

Anna Glynn

Amusement

14 MAY - 01 JUNE 2025

EXHIBITION

Anna Glynn: Amusement 14 May – 01 June 2025

Curated by Dr Natalie McDonagh

Presented by Frances Keevil

Studio W. 6 Bourke Street, Woolloomooloo NSW 2011

Wed - Sun 11-5pm Free entry

EVENTS

Exhibition Launch Saturday 17 May 4-6pm

Curator and Artist in Conversation Saturday 24 May 3pm

RSVP

Frances Keevil 0411 821 550 / frances@franceskeevil.com.au

MORE INFORMATION

Exhibition/Artist presentation Frances Keevil 0411 821 550 / frances@franceskeevil.com.au

Curatorial comment

Dr Natalie McDonagh 0414 524 266 / natalie@mcdonaghdesign.com

Download images here

MEDIA RELEASE

See the art of Anna Glynn, one of Australia's most captivating multidisciplinary artists, in her upcoming solo exhibition in Sydney.

Frances Keevil is delighted to announce her presentation of Anna Glynn: Amusement, a solo exhibition in Sydney. Keevil describes the impact of seeing Glynn's work for the first time:

"I first saw Anna Glynn's work when she was a finalist in the Korean-Australian Arts Foundation art prize a few years ago and I knew that I was seeing a unique art practice. I was enthralled. It is a privilege to work for her."

Studio W in Woolloomooloo is the perfect setting for the artworks selected for Amusement. This 19th century terrace house, converted to a gallery, adds its own history and presence to a body of work taking an unflinching look at European ways of seeing and thinking about Australia since colonisation.

The centrepiece of works, exhibited on the ground floor, is prime evidence of the artist's probing mind and ability to render her thinking in compelling visual form. The striking appearance and attractiveness of the work – a triptych on black paper – may lull a viewer into a somewhat superficial appreciation, until we realise this 2.1 metre high work is presenting us with a reimagined coat of arms for Australia, exclusively featuring extinct Australian animals and birds.

The exhibition's curator, Dr Natalie McDonagh, finds this particular skill of the artist to be one of the most intriguing and important aspects of Glynn's works:

"The invitation here is to look. To look closely. Look very closely, for there is a sleight of hand at play here. Do not let your eye or mind be deceived by pleasing, playful appearances. These are deeply serious works drawing on immaculate intellectual, historical and environmental research."

The paintings, drawings and moving image works selected for the exhibition focus on the past ten years of Glynn's practice giving us a precious glimpse into her art-making that now spans four decades.

In the era of the National Gallery of Australia's initiative, Know My Name, which is designed to encourage us to, 'Celebrate women artists – see their art, hear their stories, and know their names', this is a prime opportunity to get to better know the name and work of Anna Glynn. Natalie says:

"Standing in front of Anna Glynn's works in this exhibition you may find yourself having an Alice-Through-the-Looking-Glass experience, entering a strange world. It may be unnerving at times but you will be rewarded in ways impossible to predict."

Image: Artist Anna Glynn in front of Extinction Coat of Arms (2020, detail)



Anna Glynn

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Anna Glynn is a Dharawal based Australian artist whose rainforest home is tucked below the steep cliffs of the Illawarra escarpment, on the South Coast of NSW.

Glynn is an artist both curious and obsessed, who works with painting, drawing, video, sculpture, installation, photography, writing, music, sound and international interdisciplinary collaborations between art and science. She has a passion for investigating the complexity of the relationships between humans, history, nature, land, place, the physical and the ephemeral. She is at heart a constant maker of new worlds that through humour and beauty reflect her serious concerns.

Playing with language she created the term 'Eurotipodes' which is in the title of many of her works. This expresses her feelings about the Eurocentric interpretation of the world, the notion that the Northern Hemisphere is the right way up and we hang upside down in our downunder 'Antipodes'.

Glynn has been recognised with numerous awards including the 2023 International Women's Day Arts Award and her work is held in esteemed public and private collections including: Australian Parliament House Art Collection, Canberra; National Museum of Australia Collection, Canberra; Art Gallery of Ballarat and the Kedumba Collection of Australian Drawings.

She leads an adventurous art life with interdisciplinary projects in 2024 Japan with the Geneto Art Foundation, 2023 in the Arctic Circle, Finland in the land of the Sami and other projects including 30 days isolated on a small island in the Gulf of Mexico, to the top of an extinct Australian volcano recording the giant pink slugs of Mt Kaputar and a European Union funded project connecting a new UNESCO biosphere reserve in Sweden with a reserve in Oregon, USA.

Many projects have embedded environmental themes such as 2023 Regional Futures and The Art of Threatened Species in Australia 2020.

Glynn's *Promiscuous Provenance* exhibition toured 2018-2021 to 10 galleries across QLD, NSW, ACT, VIC and SA with the support of the Australian Government's Visions of Australia program.