

KAI WASIKOWSKI

MOMENTS OF LOVE AND APATHY: PART 2

29 NOVEMBER – 22 DECEMBER 2017

Exhibition Opening: 29 November from 6-8pm

ARTERIAL GALLERY

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*Realtree (game reserve) #1*_pure pigment on archival paper_edition of 5 + 2AP_90 x 115 cm_\$2,400

***Moments of love and apathy: part 2* presents the latest body of works by Kai Wasikowski, recipient of the 2016 Arterial Gallery Mentorship Award and the 2017 Schenberg Art Fellowship.**

Join us for the opening of *Moments of love and apathy: part 2* on Wednesday 29 November from 6-8pm.

Moments of love and apathy addresses the recurring and transient desire for immersion in the natural landscape. Spurred by a recent journey to the retreating glaciers in the Southern Alps of New Zealand, Wasikowski presents photography and multimedia across two exhibitions that consider the deception and hostility inherent in the conception of nature as a pure and holistic vision. With an abundance of information connecting global phenomena to daily actions, Wasikowski's work explores the disassembling of nature as a stable backdrop to everyday experience and relationships. This latest exhibition at Arterial Gallery follows on from the presentation of Part 1 of *Moments of love and apathy* at Nicholas Projects in Melbourne in mid-2017.

Moments of love and apathy: part 2 presents a new photographic series of constructed environments that address the experience of ecological crisis as a shifting interplay between real and imagined phenomena. By integrating hydrographics into his process – a printing technique typically used to render objects with camouflage in firearm, automotive and hunting applications – Wasikowski deconstructs Romantic renditions of nature into synthetic and hybrid ecologies. The images are at once reality, simulation and dystopian display window.

Wasikowski's images are redolent with loaded references to video games, the visual language of Virtual Reality landscapes and are a neo-noir cinematic quality. The natural world as we know it has been rendered in a surreal and almost dreamlike manner and yet in many ways it is more recognisable than ever – due to our overt familiarity with mediated depictions of the landscape. Seen in everything from store window displays, to advertising, film to photography, we are bombarded daily with staged and manipulated images of the natural world. Images which often evoke a nostalgic longing for a return to nature, whilst simultaneously reinforcing the uncertain trajectory of our contemporary existence.

With their layered imagery, the integration of camouflage and references to red laser beams, Wasikowski's landscapes hint at danger and warfare, turbulence and unease. Viewing the works we struggle to pull apart the illusion. What is real and what has been doctored? The colours are slightly too high-keyed to be real. The foreground appears to be a tableaux. And yet the landscape receding into the distance has a hint of veracity to it.

In Wasikowski's work the way in which the landscape is depicted, packaged and presented for viewing is as important as the image itself - raising pertinent questions to how contemporary society communes with and consumes imagery of the natural world.



Realtree (game reserve) #2_pure pigment on archival paper_edition of 5 + 2AP_90 x 115 cm_\$2,400



Realtree (game reserve) #3_pure pigment on archival paper_edition of 5 + 2AP_90 x 115 cm_\$2,400

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Kai Wasikowski is a Sydney-based artist whose work considers what it means to be ecologically aware. Utilising photography, readymade materials and multimedia, Wasikowski draws together aesthetic signifiers of technology and nature to explore the increasing intimacy of these binary terms and the emotional environments their meshing creates.

Wasikowski completed a Bachelor of Visual Arts (First Class Honours with University Medal) at the Sydney College of the Arts in 2016 and was awarded the Deans Award for Honours and the 2016 Arterial Gallery Mentoring Award. Wasikowski's work was recently shown in 'Hatched: National Graduate Show' at the Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts where he was awarded the 2017 Schenberg Art Fellowship.

Solo exhibitions include; *Moments of love and apathy: part 1*, Nicholas Projects, Melbourne 2017; *Lux*, the Corner Cooperative, Sydney, 2015; and *Taking Liberties*, Photo Access, Canberra, 2015. Recent group exhibitions include *Nice One Picasso*, Sydney College of the Arts Galleries, Sydney; *Habitual Ritual*, ANCA Gallery, Canberra, 2016; *Ideally Yes*, Interlude Gallery, Sydney, 2016; *Objectifying Elsewhere*, Seventh Gallery, Melbourne 2015. Wasikowski has also exhibited in various emerging artist awards including the *Young Artist Initiative*, M. Contemporary, Sydney, 2016, *Exploration 16*, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne, 2016 and was the recipient of the 2016 *Art Month Sydney Emerging Artist Award*, held at the Galleries Victoria, Sydney. Kai is currently artist in residence at Square One Studios in Sydney.

