

JUSTINE VARGA

When we think of photography we naturally think of a camera, even if it is just as an icon on our smart phone. The two go hand in hand. But we can take the camera out of the equation and still have photography. All we need is light. Indeed, the Greek roots of the word literally mean 'drawing with light'.

Anne O'Hehir, Curator, Photography, National Gallery of Australia, 2016

For me, this portrait didn't deal with the appearance of somebody in the way a selfie phenomena does, for me it was like 'Wow, this is a really contemporary portrait, and one that pushes the boundaries of portraiture at a time when the idea of taking a photograph of someone standing in front of you or turning a camera around and taking a photo of yourself and posting or sharing that is such a part of every day life.

Dr Shaune Lakin, Senior Curator, Australian and International Photography, 2017

JUSTINE VARGA

Born 1984

Lives and works in Sydney, Australia and Oxford, UK

EDUCATION

2023-

DPhil Candidate Fine Art, Ruskin School of Art, University of Oxford, United Kingdom

2007

Bachelor of Fine Art (Photography), Honours, National Art School, Sydney

2005

Bachelor of Fine Art (Photography), National Art School, Sydney

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2024

End of Violet, Auckland Festival of Photography, Two Rooms, Auckland, Aotearoa New Zealand, 6 June – 13 July

2024

Diffusion, Hugo Michell Gallery, Adelaide, 7 February – 9 March

2023

Nameless Things, Proscholium, Bodleian Library, University of Oxford, United Kingdom, 16 March – 15 June

2023

End of Violet, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne, 11 March – 6 April

2021

Masque, Hugo Michell Gallery, Adelaide, 11 November – 11 December

2021

Tachisme, PHOTO 2021: International Festival of Photography, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne, 13 February – 6 March

2020

Tachisme, PHOTO 2020: International Festival of Photography, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne, 4 April – 9 May (online)

2019-20

News from the Sun, curated by Aaron Lister, City Gallery Wellington, Aotearoa New Zealand, 6 November – 15 March

2019

Memoire, Auckland Festival of Photography, Two Rooms, Auckland, Aotearoa New Zealand, 31 May – 6 July

2019

Areola, Hugo Michell Gallery, Adelaide, 7 February – 16 March

2017

Photogenic Drawing, Hugo Michell Gallery, Sydney Contemporary, Carriageworks, Sydney, 7 September – 10 September

2017

Justine Varga: Photogenic Drawing, curated by Claire Monneraye, Australian Centre for Photography, Sydney, 8 September – 21 October

2016

Justine Varga: Selected Works, Stills Gallery, Sydney, 9 November – 23 December

2016

Memoire, Auckland Festival of Photography, Two Rooms, Auckland, Aotearoa New Zealand, 31 May – 6 July

2015

Accumulate, Stills Gallery, Sydney, 2 September – 3 October

2014

Sounding Silence, Hugo Michell Gallery, Adelaide, 27 March – 26 April

2014

Sounding Silence, Stills Gallery, Sydney, 19 February – 22 March

2012

Moving Out, Stills Gallery, Sydney, 10 October – 10 November

2012

Film/Object, Hugo Michell Gallery, Adelaide, 26 April – 26 May

2010

29 Palms, Hugo Michell Gallery, Adelaide, 2 September – 2 October

2009

Empty Studio, studio exhibition, Sydney, 11 September – 13 September

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2025

William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize, Museum of Australian Photography, Melbourne, 13 September – 9 November

Soft Return, Lana Adams, Roy Ananda, Shannon Beck, Adam Birchmore, Jingwei Bu, Kristian Burford, Sarah crowEST, Bridget Currie, Johnnie Dady, Jazmine Deng, Chris De Rosa, Samantha Faehrmann, Nicholas Folland, John Foubister, Anna Gore, Yusuf Ali Hayat, Louise Haselton, Paul Hoban, Freya-Francezka Holfeld, Hugh Holfeld, Matt Huppatz, Aldo Iacobelli, In Her Interior, Danny Jarratt, Sarah

Jones, Michael Kutschbach, Mark Kimber, Athanasios Lazarou, Christian Lock, Simone Kennedy, Louise Meuwissen, Junko Theresa Mikuriya, Monika Morgenstern, Loren Orsillo, George Popperwell, Reniere&Depla, Venetia Rigoni Mary-Jean Richardson, Marian Sandberg, Inneke Taal, Justine Varga, Linda Marie Walker, Henry Wolff, Min Wong, and Shirley Wu, curated by Eleen Deprez, The Little Machine, Adelaide, 31 May – 12 July

