

# Spencer Lai

Curriculum Vitae 2024

Born Sarawak, Malaysia. Lives and works in Berlin.  
Represented by Neon Parc, Melbourne

## Education

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

## Employment

2021 - 2024 Sessional Tutor, Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne

## Select Solo Exhibitions

- 2025 Mackintosh Lane, London (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
- 2014 *do you want me to come downstairs, with rollers in my hair?* (with Jake Swinson), Blindside, Melbourne

## Select Group Exhibitions

- 2024 *All Good Things*, Hulus, 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
- 2014 *Draw backs*, Fort Delta, Melbourne  
*PROUD 2014*, Margaret Lawrence Gallery, 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

Private collections in Australia, United States of America and United Kingdom.

## 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 Award recipient