

NARRATIVES OF THE POSSIBLE



Andrea Przygonski

Adelaide, South Australia

Dream-Travels During a Pandemic

“Locked down nowhere to go but our imagination. And during sleep wild and fantastical journeys emerge. Travels we can only experience in our dreams.”

Concertina construction with lights; digital images and digital collage on transparencies, collage and letraset on found slides and transparencies, found Kodak box, slide containers and slip case, tarlatan, LED strip, acrylic.

Artist's Statement

Within the context of a print-focussed approach, the core of my practice relates to memory, music, the environment, repetition and contemporary issues. My work blends artforms and has recently tended towards a theatricality that aims to blur the boundaries of what an imprint may be. The work is mostly abstracted with form and colour as fundamental elements of my visual language. Much of what I see and feel is perceived in this way, while the choice of materials and construction are concept and context responsive, with the work taking shape in either two or three-dimensional space.

Embracing new or emerging technologies and materials for construction methods or creation of works, I have used laser cutting techniques to create printing plates, sculptural items and installation components; 3D printing for sculptural objects; plus, lighting and sound recordings to produce immersive landscapes.

I am fully dedicated to expanding my skills at every opportunity, working collaboratively with other artists, and engaging in new ways of thinking and making to create approachable yet compelling work that expresses my sensibilities. It is important to me that my work draws in the audience to be more than a passive viewer. They don't necessarily need to fully 'get' my premise, just that it makes them stop and feel something new or familiar in themselves.

My compulsion is to make and create, to keep learning and to refine my ideas into different realms of reflection. Right now, my focus is to learn as much as I can about light and sound so I can begin to incorporate this into the creation of new atmospheric experiences that engage audience sense perceptions. It is this new track that has recently been supported with a skills development mentorship, funded by Arts SA, to work with an international light and sound designer.

Biography

I'm an Adelaide-based artist and curator whose practice intersects print, installation, light, sound, textiles and sculpture. I trained at Adelaide Central School of Art, AC Arts, School of the Art Institute of Chicago and University of SA. I hold a Bachelor of Visual Arts (2008) and Master of Visual Arts (2018) and currently operate from my studio Little Sparrow.

Over the course of my career, I have taken every opportunity to engage in meaningful programs with two Helpmann Academy Mentorships, the Tara Donovan Studio Workshop held during the Adelaide Festival Artists' Week Workshops, international study at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and residences at OxBow School of Art, Michigan and the Banff Centre, Canada.

Working collaboratively is also an important part of my activities. I have worked with a number of Australian and international artists to create collaborative print-focussed installation works and continue to curate the Sister City inter-continental collaborative project which brings Australian and international artists together as collaborative teams.

I have a broad exhibition history and most recently held solo exhibitions Transfiguring the Terrain at SASA Gallery, followed by Chi-Town Chronicles, a survey of my Chicago-inspired work at praxis ARTSPACE.

My work has been supported through scholarships and grants including ArtsSA grants, Australian Postgraduate Award, SAIC New Artist Society Scholarship, Leroy Neiman Foundation Scholarship (OxBow School of Art), Ian Potter Cultural Trust Grant, NAVA/Janet Holmes à Court Artists' Grant and 2 Helpmann Academy Mentorships.

My work has also been chosen as a finalist for numerous Australian awards, such as Print Council of Australia Print Commission, Fremantle Print Award and Australian Print Triennial Print Award, and is held in public and private collections including the Art Gallery of South Australia, Print Council of Australia, Burnie Regional Art Gallery, Westminster College, Canson Australia, State Library of Victoria, University of SA, University of Adelaide's University Collections and the Brooklyn Art Library, New York.

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