2024

Dividing Range, Brook Andrew, James Farley, Silvi Glattauer, Fiona Hall, Marion Hardman, Mark Hinderaker, Robert Jacks, David Jolly, Mark Kimber, Gloria Petyarre, Sam Shmith, Ingeborg Tyssen, Stephanie Valentin, Justine Varga, Robin Wallace-Crabbe, Kim Westcott, and Amanda Williams, curated by Michael Moran, Murray Art Museum Albury, New South Wales, 1 November – 27 April 2025

Under a Southern Star: Identity and Environment in Australian Photography, Pat Brassington, Harold Cazneaux, Michael Cook, Olive Cotton, Max Dupain, Bill Henson, Leah King-Smith, Rosemary Laing, John Lindt, Ricky Maynard, Tracey Moffatt, David Moore, Polixeni Papapetrou, Trent Parke, Roger Scott, Vee Speers, Tobias Titz, Justine Varga, and Anne Zahalka, Princeton University Art Museum, New Jersey, United States, 17 August - 5 January 2025

William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize, Museum of Australian Photography, Melbourne, 7 September – 10 November

Collection in Focus, curated by Yvette Dal Pozzo, Goulburn Regional Art Gallery, New South Wales, 5 July – 10 August

The Light Draws Along..., Danica Chappell, Kirsten Lyttle, Daniel O'Toole & Alex Walker, Aaron Christopher Rees, Talia Smith, Cassie Sullivan, Pierra Van Sparkes, and Justine Varga, curated by Jake Tracey, Incinerator Gallery, Melbourne, 20 April – 23 June

Nothing that exists excites me... I prefer the monsters of my fantasy, Lana Adams, Yusuf Ali Hayat Mark Kimber, Junko Theresa Mikuriya, and Justine Varga, curated by Eleen Deprez, The Little Machine, Adelaide, 24 February – 30 March

Thresholds, Gordon Bennett, Karen Black, Harold Cazneaux, Pegg Clarke, Olive Cotton, Juan Davila, Max Dupain, Matthew Griffin, Rob McLeish, Tracey Moffatt, TV Moore, Trent Parke, Cornelia Parker, Beth Peters, Ioulia Panoutsopoulos, Roger Scott, Kate Smith, Ingeborg Tyssen, Justine Varga, John Frank Williams, and Laurie Wilson, curated by Michael Moran, Murray Art Museum Albury, New South Wales, 23 February – 10 June

Flying Out (Firecracker), Hannah Gartside, Guruwuy Murrinyina, Georgia Spain, Justine Varga, and Elizabeth Willing, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne, 10 February – 24 February

2023

Celebrating 15 years of Hugo Michell Gallery, Clara Adolphs, Narelle Autio, Sally Bourke, James Darling & Lesley Forwood, James Dodd, Marc Etherington, Zaachariaha Fielding, Tony Garifalakis, Bridie Gillman, David Booth [Ghostpatrol], Sam Gold, Lucas Grogan, Kate Just, Ildiko Kovacs, Janet Laurence, Richard Lewer, William Mackinnon, Fiona McMonagle, Trent Parke, Julia Robinson, Georgia Spain, Paul Sloan, Justine Varga, Garawan Wanambi, Sera Waters, Amy Joy Watson, Min Wong, and Paul Yore, Hugo Michell Gallery, Adelaide, 21 November – 9 December

William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize, Museum of Australian Photography, Melbourne, 21 September – 12 November

Sydney Contemporary, Richard Lewer, Trent Parke, Justine Varga, and Sera Waters, Hugo Michell Gallery, Carriageworks, Sydney, 6 – 12 September

Bright Sparks: Photography and the talbot Archive, Kilian Brier, Burton Brothers, Julia Margaret Cameron, Camille Corot, Tim Davis, Elisabeth Feilding, Anne Ferran, Andrea Fraser, Daniel Meadows, Garry Fabian Miller, Simon Murison-Bowie, Helen Muspratt, Cornelia Parker, Martin Parr, Man Ray, Gerhard Richter, Alison Rossiter, Hiroshi Sugimoto, Constance Talbot, William Henry Fox Talbot, and Justine Varga, Treasury Gallery, Bodleian Library, University of Oxford, United Kingdom, 16 March – 15 June

Aotearoa Art Fair, Mark Adams, Anne Noble, Elizabeth Thomson, Justine Varga, and Robin White in collaboration with Falehanga 'o Laka, Two Rooms, Tāmaki Makaurau, Auckland, Aotearoa New Zealand, 1 – 5 March

