

# NIAGARA

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## SEAN MEILAK

Born in 1975, Sean Meilak works in a variety of mediums including painting, drawing, video, sculpture and installation. Sean's work explores the layering of personal and collective histories and the psychology of space often referencing the architecture of ancient Rome, theatre and film set design as well as modern and postmodern art, architecture and design movements.

After completing a Bachelor of Fine Art at the Victorian College of the Arts in 1997, Sean acted as Co-Director and Programme Co-ordinator of 1stFloor artists and writers space, until 2002. Sean was a studio artist at 200 Gertrude Street (2000-2002) and in 2006 he undertook an Australia Council residency at the Cité International des Arts in Paris.

Sean Meilak currently lives and works in Melbourne.

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2021 *Made for Melodrama*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2018 *Parade*, TDF Collect, Melbourne
- 2017 *Marble Park*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2009 Kaliman Gallery, Sydney
- 2008 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2005 *Something in the way you love me won't let me be*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2004 Kaliman Gallery, Sydney
- 2003 *The Way We Live Today*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne  
Kaliman Gallery, Sydney
- 2002 *Paintings*, Kaliman Gallery, Sydney
- 2001 *Interiors*, Studio 12, 200 Gertrude Street, Melbourne  
*Pin Oak Court, Vermont South*, 1st Floor, Melbourne
- 1999 *Green Belt*, 1st Floor, Melbourne
- 1998 *Contents*, 1st Floor, Melbourne

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 *Art - Design - Arflex*, Yellowtrace x Arflex for Melbourne Design week, Poliform showroom, Melbourne
- 2018 *From Where We Stand*, Artbank, Sydney  
*Artefacts*, Space on Collins, Melbourne  
*Colour & Form*, Home@735 Gallery, Sydney
- 2017 *The Design Files Open House*, Collingwood Arts Precinct, Melbourne  
*Gardening is Not A Rational Act*, c3 contemporary art space, Melbourne  
*Heavenly Daze*, Mailbox Art Space, Melbourne  
*Ten Thousand Hours*, Art KDS, The King David School, Melbourne
- 2011 Platform Contemporary Art Spaces, Melbourne
- 2010 *Muster: A Round Up of Works from the Stockroom*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2007 *ABN AMRO 2007 Emerging Artist Award Finalists' Exhibition*, Sydney
- 2006 *Screenings: International and Australian New Media Works*,  
UBS Contemporary Art Galleries, NGV International, Melbourne  
*Reflections in a Golden Eye*, Linden-St Kilda Centre for Contemporary Arts,  
Melbourne  
*ABN AMRO Emerging Artists Award*, Melbourne and Sydney

- 2005 *Pitch Your Own Tent*, Monash University Museum of Art, Melbourne  
*Where are they now? Unsigned Artists Revisited*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2004 *Swoon*, Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Melbourne  
*Southern: 10 Australian Artists*, Home Gallery, Prague
- 2002 *1st Floor Final Exhibition*, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Melbourne  
*Melbourne Art Fair*, Royal Exhibition Buildings, Melbourne  
*Works on Paper*, Kaliman Gallery, Sydney  
*Home Front*, Canberra Contemporary Art Space, Canberra  
Newcastle Regional Art Gallery, New South Wales
- 2001 *200 Gertrude Street Studio Artists Exhibition*, Melbourne  
*Unsigned Artists*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2000 *200 Gertrude Street Studio Artists Exhibition*, Melbourne  
*Paintings are Ace*, Linden, Melbourne  
*Concrete Living Room*, 1st Floor, Melbourne  
*Family Romance*, 1st Floor, Melbourne, and Rubyayre, Sydney  
*Mayonnaise*, 1st Floor, Melbourne, and Rubyayre, Sydney
- 1999 *Colouring Contest*, The Physics Room, Christchurch, New Zealand
- 1998 *Everybody Knows*, Openspace and Care OF Spazio d'art Contemporanea, Milan, Italy  
*Workstation*, 1st Floor, Melbourne  
*We Are Electric*, Arts Victoria, Melbourne  
*Cosmetic*, Stripp, Melbourne
- 1997 *Two Men with a Struggle*, 1st Floor, Melbourne  
*Going Nowhere Video Show*, Grey Area Art Inc, Melbourne  
*Arts Watch*, C.U.B. Malthouse, Melbourne
- 1996 *Boxes*, (1996 Next Wave Festival), Victorian College of the Arts Gallery, Melbourne

