

SPENCER LAI

www.spencerlai.info

b. 1991, Malaysia, lives and works in Melbourne.

EDUCATION

2014 Bachelor of Fine Art (Honours), Victorian College for the Arts, Melbourne

2009 – 2013 Bachelor of Fine Art, RMIT University, Melbourne

MEMBERSHIPS

2019 - 2022 TCB Gallery, Board Member

SELECTED SOLO & TWO PERSON EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 Neon Parc, Melbourne (forthcoming)
He has left us alone but shafts of light sometimes grace the corner of our rooms: Girls Names,
Asbestos, Melbourne (forthcoming)
- 2022 *Academy for the Sensitive Arts*, Theta, New York
Oriental Painting., Neon Parc, Melbourne
A Patience Game, Jürgen Bauman & Spencer Lai (two person exhibition), Holden Garage, Berlin
Up the hill in my city shoes, Spencer Lai & Allan Rand (two person exhibition), Melbourne
- 2021 *buddhaminefield.*, Ge Hinnom Small Group Love, London
Bitch Biscuit, Victoria Todorov & Spencer Lai (two person exhibition), Bossy's Gallery, Melbourne
- 2018 *Air becomes metallic scented as anger is emitted [...]*, Kimberly-Klark, New York
hushed pupils, Fort Delta, Melbourne
- 2017 *Contaminant, figures*, Fort Delta, Melbourne
- 2016 *B E AT P E ACE, lovely, lovely*, Fort Delta, Melbourne
LENTO VIOLENTO, TCB Art. INC, Melbourne
- 2015 *youth, born at brunch (from a wish)*, George Paton Gallery, Melbourne
- 2014 *do you want me to come downstairs, with rollers in my hair?*, BLINDSIDE, Melbourne
- 2012 *Pleasure Structures, Contemporary Lifestyles*, c3 Contemporary, Melbourne

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 *You're Finally Awake!*, Theta, New York
The body speaks before it even talks, 99%, Melbourne
Comfort the Afflicted, Envy, Wellington
More Love, Asbestos, Melbourne
Text Tile, Caves Gallery, Melbourne
Kleptotherapy, Cool Change Contemporary, Perth
As Real As It Gets, Seventh Gallery, Melbourne
- 2021 *White Lillies* (online exhibition), Thierry Goldberg Gallery, New York
All worlds are flat, Blindside, Melbourne
- 2020 *Improvements & Reproductions*, West Space, Melbourne
1991, Neon Parc, Melbourne
there's no art in heaven, Mejia, Melbourne
MORANGOS COM AÇÚCAR, A Maior, Portugal
Freedom is the gentle exploration of boundaries [...], Discordia Gallery, Melbourne
- 2019 *Whorled*, Constance ARI, Hobart
No Righteous Left Among The Living, COMA Gallery, Sydney
Weeping gasoline dream, Mejia, Melbourne
Carny, Neon Parc, Melbourne
Toys 'R' Us, Second Space Projects, Melbourne
Untitled, Low Standards, Oslo
- 2018 *On the Homefront*, Lubov, New York
Untitled show, Sydney Sydney, Sydney
The drawing is simply not there, West Space, Melbourne
There is a pain - so utter, Gertrude Glasshouse, Melbourne
Head over Heels, OnCurating Project Space, Zurich

- 2017 *On Being*, Honeymoon Suite, Melbourne
En suite, Island Island, Melbourne
OPTIMISM & FUTILITY, Irene Rose, Melbourne
WE COLLAPSE, WE BUILD NEW CITIES, Australian National Capital Artists, Canberra
Low roofs make one feel like a mole in general, Rear View, Melbourne
I am a branch floating on a swollen river after the rain, Gertrude Contemporary
- 2016 *Saturn Returns*, Fort Delta, Melbourne
AFFIDAVIT VITO ACCONCI, Gertrude Glasshouse, Melbourne
A Really Good Look, TarraWarra Biennale: Endless Circulation, TarraWarra Museum of Art, Melbourne
To Wound The Autumnal City, Punk Cafe, Melbourne
The Bathhouse Show, offsite location, Tokyo, Japan
Widow's Walk, LON Gallery, Melbourne
- 2015 *the smell of an oily rag*, Fort Delta, Melbourne
CABIN FEVER CREATURE, off-site location, Melbourne
- 2014 *Draw backs*, Fort Delta, Melbourne
PROUD 2014, Margaret Lawrence Gallery, Melbourne

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2021 Australian Council for the Arts, Arts Projects For Individuals and Groups
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/PROUD award recipient