Direct Contact: Cameraless Photography Now, Yto Barrada, Anthea Bhem, Iñaki Bonillas, Jillian Marie Browning, Granville Carroll, Ellen Carey, Danica Chappell, Judith Nangala Crispin, Gohar Dashti, Hernease Davis, Marta Djourina, Chris Duncan, Joy Episalla, Arash Fewzee, Julio Grinblatt, Sheree Hovsepian, Roberto Huarcaya, Nikolai Ishchuk, Kei Ito, Laurie Kang, Tatiana Kronberg, Galina Kurlat, Priya Suresh Kambli, arrah Karapetian, Hitoshi Kuriyama, Dakota Mace, Amanda Marchand, Aspen Mays, Brent Mestre, Fabiola Menchelli, Nadezda Nikolova-Kratzer, Wang Ningde, Lisa Oppenheim, Leticia Ramos, Mariah Robertson, Anna Katherina Scheidegger, Stefanie Seufert, Assaf Shaham, David Benjamin Sherry, Iswanto Soerjanto, Thu Van Tran, Justine Varga, and Daisuke Yokota, curated by Lauren Richman, Sidney and Lois Eskenazi Museum of Art, Indiana University, United States of America, 16 February – 9 July

Conflict of Interest, Christine Aerfeldt, Tully Arnot, Sue Beyer, Meg Caslake, Charles Dennington, Hayden Fowler, Suzie Idiens, Jazz Spence Messih, Money, Jamie O'Connell, Deborah Paauwe, Justine Varga, Anne Zahalka, and Emmaline Zanelli, curated by Xanthe Dobbie and Sydney McMahon, Artbank, Sydney, February – April

Responsive Forms, Birdi Gillman, Sam Gold, Jahnne Pasco-White, and Justine Varga, Hugo Michell Gallery Adelaide, 9 February – 11 March

The Window, Eubena Nampitijin and Justine Varga, curated by Clara Adolphs, Goulburn Regional Gallery, New South Wales, 3 February – 18 March

2022

Hugo Michell Gallery at Jan Murphy Gallery, Narelle Autio, Sam Gold, Lucas Grogan, Ildiko Kovacs, and Justine Varga, Jan Murphy Gallery, Brisbane, Queensland, 15 November – 3 December
Captured 20 Years: Josephine Ulrick and Win Schubert Photography Award 20th Anniversary, HOTA, Liam Benson, Polly Borland, Anna Carey, Danie Mellor, Gerwyn Davies, Tamara Dean, Cherine Fahd, Rose Farrell, Paul Ferman, Anne Ferran, Shaun Gladwell, Owen Leong, Polixeni Papapetrou, Helen Pynor, Eugenia Raskopoulos, Jaky Redgate, Glenn Sloggett, David Stephenson, Darren Sylvester, Lynn Roberts-Goodwin, Dr Christian Thompson AO, and Justine Varga, HOTA, Gold Coast, Queensland, 17 September – 8 January

2022 National Works on Paper, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Victoria, 13 August – 27 November

Transcending Likeness: Contemporary Portraits from the Collection, Joanna Braithwaite, Guy Maestri, Ben Quilty, Justine Varga, and Michael Zavros, Tweed Regional Gallery and Margaret Olley Art Centre, New South Wales, 17 June – 5 February

The Bowerman Collection, James Barth, Rebecca Baumann, Karen Black, Chris Bond, Jon Campbell, Michael Cook, Megan Cope, Sam Cranstoun, Joseph Daws, Stephen Ellis, Matt Fairbridge, Agatha Gothe-Snape, Lucas Grogan, D Harding, Newell Harry, Mark Hilton, Brendan Huntley, Andrew Hazewinkel, Raafat Ishak, Susan Jacobs, John Ward Knox, Nick Mangan, Deb Mansfield, Samson Martin, Laith McGregor, Alasdair McLuckie, Danie Mellor, Jonny Neische, Riley Payne, Ryan Presley, Sally Ross, Sarah Ryan, Jackson Slattery, Ian Strange, Martin Thompson, Kate Tucker, Justine Varga, Jake Walker, and Coen Young, The Renshaws, Brisbane, 13 May – 9 June

2021

Collide: Maverick Minds, Gordon Bennett, Kathy Cavaliere, Adam Cullen, Lynda Draper, Mikala Dwyer, Shaun Gladwell, Pat Hoffie, Jan Hynes, Richard Larter, Joan Letcher, Diane Mantzaris, Noel McKenna, Callum Morton, Poliexeni Papapetrou, r e a, Julie Rrap, Sally Smart, Kathy Temin, Justine Varga, Jenny Watson, and Jay Younger, HOTA, Queensland, 11 December – 28 August

Gut Feeling: works from the Murray Art Museum Albury collection, Brook Andrew, Hany Armanious, Pat Brassington, Mitch Cairns, D Harding, Nigel Milsom, Justine Varga, and Amanda Williams, Murray Art Museum Albury, New South Wales, 15 October – 25 April