KAI WASIKOWSKI CV

b. 1992, Canberra, Australia

Lives and works in Sydney, Australia

EDUCATION

2016 Bachelor of Visual Arts (First Class Honours with University Medal), Sydney College of the Arts

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2017 'Moments of Love and Apathy: Part 2' Artereal Gallery, Sydney

'Moments of Love and Apathy,' Nicholas Projects, Melbourne

2015 'Lux,' The Corner Cooperative, Sydney

2014 'Taking Liberties,' Archive Space, Sydney

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2017 'Chaos or Control,' Stella Downer Fine Art, Sydney. Curated by Sean Morris

'Thing in itself,' Wellington St Projects, Sydney. Curated by Elyse Goldfinch

'Hatched: National Graduate Show 2017,' Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts, Perth. Curated by Oilivia Nichols

'Emerging 2017,' Gosford Regional Gallery, Gosford. Curated by Sarah Samild

'Nice One Picasso,' Sydney College of the Arts Galleries, Sydney. Curated by Liam Garstang

2016 'Sydney College of the Arts Undergraduate Degree Show,' Sydney

'Habitual Ritual,' ANCA Gallery, Canberra. Curated by Anja Loughhead and Sabrina Baker

'Ideally Yes,' Interlude Gallery, Sydney. Curated by Isabel Rouch and Misael M

'Art Month Sydney Emerging Artist Award,' The Galleries Victoria Building, Sydney. Curated by Barry Keldoulis

'Exploration 16,' Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne. Curated by Claire Harris 'Transpire,

'ES74 Gallery, Sydney. Curated by Jake Blaschka

'Young Artist Initiative,' M. Contemporary Gallery, Sydney. Curated by Michelle Paterson

2015 'Sydney College of the Arts Undergraduate Degree Show,' Sydney

'The Other Art Fair,' Central Park, Sydney

'Objectifying Elsewhere,' Seventh Gallery, Melbourne. Curated by Luke Letourneau

'Hermeneutics,' Interlude Gallery, Sydney. Curated by Misael M. and Isabel Rouch

'Square Eyes,' M16 Artspace, Canberra

2014 'Friend,' Friend Gallery, Canberra. Curated by Luke Chiswell

'Embrace - Australian Emerging Artists,' M Contemporary, Sydney. Curated by Michelle Paterson

2013 'The F Word,' Photospace, Canberra. Curated by Grace Cramer

AWARDS / PRIZES / RESIDENCIES

2017 Mentorship with Mikala Tai (4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art, Director)

Schenberg Art Fellowship, awarded at 'Hatched: National Graduate Show,' Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts

Square One Studios Artist Residency, Sydney

'Emerging 2017,' Gosford Regional Gallery, Highly Commended

2016 Artereal Gallery Mentorship Award

Sydney College of the Arts Dean's Honours Award

- Art Month Sydney Emerging Artist Award and Mentorship with Barry Keldoulis (CEO and Group Fairs Director, Art Fairs Australia)
- 2014 University of Sydney Academic Merit Prize
SCA Dean's List of Excellence in Academic Performance

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY AND PUBLICATIONS

- 2017 Snell, Ted, 'Eight years of the Schenberg Fellowship,' Art Monthly Australasia, November 2017
- 2016 International Institute for Global Health, United Nations University, 'Thrive: Health and Wellbeing in the City We Need,' Urban Thinkers Campus Kuching, Malaysia, January
- 2016 Dott Publishing ARTAND Foundation, 'Artist Books and Editions,' 2015
- 2015 Scott, Aurora, 'Fast-forwarding and Re-winding,' August
- 2015 No One Special, 'Handscapes by Kai Wasikowski,' May 2015
- 2014 Letourneau, Luke, 'The Site of the Palm,' November
- 2014 No One Special, 'Mindshare 02,' November

COLLECTIONS

- 2017 Daniel Besen Private Collection, Melbourne
- 2016 The Clinical Research Institute, Westmead Private Hospital, Sydney
- 2015-present Private art collections Australia

Information correct at time of publication.
Subject to change without notice.

All prices are listed in Australian Dollars, inclusive of GST.

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