

## GEORGIA SPAIN

Georgia Spain is a multidisciplinary artist based in Melbourne, Australia. Her practice spans painting, drawing, sculpture, film, and music. Spain's work often resides at the intersection of figuration and abstraction, where she explores the ambiguities and uncertainties of the human experience. Central to this artistic inquiry is the exploration of how we navigate the world in relation to others and the diverse ways we experience embodiment. Her often large-scale paintings are characterised by gestural mark making, and a deeply felt connection to the process and materiality of paint. Ambiguously referencing diverse imagery Spain has a distinct visual language that speaks to the fluidity of existence, where figures merge and intertwine, suggesting a perpetual state of flux and transformation.

*Pinned to Georgia Spain's studio wall is a cluster of postcards, photographs and magazine clippings. There are images of dancers, a game of tug-of-war, a hot-dog eating contestant hunched over a mound of food, tables laid out with feasts, a group of cheese-rolling competitors throwing themselves down a hill with their limbs outstretched in unlikely directions, and a Pieter Bruegel painting that Spain is attracted to for its 'chaos'. While Spain doesn't directly replicate this source material, she captures the dynamism in these scenes, and, to quote one of the scribbles on the wall, the 'messiness of bodies'. She's interested in ritual and ceremony, spectatorship and crowds, myths and legends, and the things that draw humans together... Spain's 'messiness of bodies' truly captures the chaos of our time.*

- Lucy Hawthorne, Artist Profile, Issue 55, May 2021

## **GEORGIA SPAIN**

Born 1993, UK. Lives and works in Melbourne, Australia

### **EDUCATION**

#### **2015**

Bachelor of Fine Arts (Painting), First Class Honours, Victorian College of the Arts

### **SOLO EXHIBITIONS**

#### **2024**

*Why not, what if, could it be?* Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne, VIC

*Life Among the Grouse, The Cabin*, Los Angeles USA

#### **2023**

*No one tells you how to weather a storm*, Hugo Michell Gallery, Adelaide SA

*Recent drawings on quilted paper*, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne VIC

*I'd rather be here than not*, Suite Gallery, Auckland NZ

#### **2022**

*Time is the thing a body moves through*, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne, VIC

#### **2021**

*One to Another, The Egg and Dart*, Thirroul, NSW

*Both Ways is the Only Way I Want it*, The Egg and Dart, Thirroul, NSW

*Body Party, Good Grief*, Hobart, TAS

#### **2020**

*(Beginning in Blue) Left in Red*, The Egg and Dart, Thirroul, NSW

#### **2019**

*The Spectators*, Schoolhouse Gallery, Melbourne, VIC

#### **2018**

*Strange Family*, The Diggers Store, Campbells Creek, VIC

## **SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

### **2024**

*Geelong Contemporary Art Prize, Geelong Gallery, Geelong VIC*

*Bayside Painting Prize, Bayside Gallery, Melbourne VIC 2024*

*A Loose Echo, Negative Press, Melbourne VIC*

### **2023**

*Once More With Feeling, Ngununggula Regional Art Gallery, Bowral NSW*

### **2022**

*Love, Work (for KD), Sarah Scout Presents, Melbourne VIC*

*Geelong Contemporary Art Prize, Geelong Gallery, Geelong, VIC*

### **2021**

*Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney*

*Women's Art Prize Tasmania, The Maker's Space Gallery, Burnie, TAS*

### **2020**

*Sydney Contemporary Presents 2020, The Egg and Dart (online)*

### **2019**

*The Egg & Dart Xmas Salon, The Egg and Dart, Thirroul, NSW*

### **2015**

*VCA Graduate Exhibition, VCA, Melbourne, VIC*

*Another, another; One, Easey Street Artist Studio and Gallery, Melbourne, VIC*

*Majlis Travelling Scholarship, Margaret Lawrence Gallery, Melbourne, VIC*

*Two Fields of Thought, VCA Student Gallery, Melbourne, VIC*

### **2014**

*Proud, Margaret Lawrence Gallery, Melbourne, VIC*

### **2013**

*Painting, VCA Student Gallery, Melbourne, VIC*

## **PERFORMANCE**

### **2016**

*Work Show*, Performer for Katherine Connolly, at the Meat Market and Artshouse

### **2015**

*Lights No Eyes Can See*, Performer for Kate Daw's 5-day piece performed at the Melbourne Town Hall, facilitated by ACCA

*ArtBar*, Core performer for Kate Daw and Emily Floyd's curated Artbar at the Museum of Contemporary Art (Sydney)

### **2014**

Performance alongside Jon Campbell at the National Gallery of Victoria

## **AWARDS**

### **2024**

La Brea Artist Residency (The Cabin), Los Angeles USA

### **2023**

One-week print residency at Negative Press, VIC

### **2021**

Winner, Women's Art Prize Tasmania, Devenport, TAS Winner, Sir John Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, NSW

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Winner, Women's Art Prize Tasmania, Devenport, TAS  
Winner, Sir John Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, NSW

### **2020**

Winner, Brett Whiteley Travelling Art Scholarship, Sydney, NSW

### **2015**

Finalist in Majlis Travelling Scholarship, Margaret Lawrence Gallery, Melbourne, VIC

Recipient of Lionel Gell Foundation Scholarship

## RESIDENCIES

### 2024

*La Brea Artist Residency (The Cabin)*, Los Angeles USA

### 2023

One-week print residency at Negative Press, VIC

## MUSIC

### 2019

*Trouble isn't Something You Can Hold* 8-track album

### 2015

*Precious Company* 6-track album

## COLLECTIONS

Artbank, Sydney

## PUBLICATIONS

Karras, Christina *Georgia Spain's Abstract Paintings Capture The Chaos Of Our Times* *The Design Files*, 3 October 2022

<https://thedesigntfiles.net/2022/10/studio-visit-georgia-spain/>

Miekus, Tiarney *Interview: Georgia Spain on painting pleasure and conflict* *Art Guide*, Sept/Oct 2021

<https://artguide.com.au/interview-georgia-spain-on-painting-pleasure-and-conflict/>

Lyon, Hester *Georgia Spain*, *Vault*, Issue 33, February – April 2021, pp140-141

Hawthorne, Lucy *A Messiness of Bodies*, *Artist Profile*, Issue 55, May 2021, pp52-56

Stoljar, Maria *Talking with Painters* podcast, episode 113, August 2021

<https://talkingwithpainters.com/2021/08/03/ep-113-georgia-spain/>

Tate, Louise *11 Affordable, Emerging Painters You Should Know*, *The Design Files*, 22 February 2021 <https://thedesigntfiles.net/2021/02/art-eleven-emerging-artists/>