Spring, Del Kathryn Barton, Tony Clark, Sir William Dobell, Louise Harman, Robert Klippel, Janet Laurence, Lindy Lee, Anne Macdonald, Noel McKenna, Makinti Napananka, Susan Norrie, Bronwyn Oliver, Justine Varga, and Savanhday Vongpoothorn, Annette Larkin Fine Art, Sydney, 8 October – 6 November

William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize, Monash Gallery of Art, Melbourne, 9 September – 5 December

National Art: Part 1, Charles Blackman OBE, Les Blakebrough AM, Euphemia Bostock, Bill Brown, Mitch Cairns, Sophie Cape, Kevin Connor, Lucy Culliton, Elisabeth Cummings OAM, Karla Dickens, Ken Done AM, Marilyn Fairskye, Fiona Foley, Todd Fuller, Adrienne Gaha, Peter Godwin, Sarah Goffman, Fiona Hall AO, Michael Johnson, Alan Jones, Jan King, Juz Kitson, Ildiko Kovacs, Fiona Lowry, Guy Maestri, Tim Maguire, Dani McKenzie, Marie McMahon, Reg Mombassa (Chris O'Doherty), Idris Murphy, Catherine O'Donnell, Robert Owen, Peter Powditch AM, Les Rice, Joan Ross, Julie Rrap, Bill Samuels, Jeffrey Samuels, Luke Sciberras, Garry Shead, Gria Shead, Nicola Smith, Michael Snape, Tim Storrier AM, Ann Thomson, Ken Unsworth AM, Justine Varga, Guy Warren AM, Coen Young, and Anne Zahalka, curated by Judith Blackall, Maitland Regional Art Gallery, 21 September – 9 January (touring)
Dark Matter, Bright Light, Josef Albers, Mikala Dwyer, Olafur Eliasson, Garry Fabian Miller, Marco Fusinato, Alicja Kwade, Lindy Lee, Tim Maguire, Colin McCahon, Cornelia Parker, and Justine Varga, curated by Leigh Robb, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, 7 September – 31 October

Carousel, Gordon Bennett, Ingo Kleinert, Patricia Piccinini, Bethany Taylor, Justine Varga, and Darren Wighton, Murray Art Museum Albury, New South Wales, 15 April – 30 May

Presence/Absence: Australian photography from the Collection, S. Cahill, Zoe Croggon, Daniel Crooks, Norman Deck, John Eaton, Janina Green, Tim Handfield, Andrew Hazewinkel, Steven Lojewski, Honey Long & Prue Stent, Jill Orr, David Moore, Graham Radley, Justine Varga, and Jo Scicluna, Horsham Regional Art Gallery, Victoria, 1 April – 28 June

National Art: Part 1, Charles Blackman OBE, Les Blakebrough AM, Euphemia Bostock, Bill Brown, Mitch Cairns, Sophie Cape, Kevin Connor, Lucy Culliton, Elisabeth Cummings OAM, Karla Dickens, Ken Done AM, Marilyn Fairskye, Fiona Foley, Todd Fuller, Adrienne Gaha, Peter Godwin, Sarah Goffman, Fiona Hall AO, Michael Johnson, Alan Jones, Jan King, Juz Kitson, Ildiko Kovacs, Fiona Lowry, Guy Maestri, Tim Maguire, Dani McKenzie, Marie McMahon, Reg Mombassa (Chris O'Doherty), Idris Murphy, Catherine O'Donnell, Robert Owen, Peter Powditch AM, Les Rice, Joan Ross, Julie Rrap, Bill Samuels, Jeffrey Samuels, Luke Sciberras, Garry Shead, Gria Shead, Nicola Smith, Michael Snape, Tim Storrier AM, Ann Thomson, Ken Unsworth AM, Justine Varga, Guy Warren AM, Coen Young, Anne Zahalka, curated by Judith Blackall, Glasshouse, New South Wales, 6 March – 2 May (touring)

2020

National Art: Part 1, Charles Blackman OBE, Les Blakebrough AM, Euphemia Bostock, Bill Brown, Mitch Cairns, Sophie Cape, Kevin Connor, Lucy Culliton, Elisabeth Cummings OAM, Karla Dickens, Ken Done AM, Marilyn Fairskye, Fiona Foley, Todd Fuller, Adrienne Gaha, Peter Godwin, Sarah Goffman, Fiona Hall AO, Michael Johnson, Alan Jones, Jan King, Juz Kitson, Ildiko Kovacs, Fiona Lowry, Guy Maestri, Tim Maguire, Dani McKenzie, Marie McMahon, Reg Mombassa (Chris O'Doherty), Idris Murphy, Catherine O'Donnell, Robert Owen, Peter Powditch AM, Les Rice, Joan Ross, Julie Rrap, Bill Samuels, Jeffrey Samuels, Luke Sciberras, Garry Shead, Gria Shead, Nicola Smith, Michael Snape, Tim Storrier AM, Ann Thomson, Ken Unsworth AM, Justine Varga, Guy Warren AM, Coen Young, and Anne Zahalka, curated by Judith Blackall, Tweed Regional Gallery, New South Wales, 13 November – 3 January 2021 (touring)

