

TITLE OF WORK: Paradise Falls I

ARTIST: Kate McMillan

YEAR PRODUCED: 2011/12

MEDIUM: HD Digital Film

DURATION: 2 min 49 sec

EDITIONS: 1/3

Paradise Falls I is the philosophical culmination of the time McMillan spent in Switzerland in 2011 as well as her ongoing PhD project into the forgetting of the history of Wadjemup/Rottnest Island, Western Australia. This significant body of work highlights a shift in her practice, evidenced by a dark and moody palette and the combination of figurative and abstract works that set up an interplay between landscape, memory, forgetting and history. Working across a diverse range of mediums including painting, collage, photography, film and sculpture, this exhibition examines the complex and sustaining residue of these overarching themes.

The works cover a range of specific landscapes including Wadjemup/Rottnest Island, the Black Forest in Germany and the winter landscapes of Switzerland. With a focus on island sites and places that exist in isolation, the works attempt to draw parallels between physical landscapes and the psychological landscapes of the artist's own memories, broader cultural histories and stories.

TITLE OF WORK: Paradise Falls II

ARTIST: Kate McMillan

YEAR PRODUCED: 2011/12

MEDIUM: HD Digital Film

DURATION: 3 min 28 sec

EDITIONS: 1/3

Paradise falls II follows a man as he rows towards the silhouette of a craggy island off the coast of wadjemup/rotnnest. he too appears and disappears from sight, finally lost to the inky black of the ocean. these characters are stand-ins for fractured and partial histories that disappear from focus, yet continue in our collective psyche as dark and haunting traumas. the films are like moving paintings, heavily referencing the romantic tradition of Germanic landscape painting. unsurprisingly then the work of artists such as arnold bocklin (1827-1901) and Casper david Friedrich (1774- 1840) become distant cousins to McMillan's oeuvre. the artist acknowledges and even embraces these quotations but she also holds them in a critical eye as part of an enlightenment ideology that has helped us to forget.

Through engaging with the viewing process we participate in a re-remembering, acknowledging the shady edges of things, but also baring witness to the beauty of sadness that is contrary to the horrors of forgetting history. whilst the history of wadjemup/rotnnest island is a core component of what drives this body of work, it can also be viewed more broadly as a reading on landscape and memory. together, the work in *Paradise falls* become part of a sunny disquiet that is so central to McMillan's ongoing thesis.

ARTIST'S CV

Kate McMillan has exhibited throughout Australia and overseas since 1997. In 2013 she relocated to London from Australia, where she has spent much of her life, to undertake a number of projects, which include the filming of four ambitious new works funded in part by one of two Creative Development Fellowships awarded annually across all art-forms by the Department for Culture and the Arts, Western Australia. The work will be presented by Performance Space, Australia in Sydney, Tasmania and the United Kingdom in 2014 and will include a major monograph on McMillan's practice. >McMillan is a Phd candidate at Curtin University under the supervision of Dr Anna Haebich (author of Broken Circles: Fragmenting Indigenous Families 1800-2000).

She has been funded by an Australian Postgraduate Award to complete her Phd which examines the forgetting of the history of Wadjemup/Rottneest Island. She currently holds an Academic Post with Open University, Australia. Previous solo exhibitions include Lost at the John Curtin Gallery in 2008, Broken Ground in 2006 at Margaret Moore Contemporary Art and Disaster Narratives at the Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts for the 2004 Perth International Arts Festival. She has been included in various group exhibitions over the last few years including at the Art Gallery of Western Australia, Gertrude Street Contemporary Art in Melbourne, Govett Brewster Art Gallery in New Zealand and the Australian Centre for Photography in Sydney.

She is represented by Venn Gallery, Perth.

EDUCATION

- 2011 Phd Candidate,**
Curtin University, Perth, supervised by Dr Anna Haebich
- 1999 Masters in Creative Arts (by research),**
Curtin University, Perth
- 1997 Honours (First Class) Fine Arts,**
Curtin University, Perth
- 1994 Bachelor of Arts, Fine Arts,**
Curtin University, Perth

UPCOMING

- 2014 The Moment of Disappearance** (solo exhibition),
Performance Space, Sydney
- Australia Council Studio at ACME Studios** (residency)
East London, United Kingdom
- The Moment of Disappearance** (commission)
Performance Space, Sydney

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2013 In The Shadow Of The Past, This World Knots Tight**
Venn Gallery, Perth
- 2012 Paradise Falls**
Venn Gallery, Perth
- 2008 lost**
John Curtin Gallery, Perth
- 2005 Broken Ground**
Margaret Moore Contemporary Art, Perth
- 2004 New Work**
Frontstore Gallery, Basel, Switzerland
- Disaster Narratives**
presented as part of Perth International Arts Festival,
Perth Institute of Contemporary Art (PICA), Perth
- 2001 Undercover**
Fremantle Arts Centre, Fremantle
- Sacrificial Economy**
Verge Gallery, Perth
- 2000 Hedge**
Rubyayre Gallery, Sydney

Ambiguous Objectives

Perth Institute of Contemporary Art (PICA), Perth

1999 New Work

Verge Gallery, Perth

1998 New Work

Verge Gallery, Perth

1997 New Work

Arthouse Gallery, Perth

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2013 A heap of broken images (Arts Proper)