EXHIBITION CURATION

- 2019 - Current Bossy's Gallery (co-founder)
- 2020 *Freedom is the gentle exploration of boundaries [...]*, Discordia Gallery, Melbourne
- 2019 *Weeping gasoline dream*, Mejia, Melbourne
Hippies use the side door to enter the bazaar, The Drill Hall, Darling Point, Sydney
- 2018 *A smile forms into a grimace mid-slumber as the earth spins [...]*, Bus Projects, Melbourne
inside voice harvester, Irene Rose, Melbourne

PRESS & BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2022 Carey, Brainard; "Interview with Spencer Lai", Yale University Radio, 2 November
Fateman, Joanna; "You're Finally Awake!", New Yorker, 9 February
Schmidt, Audrey; "More Love", Memo Review, 18 June
- 2020 Schmidt, Audrey & Hurst, Cameron; "xoxo Grotty Gossip Girls: Australian Abject Art", 20 January
- 2019 Schmidt, Audrey; "In Costume", Memo Review, 16 November
Schmidt, Audrey; "Carny", Memo Review, 16 February
- 2018 Davis, Miles; "Frankensteining: Interview and Images with Spencer Lai", Story House Select, 19 October
Kubler, Alison; "Forecast: Spencer Lai", Vault Magazine Issue 23, 30 July
Plagne, Francis; "Spencer Lai: A smiles forms into a grimace [...]", Memo Review, 17 November
Winata, Amelia; "Critic's Choice", Australian Art Collector, April-June
- 2017 Winata, Amelia; "Spencer Lai: Contaminant, figures", Memo Review, 22 July
Schmidt, Audrey; "Leftovers", exhibition text,
- 2016 Schmidt, Audrey; "Banquet at the Biennial", Art and Australia, 16 November

ART FAIR PRESENTATIONS

- 2018 Spring 1883, Fort Delta, The Windsor Hotel, Melbourne
New Art Dealers Alliance (NADA), New York
- 2017 Spring 1883, The Establishment Hotel, Sydney
- 2016 Spring 1883, Fort Delta, The Windsor Hotel, Melbourne

TEACHING & LECTURES

- 2022 "Guest Artist Talk", Monash University, 1st Year Interdisciplinary Class, Melbourne, October 3
"Studio Methodologies", Victorian College for the Arts, Sculpture 3rd Year, Melbourne, April - Nov
"Student Mentoring", Victorian College for the Arts, Sculpture Students, Melbourne, April - Nov
"Guest Artist Talk", Victorian College for the Arts, Painting 2nd Year, Melbourne, April 1
- 2021 "Student Mentoring", Victorian College for the Arts, Sculpture Students, Melbourne, April - Nov
"Guest Artist Talk with Artist in Residence Jade Townsend", Artspace Aotearoa, April 8
- 2020 "Guest Artist Talk", Monash University, 1st Year Interdisciplinary Class, Melbourne, October 14
"Guest Artist Talk", Victorian College for the Arts, Sculpture 3rd Year, Melbourne, October 12

CONFERENCES, READINGS & WORKSHOPS

- 2022 "No more talking", NGV, poetry and prose reading, March 18
- 2021 "Practicing Futures Together", MPavilion, February 17
- 2019 "Queer and Transgender Experiences as VCA Alumni", Victorian College for the Arts, panel discussion
"Is Jewelry a Luxury?", RMIT Design Hub, panel discussion, March 17
"Assemblage Workshop" with Kate Meakin, RMIT Fashion (Advanced Fashion & Textiles), March 17
- 2017 "The Limits of the Page", RMIT Design Hub, Panel discussion, March 17

PUBLICATIONS - AUTHOR

- 2021 "om (Texts: 2014 - 2021)", no more poetry

PUBLICATIONS - CONTRIBUTOR

- 2021 "no rave: wagon wheel metatheatre", Zurich Moves
- 2020 "i.e -- for the people, we will be", no more poetry
- 2017 Artist page commission, Un Magazine
- 2016 "HEROES", Centre for Style & 3ply

GROUP/COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS

- 2019 *In Costume*, with Brendan Morris, Mejia
- 2016 *mummy has the bends again [...]*, The Community, Paris
Can't Look, Can't Look Away, Counihan Gallery, Melbourne
A Really Good Look, for *TarraWarra 2016 Biennial*, TarraWarra Museum, Victoria
An Awful Leisure, Pasy Gallery, Melbourne
- 2015 *WORLD INDUSTRIES: A GROUP SHOW BY MONICA'S GALLERY*, Punk Cafe, Melbourne