National Photography Prize 2020, curated by Michael Moran, Murray Art Museum Albury, New South Wales, 21 February – 14 June

2019

William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize, Monash Gallery of Art, Melbourne, 5 October – 17 November

Contemporising the Modern: Photography from the 20th and 21st Century from The Russell Mills Foundation Collection, Narelle Autio, Greg Barrett, Richard Beck, Pat Brassington, Jeff Carter, Harold Cazneaux, Pegg Clarke, Olive Cotton, John Degotardi, Kerry Dundas, Max Dupain, Rex Dupain, John Eaton, Peter Elliston, Gerrit Fokkema, Branco Gaica, Bill Henson, Petrina Hicks, Mark Kimber, Robert McFarlane, David Mist, William Moffitt, David Moore, Trent Parke, David Potts, Michael Riley, Roger Scott, Wolfgang Sievers, Mark Strizic, Justine Varga, Jozef Vissel, and Laurie Wilson, curated by Bianca Acimovic, Bega Valley Regional Gallery, New South Wales, 6 April – 22 June and Town Hall Gallery, Hawthorne, Victoria, 26 October – 15 December (touring)

Capital, Gabi Briggs, Peta Clancy, Mark Curran, Simryn Gill, Kristian Haggblom, Newell Harry, Lisa Hilli Nicholas Mangan, Darren Siwes, Martin Toft, Yvonne Todd, Justine Varga, and Arika Waulu, curated by Naomi Cass and Gareth Syvret, National Centre for Photography, Ballarat International Foto Biennale, Victoria, 24 August – 20 October

Beyond Place: Australian Contemporary Photography, Hoda Afshar, Polly Borland, Pat Brassington, Michael Cook, Rosemary Laing, Ricky Maynard, Tracey Moffatt, Polixeni Papapetrou, Trent Parke, Patrick Pound, Jacky Redgate, James Tylor, and Justine Varga, Museum of Photographic Arts, San Diego, USA, 6 March – 22 September

Ways of Seeing: Recent Acquisitions from the Collection, Allora & Calzadilla, Brook Andrew, Ben Armstrong, Peter Drew, Helen Frankenthaler, Brent Harris, Tracey Moffatt, Tony Tuckson, Justine Varga, and Fred Williams, curated by Maria Zagala, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, 23 February – 22 April

Exposed: Confronting Photography Through New Australian Writing, Vanessa Berry, Hannah Donnelly, Khalid Warsame, and Charlotte Wood (writers), Mervyn Bishop, Herbert Ponting, Leonie Reisberg, and Justine Varga (photographers), Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, 18 – 25 February [Khalid Warsame responded to *DeskLamp*]

2018

Land & Title, Gordon Bennett, Asher Bilu, John Coburn, Gunter Christmann, Olive Cotton, Russell Drysdale, Ian Fairweather, Mary Jane Griggs, Bill Henson, Bea Maddock, Tracey Moffatt, Uncle Phil Murray, Jimmy Njiminjum, Mike Parr, Gloria Petyarre, Tom Roberts, Aida Tomescu, Justine Varga, and Fred Williams, Murray Art Museum, Albury, Victoria, 16 November – 31 January 2019

William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize, Monash Gallery of Art, Melbourne, 29 September – 18 November

Warm Bodies, Safdar Ahmed and Hazeen, Loretta Fahrenholz, Adham Faramawy, Angela Goh, Juz Kitson, Phillip Stearns, Justine Varga, and Jaimie Warren, curated by Megan Monte and Josephine Skinner, Cement Fondu, Sydney, 6 October – 25 November

Contemporising the Modern: Photography from the 20th and 21st Century from The Russell Mills Foundation Collection, Narelle Autio, Greg Barrett, Richard Beck, Pat Brassington, Jeff Carter, Harold Cazneaux, Pegg Clarke, Olive Cotton, John Degotardi, Kerry Dundas, Max Dupain, Rex Dupain, John Eaton, Peter Elliston, Gerrit Fokkema, Branco Gaica, Bill Henson, Petrina Hicks, Mark Kimber, Robert McFarlane, David Mist, William Moffitt, David Moore, Trent Parke, David Potts, Michael Riley, Roger Scott, Wolfgang Sievers, Mark Strizic, Justine Varga, Jozef Vissel, and Laurie Wilson, curated by Bianca Acimovic, Hawkesbury Regional Art Gallery, Windsor, 7 September – 28 October (touring)