Assemblage, Sydney

2012 Joondalup Invitation Art Award (winner)

Lakeside Joondalup Shopping Centre, Perth

2011 Sixth Sense: Contemporary Photography in Western Australia

presented as part of Fotofreo, Gallery Central, Perth

Spaced: Art Out of Place

presented by IASKA, Fremantle Arts Centre,
Perth International Arts Festival (currently touring Nationally)

2010 Biennale of Sydney

curated by David Elliott, Sydney

2009-10 Built

curated by Jenepher Duncan,
Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth

2008 Silver: 25 years of Artrage

PICA, Perth

2006 If you leave me can I come too?

curated by Bec Dean, Australian Centre for Photography, Sydney

2005 I have seen some strange places

Gertrude Contemporary Art Space, curated by Jeff Khan, Melbourne

2004 Regionale 5

Kunsthaus Baselland, curated by Sabine Schaschl, Basel, Switzerland

2003 Mixtape

curated by Dr Robert Cook and Jenepher Duncan,
Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth

Wild Frontier

Downtown, Adelaide

Flux: Uncertain States

curated by John Barrett-Lennard, Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery, Perth

2002 Neo Geo

curated by Suellyn Lockett, John Curtin Gallery, Perth

Moving Collection

curated by Roger McDonald, Govett Brewster Gallery, New Zealand
& AIT Tokyo, Japan

Urban Anxiety

Artrage Festival, Perth, touring to 1aspace, Hong Kong

2001 Loop

Moore's Building, curated by Michelle Siciliano, Fremantle, Australia

do it

curated by Hans Ulrich Obrist, Sophie O'Brien and Dr Robert Cook,
presented as part of Perth International Arts Festival,
Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery, Perth

Sacrificial economy

Fremantle Arts Centre, Perth

2000 Nightswimming

curated by Dr Robert Cook,
presented as part of Perth International Arts Festival, Craftwest, Perth

1999 Re:body

Fremantle Arts Centre, Perth

RESIDENCIES

2011 Artsource/Christoph Merian Stiftung
six-month residency, Basel, Switzerland

IASKA, Spaced residency
Leonora, WA

2010 Marrickville Council residency
Sydney

2003 One-month self funded research
Berlin, Germany

Red Gate Gallery Studio
Beijing, China

2002 Australia Council Studio
Tokyo, Japan

COMMISSIONS

2011 Kambarang
Seacrest Public Art Commission, City of Joondalup

2010 Ver non simper viret
KMPG

2009 Whispering Hills
Private Commission, Perth

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

2000-08 Industry Advisor/ Peer Assessor
for Australia Council for the Arts and NAVA

2005-08 Director on the Board
National Association for the Visual Arts (NAVA)

2000-05 Director on the Board
Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts

1997-11 **Chair, Verge Inc**
Artist Run Initiative

SELECTED AWARDS & GRANTS

- 2013 **Creative Development Fellowship**
Department for Culture and the Arts
- 2012 **Overall Acquisitive Award**
Joondalup Invitation Art Award
- 2011 **Australian Postgraduate Award**
with Stipends (to undertake Phd)
- 2009-11 **Established Artist New Work Grant**
Australia Council for the Arts
- 2010 **Project Grant**
Department for Culture and the Arts
- 2008 **Mid-Career Creative Development Fellowship**
Department for Culture and the Arts
- 1998 **Australian Postgraduate**
Award with Stipends (to undertake Masters Degree)

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2013 Sheridan Coleman,
In the shadow of the past, this world knots tight,
Artlink Vol 33 no 2 2013
- 2012 Darren Jorgensen,
Paradise Falls,
The West Australian, June 2012
- Nicola Harvey,
Spaced: Art out of place,
Frieze, Issue 147, May 2012

Sarah Miller,
The Artist-in-residence: beyond just being there,
Realtime 108, April 2012

2010 Melissa Ratliff,
Islands of Incarceration,
catalogue essay for 2010 Biennale of Sydney, 2010

Adam Fulton and Caris Bizzaca,
WA artist shows wares in Sydney,
The West Australian, May 2010

David Elliott,
catalogue essay for 2010 Biennale of Sydney, 2010

2008 Geraldine Barlow,
catalogue essay for lost, 2008

Ric Spencer,
Images of lost meaning,
The West of Australian, November 2008

2005 Bec Dean,
catalogue essay for Broken Ground, 2005

Les Walking,
The craft of photography in the age of digital reproduction,
Artlink, Vol 25 no 1, 2005

2004 Dr Ian McLean,
catalogue essay for Disaster Narratives, 2004

Simon Blond,
Hopeful disasters,
The West Australian, February 2004

2003 Dr Robert Cook,
catalogue essay for Mixtape, 2003



Nyanda Smith,
Wilder shores of fancy,
The West Australian, August 2003

SELECTED COLLECTIONS

Art Gallery of Western Australia
University of Western Australia
Christoph Merian Foundation, Basel
City of Joondalup
City of Perth
Curtin University Art Collection
Kerry Stokes Collection
KPMG
Murdoch University Art Collection
Wesfarmers
Momentum, Berlin