

Born Sarawak, Malaysia, 1991. Lives and works in Melbourne, Australia.
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

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 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
Up the hill in my city shoes (with Allan Rand), Air-BnB location, Melbourne
- 2021 *buddhaminefield.*, Ge Hinnom Small Group Love, London
Bitch Biscuit (with Victoria Todorov), Bossy's Gallery, Melbourne
- 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 Hulus, Oslo (forthcoming)
Writing Clothes, International Library of Fashion, Oslo (forthcoming)
At Home with Painting, School of Art Gallery, Sydney
- 2023 *Frozen Blood*, Neon Parc
Backwash, Drill Hall Gallery, Canberra
South Yarra Grand Opening, Neon Parc
Figuring Ground, Grafton Regional Gallery, New South Wales
Menagerié, Asbestos, Melbourne
- 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
Kleptothermy, Cool Change Contemporary, Perth
- 2021 *White Lillies*, 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
- 2019 *No Righteous Left Among The Living*, COMA Gallery, Sydney
Carny, Neon Parc, Melbourne
Untitled, Low Standards, Oslo
- 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
Head over Heels, OnCurating Project Space, Zurich
Auto Body Works, Arts Project Australia, Melbourne
- 2017 *WE COLLAPSE, WE BUILD NEW CITIES*, Australian National Capital Artists, Canberra
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
To Wound The Autumnal City, Punk Cafe, 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 & 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

Press & Bibliography

- 2023 Ramirez, Diego; "Profile: Spencer Lai", Art Collector, Issue 105, July-Sept
- 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
- 2019 Schmidt, Audrey; "In Costume", Memo Review, 16 November
Schmidt, Audrey; "Carny", Memo Review, 16 February
- 2018 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
- 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

Publications (Author)

- 2021 "om (Texts: 2014 - 2021)", no more poetry
- 2018 "Actor (snouts)", Diane Incorporated

Publications (Contributor)

- 2023 "Backwash" Drill Hall Gallery Publishing, Canberra
- 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
"High Risk/Critical Fashion", Mode and Mode
- 2016 "HEROES-Fanfiction", Centre for Style & 3ply

Exhibition Curation

2019 - Present Bossy's Gallery (co-founder)

2023 *Reception*, Aden Miller & Alexis Kanatsios, Docklands, Melbourne

2020 *Freedom is the gentle exploration of boundaries... I wear jeans, T-shirt, fragrance...*, Discordia Gallery, Melbourne

2019 *Weeping gasoline dream*, Mejia, Melbourne

Hippies use the side door to enter the bazaar, The Drill Hall, Sydney

2018 *A smile forms into a grimace mid-slumber as the earth spins — it's funny, such is the sound of laughter — it is like god's hands on the shoulders of a troubled world*, Bus Projects, Melbourne
inside voice harvester, Irene Rose, Melbourne