

Sidney McMahan

Born 1986, Toowoomba
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Sidney McMahan is an interdisciplinary artist working across sculptural installation, video and performance. With a focus on collaboration and interdisciplinary practice, McMahan explores a personal queer narrative through their work. They completed a Bachelor of Fine Arts at the University of Southern Queensland in 2009, a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Hons) at Sydney College of the Arts (USYD) in 2010, a Master of Art Curatorship at USYD in 2011 and a Master of Fine Arts at Sydney College of the Arts at USYD in 2015. They were the 2021 UTS Artist in Residence. From 2016-2018 they were artist in resident at Parramatta Artists Studios and were awarded the 2017 Parramatta City Council Visual Arts Fellowship. In 2017 they completed a residency at the Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris, and Studio Voltaire, London. In 2018 they completed residencies at Wysing Arts Centre, UK, and a travelling residency between Kyoto and Tokyo organised by Move Arts Japan in collaboration with Asialink Arts. McMahan completed a mentorship with French artist Camille Henrot during her Carte Blanche exhibition at the Palais de Tokyo in late 2017. They were a 2015/2016 Co-Director at Firstdraft Gallery, Sydney. McMahan also collaborates with fellow artist Kate Beckingham as OK YEAH COOL GREAT. They have shown nationally and internationally in solo, group and curatorial projects in various galleries including, Goulburn Regional Art Gallery (NSW), Clearview Ltd (LDN), Open Source Gallery (NY), Auto Italia (LDN), Outer Space (QLD), Raygun (QLD), ACE Open (SA), ACCA (VIC), Success (WA), and Verge Gallery (NSW).

Education

- 2015 Master of Fine Arts, Sydney College of the Arts, University of Sydney, Sydney
- 2011 Master of Art Curatorship, University of Sydney, Sydney.
- 2010 Bachelor of Visual Arts (Honours), Sydney College of the Arts, University of Sydney, Sydney.
- 2009 Bachelor of Visual Arts, The University of Southern Queensland, Toowoomba

Solo Exhibitions

- 2022 *Maggot*, UTS Art Gallery, Sydney
- 2021 *Of sorrow and release*, ACE Open, Adelaide
- 2020 *Of hope and longing*, Goulburn Regional Art Gallery, Goulburn
- 2019 *Canter*, Outer Space Gallery, Brisbane
- 2016 *On the turning point of becoming and returning*, MOP Projects, Chippendale
On the turning point of becoming and returning, Peacock Gallery, Auburn
There's no easy way to say this, Dominik Mersch Gallery, Sydney
- 2015 *How to live together*, Wellington St Projects, Chippendale

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2020 *Overlapping Magisteria: The 2020 Macfarlane Commissions*, Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Melbourne
Don't let yourself go (With Salote Tawale), Cement Fondu, Sydney
- 2019 *Tender rip*, Auto Italia, London
- 2018 *Move Arts Japan Artist in Residency Exhibition* (with Yuyen Lin-Woywod), 3331 Arts Chiyoda, Tokyo
Day for Night 2018, as part of Liveworks Festival, Performance Space, Sydney
Freedman Foundation Travelling Art Scholarship Exhibition, UNSW Galleries, Sydney
We are all connected to Campbelltown (one way or another), Campbelltown Arts Centre, Campbelltown
%, Clearview Ltd, London
Mrs. Spring Fragrance, COMA, Sydney
Real Real, with Brooke Stamp, Campbelltown Arts Centre, Campbelltown
From where we stand, curated by Tony Stephens, Artbank, Sydney
Mosaic LGBTIQ Artists of Western Sydney, curated by Steven Ross, Parramatta Artists Studios Gallery, Parramatta
- 2017 *I feel you in my clothes*, as part of *WORK/SHOP*, curated by Laura Couttie at the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Melbourne (with OK YEAH COOL GREAT)
Social Structures, curated by Amy-Clare McCarthy, Metro Arts, Brisbane
Spells of Temporal Stasis, with Brooke Stamp, The Walls, Gold Coast
Intrinsic Properties, Inherent Vice, curated by Holly Williams, Belconnen Arts Centre and Ausglass, Canberra
- 2016 *When we talk about food, we talk about it with our heart* – with Aunty Beryl Van Oploo and Rebekah Raymond in the exhibition *We the people* as part of Liveworks 2016, Performance Space, Sydney
Parramatta Artists Studios at Artspace, Artspace, Sydney
Freedman Foundation Travelling Art Scholarship Exhibition, UNSW Galleries, Sydney.

Passing/Parades, Success, Freemantle

The Delivery, Verge Gallery, Sydney (with OK YEAH COOL GREAT)

The floral gift # 3, as part of Vivid Sydney Table, Carriageworks, Sydney (with Sarah Ryan, Claire Van Vuuren, Mitch Grady & Dale Harrison)

SCA New Contemporaries 16, SCA Galleries, Sydney

tensions/ translations/ transitions, Dominik Mersch Gallery, Sydney

The floral gift # 2, MOP Projects, Sydney (with Sarah Ryan and Claire Van Vuuren)

2015 *The stuff our dreams are made of*, Verge gallery, Sydney

Friends with Benefits: Sharing is Caring, This is not art (TINA) festival, Newcastle

SCA Graduate Exhibition, Sydney College of the Arts, Rozelle

Breathing Room, Gaffa, Sydney

Residencies

2021 UTS Artist in Residence

2018 Move Arts Japan Artist in Residence Program, Tokyo & Kyoto, Japan

2018 Residency at Wysing Arts Centre, South Cambridgeshire, UK

2017 Residency at Studio Voltaire, London, UK

2017 Dr Denise Hickey Memorial Studio residency at the Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris - awarded by the Art Gallery of New South Wales

2016/17 Artist in residence, Parramatta Artist Studio, Parramatta

Professional Experience

2017 Mentorship with Camille Henrot during her Carte Blanche at the Palais de Tokyo, Paris

2017 Parramatta City Council Creative Fellowship Recipient

2015/16 Co-Director Firstdraft Gallery

2015 Artist Assistant to Agatha Gothe-Snape

2015 Artist Assistant to Tracey Moffatt

2014 Research Assistant to Maura Reilly

Curated Projects and Co-Published Work

2015 *To the lovers of the true and the beautiful*, TWENTY THIRTY SEVEN, Glebe

2015 *THE SURVEY: The inaugural SCASS (Sydney College of Arts Student Society) Art Prize*, Verge Gallery, Sydney

2014 *FLEET*, Metro Arts, Brisbane (with OK YEAH COOL GREAT)

Collections

Artbank

Ovolo Hotels Group Collection, private collections Australia.

Grants, Awards and Commissions

2020 Create NSW Artist Support Grant

2019 Maddocks Art Prize

2019 Create NSW Artist Support Grant

2017 Australia Council for the Arts Career Development Grant

2017 Parramatta City Council Creative Fellowship Recipient

2016 Australia Council for the Arts Career Development Grant

2016 Freedman Foundation Travelling Art Scholarship Recipient

2016 Arts NSW Artist Support Grant

2016 Inner West City Council Independent Artist Grant

2016 *The Garden of a Thousand Years* Co-commissioned with Annie McKinnon, Parramatta Lanes Festival 2016

2016 *Untitled 2016*, Commissioned by Right Angle Studio for Mirvac Harold Park Precinct 3, Glebe

2016 Dominik Mersch Gallery Award Recipient