## COLLECTIONS

National Gallery of Victoria  
Private Collections, Australia

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Shannon McGrath and Carli Philips, 'Charm Intensive', *belle*, November 2019, pp. 162-167  
'New directions', *Art Collector*, no. 87, January-March 2019, pp. 78-105, Briony Downes, '9: Sean Meilak', pp. 84-85
- Kimberley-jade Bawden, 'City Sleek: Melbourne', *belle*, February-March 2019, pp. 106-108  
'Neutral zone', *belle*, February-March 2019, pp. 58-60  
'Sean Meilak: Plaster Sculpture', *Vogue Living*, November/December 2018, p. 86
- Felicity Marshall, 'Mirror Apartment: Where Parisian understatement meets quirky Australian design', <https://www.domain.com.au/living/mirror-apartment-where-parisian-understatement-meets-quirky-australian-design-20180706-h0ypd9-751169/> (accessed 14.07.2018)
- Sabine Brix, 'Using personal perspective to make art accessible', *ArtsHub* (online), 16 May 2018
- Elle Murrell, 'Sean Meilak Takes the 'Shelfie' to New Heights', *The Design Files* (online), 15 February 2018
- Peter Clark and Swee Lim, 'View Finder', *belle*, November 2017, pp. 114-8
- Golden, 'Open Days', *belle Smart Space*, 2017, pp. 38-41
- Tai Sainth, gardening is not a rational act, exhibition catalogue, c3 Contemporary Art Space, Melbourne, 2017
- Deborah Shapiro, 'An Emerging Melbourne Artist on Still Lifes, Surrealism, and More', *Sight Unseen*, 9 September 2017
- Briony Downes, 'From Little Things Big Things Grow', *Art Guide Australia*, 13 April 2017  
'Sean Meilak', *Art Guide Australia*, no. 105, January/February 2017, p. 131
- Marble Park*, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, Melbourne, 2017
- Megan Backhouse, 'Sean Meilak', *The Age Melbourne Magazine*, no. 44, June 2008
- Kirsten Rann, 'Reflections in a Golden Eye', *Artlink Magazine*, vol. 26, no. 3, September 2006

Amanda Johnson, 'Perspectives to nowhere: Imaging the road in recent Australian landscape painting', in Anthony Lynch (ed.), *Space: new writing*, no. 3, Whitmore Press, Geelong, 2006

*Pitch Your Own Tent*, exhibition catalogue, Monash University Museum of Art, Melbourne, June 2005

Sarah Tutton, 'Sean Meilak: Something in the way you love me won't let me be', *Australian Art Collector*, July 2005

Georgina Jerums, 'Principal Artists', *Sunday Life: The Sunday Age Magazine*, 12 December 2004

Rebecca Coates, 'Sean Meilak', *SWOON*, exhibition catalogue, Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Melbourne, 2004

'Artists Pages', *Rubik 14*, Melbourne 2003

Bridget Crone, *The Way We Live Today*, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, Melbourne, 2003

Robert Nelson, 'Pale ghosts and pain', *The Age*, 14 May 2003

Lucinda Strahan, 'FACE OFF', *CSI: MELBOURNE*, no. 007, May 2003

J. China, 'Pin Oak Court, Vermont South', *Eyeline*, no. 47, Brisbane, 2001-2002

Tessa Dwyer, *Pin Oak Court, Vermont South*, exhibition catalogue, 1st Floor, Melbourne, 2001

A. Frost, 'Everybody Needs Good Neighbours', *Australian Style*, Sydney, October 2001

Daniel Palmer, 'Mayonnaise', *Frieze*, London, no. 53, June 2000

Stuart Koop, 'Notes on the difference between the first and ground floors', *Good Thinking*, 1st Floor, Melbourne, 2000

S. Tutton and E. Kidd, 'Escalator Remix', *Artfan*, no. 8, Melbourne, Summer 1998

Daniel Palmer, 'Stars and loops – we are electric', *Globe E Journal*, no.8, 1998

E. Kidd, *Contents*, exhibition catalogue, 1st Floor, Melbourne, Australia, 1998