West Space, Melbourne
1991, Neon Parc, Melbourne
- 2019 *Carny*, Neon Parc, Melbourne
- 2018 *On the Homefront*, Lubov, New York
Not titled, Sydney Sydney, Sydney
The drawing is simply not there, West Space, Melbourne
There is a pain - so utter, Gertrude Glasshouse, Melbourne
- 2017 *I am a branch floating on a swollen river after the rain*, Gertrude Contemporary
- 2016 *Dress Rehearsal* (with Rare Candy/Centre for Style), 9th Berlin Biennale, Berlin
AFFIDAVIT VITO ACCONCI, Gertrude Glasshouse, Melbourne
TarraWarra Biennale: Endless Circulation (with Jake Swinson, Jessie Kiely, Faye d'Evie and Matthew Linde),
TarraWarra Museum of Art, Victoria
- 2015 *the smell of an oily rag*, Fort Delta, Melbourne

Bibliography

- Ramirez, Diego; "Profile: Spencer Lai", *Art Collector*, Issue 105, July-September, 2023
- Carey, Brainard; "Interview with Spencer Lai", *Yale University Radio*, 2 November, 2022
- Fateman, Joanna; "You're Finally Awake!", *New Yorker*, 9 February, 2022
- Schmidt, Audrey; "More Love", *Memo Review*, 18 June, 2022
- Schmidt, Audrey; "Carny", *Memo Review*, 16 February, 2019
- Kubler, Alison; "Forecast: Spencer Lai", *Vault Magazine* Issue 23, 30 July, 2018
- Plagne, Francis; "Spencer Lai: A smile forms into a grimace [...]", *Memo Review*, 17 November, 2018
- Winata, Amelia; "Critic's Choice", *Australian Art Collector*, April-June, 2018
- Winata, Amelia; "Spencer Lai: Contaminant, figures", *Memo Review*, 22 July, 2018
- Schmidt, Audrey; "Banquet at the Biennial", *Art and Australia*, 16 November, 2016

Collections

- Artbank, NSW
Drill Hall Gallery, ACT
Private collections in Australia, United States and United Kingdom

Grants and Awards

- 2021 Arts Projects For Individuals and Groups, Creative Australia
Sustaining Creative Workers, Creative Victoria
- 2020 City of Melbourne Quick Response (COVID-19), City of Melbourne
Sustaining Creative Workers, Creative Victoria
- 2014 George Paton Gallery Award recipient