Performing Drawing, Marco Fusinato, Nicci Haynes, Joyce Hinterding, Gabriella Mangano, Silvana Mangano, David Moore, Cameron Robbins, David Rosetzky, Justine Varga, Ilka White, Gosia Wlodarczak, and John Wolseley, curated by Sarina Noordhuis-Fairfax, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, 1 September – 3 March

National Art: Part 1, Charles Blackman OBE, Les Blakebrough AM, Euphemia Bostock, Bill Brown, Mitch Cairns, Sophie Cape, Kevin Connor, Lucy Culliton, Elisabeth Cummings OAM, Karla Dickens, Ken Done AM, Marilyn Fairskye, Fiona Foley, Todd Fuller, Adrienne Gaha, Peter Godwin, Sarah Goffman, Fiona Hall AO, Michael Johnson, Alan Jones, Jan King, Juz Kitson, Ildiko Kovacs, Fiona Lowry, Guy Maestri, Tim Maguire, Dani McKenzie, Marie McMahon, Reg

Mombassa (Chris O'Doherty), Idris Murphy, Catherine O'Donnell, Robert Owen, Peter Powditch AM, Les Rice, Joan Ross, Julie Rrap, Bill Samuels, Jeffrey Samuels, Luke Sciberras, Garry Shead, Gria Shead, Nicola Smith, Michael Snape, Tim Storrier AM, Ann Thomson, Ken Unsworth AM, Justine Varga, Guy Warren AM, Coen Young, and Anne Zahalka, curated by Judith Blackall, , National Art School Gallery, Sydney, 14 August – 27 October (touring)

Tarrawarra Biennial 2018: From Will to Form, Belle Bassin, Vicki Couzens, Naomi Eller, Artists from Erub, Starlie Geikie, Agatha Gothe-Snape, Julie Gough, Dale Harding, Claire Lambe, Lindy Lee, Bridie Lunney, Rob McLeish, John Meade, Sanné Mestrom, Alison Murray, Michelle Nikou, Kusum Normoyle, Mike Parr, Michael Snape, Hiromi Tango, Fairy Turner, Michelle Ussher, Justine Varga, and Isadora Vaughan, curated by Emily Cormack, Tarrawarra Museum of Art, Victoria, 3 August – 6 November

Death and Desire: Hair in the Turnbull Collection curated by Fiona Oliver, Alexander Turnbull Library, National Library of New Zealand, Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa, Wellington, Aotearoa New Zealand, 18 June – 7 September

The Obscure Camera, Andrew Dearman, Dan McCabe, Cassie Thring, and Justine Varga, curated by Andrew Purvis, Adelaide Central Gallery, Adelaide, 20 March – 20 April

Antipodean Emanations: Cameraless Photography from Australia and New Zealand, Thomas Barrow, Andrew Beck, Ian Burn, Joyce Campbell, Kathy Cavaliere, Danica Chappell, Lisa Clunie, Olive Cotton, Penelope Davis, Simone Douglas, Max Dupain, Lucinda Eva-May, Chantal Faust, Anne Ferran, Sue Forde, Lloyd Godman, Melina Harper, Paul Hartigan, Matt Higgins, Gavin Hipkins, Carol Jerrems, Carolyn Lewens, Len Lye, Ruth Maddison, Harry Nankin, Anne Noble, Robert Owen, Susan Purdy, Steve Rumsey, Andrew Seward, David Stephenson, Juliana Swatko, Justine Varga, Shaun Waugh, and Amanda Williams, curated by Stella Loftus-Hill, Monash Gallery of Art, Melbourne, 10 March – 27 May

Runes: Photography and Decipherment, Thomas Barrow, Killian Breier, Danica Chappell, Ben Cauchi, Anne Ferran, Marion Hardman, Ghazaleh Hedayat, Nicolaas Henneman, Andreas Müller-Pohle, NASA, Man Ray, Alison Rossiter, Lewis Rutherford, William Henry Fox Talbot, James Tylor, Justine Varga, and Shaun Waugh, curated by Geoffrey Batchen and Justine Varga, Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne, 2 February – 11 March

2017

National Self-Portrait Prize, curated by Glenn Barkley and Holly Williams, University of Queensland Gallery, Brisbane, 11 November – 18 February 2018

William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize Monash Gallery of Art, Melbourne, 14 October – 26 November

Voodoo Gods, Burchill/McCamley, Don Driver, Gavin Bell, Greatest Hits, Benjamin Hirte, Sven't Jolle, Sean Peoples, Joshua Petherick, and Justine Varga, curated by Jack Willet, STATION, Melbourne, 16 September – 14 October

Grounded: Contemporary Australian Art, Mitch Cairns, Karla Dickens, Newell Harry, Addison Marshall, James Nguyen, Joan Ross, and Justine Varga, curated by Judith Blackall, National Art School Gallery, Sydney, 18 August – 14 October

Olive Cotton Award for Photographic Portraiture, Tweed Regional Gallery, New South Wales, 21 July – 8 October

Ramsay Art Prize, Tony Albert, Khadim Ali, Jacobus Capone, Celeste Chandler, Sarah Contos, Georgina Cue, Keg de Souza, Julie Franger, Teelah George, Natalya Hughes, Trent Jansen, Ash Keating, Owen Leong, Vincent Namatjira, Joey Nganjmirra, Baden Pailthorpe, Clare Peake, Jason Phu, Rebecca Selleck, James Tylor, and Justine Varga, curated by Lisa Slade, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, 27 May – 27 August

Curtain Call, a salon retrospective of the gallery 1991-2017, Paul Adair, Lili Amog, Narelle Autio, Juli Balla, Roger Ballen, Gilbert Bel Bachir, Mervyn Bishop, Pat Brassington, Jane Brown, James Bryans, Maureen Burns, Danica Chappell, Christine Cornish, Brenda L Croft, Melita Dahl, Dacchi Dang, Huw Davies, Ruby Davies, Ian Dodd, Stephen Dupont, Ella Dreyfus, Michelle Eabry, Jackson Eaton, Sandy Edwards, Peter Elliston, Marilyn Fairskye, Anne Ferran, Chris Fortescue, Lesley Goldacre, Lorrie Graham, Megan Jenkinson, Petrina Hicks, Douglas Holleley, Mark Kimber, Pam Kleemann, William Lamson, Ian Lever, Jon Lewis, Michael Light, Steven Lojewski, Marketa Luskacova, Peter Lyssiotis, Deb Mansfield, Mary Ellen Mark, Marion Marrison, Grant Matthews, Ricky Maynard, Eugenia Raskopoulos, Peter Milne, Harry Nankin, Anne Noble, Polixeni Papapetrou, Trent Parke, Patrick Pound, Bronwyn Rennex, Jon Rhodes, Michael Riley, George Schwarz, Roger Scott, Rebecca Shanahan, Glenn Sloggett, Georgina Smith, Peter Solness, Van Sowerwine, Robyn Stacey, Juliana Swatko, Suellen Symons, Jenny Templin, David Thomas, Danielle Thompson, Garry Trinh, James Tylor, Stephanie Valentin, Kawita Vatanajyankur, Justine Varga, Beverley Veasey, Liu Xiao Xian, William Yang, and Emmaline Zanelli, curated by Kathy Freedman, Bronwyn Rennex and Sandy Edwards, Stills Gallery, Sydney, 24 May – 8 July

Contemporising the Modern: Photography from the 20th and 21st Century from The Russell Mills Foundation Collection, Narelle Autio, Greg Barrett, Richard Beck, Pat Brassington, Jeff Carter, Harold Cazneaux, Pegg Clarke, Olive Cotton, John Degotardi, Kerry Dundas, Max Dupain, Rex Dupain, John Eaton, Peter Elliston, Gerrit Fokkema, Branco Gaica, Bill Henson, Petrina Hicks, Mark Kimber, Robert McFarlane, David Mist, William Moffitt, David Moore, Trent Parke, David Potts, Michael Riley, Roger Scott, Wolfgang Sievers, Mark Strizic, Justine Varga, Jozef Vissel, and Laurie Wilson, curated by Bianca Acimovic, Muswellbrook Regional Art Centre, Hunter Valley, 8 July – 27 August (touring)

In the Mood for Love, Narelle Autio, Pat Brassington, Danica Chappell, Trent Parke, Glenn Sloggett, Robyn Stacey, Justine Varga, Kawita Vatanajyankur, Emma White, and Emmaline Zanelli, curated by Josephine Skinner, Stills Gallery, Sydney, 2 February – 4 March

From the Darkness, Bill Henson, Anne Ferran, Olive Cotton, Justine Varga, Darren Sylvester, Daniel von Strumer, Zoë Croggon, and Petrina Hicks, Horsham Regional Gallery, Victoria, 11 February – 16 April

2016

Silver and Salt: Experimental Photography, Ashleigh Garwood, Justine Varga, and Amanda Williams, curated by Carrie Kibbler, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, Sydney [three-person exhibition featuring *Memoire series*], 17 December – 15 February 2017

New Matter: Recent Forms of Photography, Jacqueline Ball, Walead Beshty, Matthew Brandt, Zoe Croggon, Christopher Day, Charles Dennington, Cherine Fahd, Deb Mansfield, Todd McMillan, Luke

Parker, Kate Robertson, James Tylor, and Justine Varga, curated by Isobel Parker Philip, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney, 10 September – 19 February 2017

Emanations: The Art of the Cameraless Photograph, Anna Atkins, Andrew Beck, Walead Beshty, Jacques-André Boiffard, Kilian Breier, Marco Breuer, Robert L. Bueltman, Ian Burn, Joyce Campbell, James Cant, Roger Catherineau, Lynn Cazabon, Danica Chappell, Chargesheimer, Lisa Clunie, Jean-Baptiste-Camille Corot, Charles-François Daubigny, Liz Deschenes, Herbert Dobbie, Simone Douglas, Max Dupain, Lucinda Eva-May, Anne Ferran, Joan Fontcuberta, Jaromir Funke, Adam Fuss, Matt Higgins, Gavin Hipkins, Paul Hartigan, György Kepes, Běla Kolářová, Len Lye, Christian Marclay, Herbert Matter, Jean-François Millet, László Moholy-Nagy, Abelardo Morell, Andreas Müller-Pohle, Anne Noble, Robert Owen, Susan Purdy, Man Ray, Alison Rossiter, Thomas Ruff, Steve Rumsey, Bronislaw Schlabs, Hiroshi Sugimoto, Juliana Swatko, Shimpei Takeda, William Henry Fox Talbot, Aldo Tambellini, Justine Varga, and Shaun Waugh, curated by Geoffrey Batchen, Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth, Aotearoa New Zealand, 29 April – 14 August

Is/Is Not, Jack Brown, Christo Crocker, Janina Green, Annabelle Kingston, Sanja Pahoki, Aaron Rees, Kiron Robinson, Xanthe Waite, Lydia Wegner, Grace Woodand, and Justine Varga, curated by Kiron Robinson, West Space, Melbourne, 12 February – 12 March

2015

Feast, Narelle Autio, Pat Brassington, Jane Brown, Danica Chappell, Marilyn Fairskye, Anne Ferran, Chris Fortescue, Mark Kimber, Polixeni Papapetrou, Trent Parke, George Schwarz, Robyn Stacey, Stephanie Valentin, Justine Varga, Kawita Vatanajyankur, and Emma White, Stills Gallery, Sydney, 19 November – 13 February 2016

Paris Photo, Trent Parke, Patrick Pound, and Justine Varga, Stills Gallery, Grand Palais, Paris, France, 12 November – 15 November

NSW Visual Arts Fellowship (Emerging), Lucas Davidson, Stevie Fieldsend, Heath Franco, Emily Hunt, Biljana Jancic, Leahlani Johnson, Mason Kimber, Tom Polo, Nicola Smith, Angela Tiatia, and Justine Varga, curated by Alexie Glass-Kantor and Talia Linz Artspace, Sydney, 12 November – 12 December

Australian Art: Now, eX de Medici, Jan Nelson, Jacky Redgate, Sally Smart, and Justine Varga, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, October - December

Contemporising the Modern: Photography from the 20th and 21st Century from The Russell Mills Foundation Collection, Narelle Autio, Greg Barrett, Richard Beck, Pat Brassington, Jeff Carter, Harold Cazneaux, Pegg Clarke, Olive Cotton, John Degotardi, Kerry Dundas, Max Dupain, Rex Dupain, John Eaton, Peter Elliston, Gerrit Fokkema, Branco Gaica, Bill Henson, Petrina Hicks, Mark Kimber, Robert McFarlane, David Mist, William Moffitt, David Moore, Trent Parke, David Potts, Michael Riley, Roger Scott, Wolfgang Sievers, Mark Strizic, Justine Varga, Jozef Vissel, and Laurie Wilson, curated by Bianca Acimovic, Murray Art Museum Albury, New South Wales, 2 October – 8 May (touring)

William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize, Monash Gallery of Art, Melbourne, 25 September – 22 November

Sydney Contemporary, Narelle Autio, Pat Brassington, Trent Parke, Justine Varga and Kawita Vatanajyankur, Stills Gallery, Carriageworks, Sydney, 10 September – 13 September

Pedestrian, Charles Cooper, Joe Frost, Deb Mansfield, Sian McIntyre, Dale Miles, Tania Rollond, Tim Silver, Charlie Sofo, Justine Varga, and Oliver Watts, curated by Jaime Tsai, Hoff Project Space, National Art School, Sydney, 5 August – 7 August
The Churchie National Emerging Art Prize, Griffith University Art Gallery, Brisbane, 1 August – 29 August

For Future Reference, Sophie Calle, Rodney Glick and David Solomon, Siri Hayes, Nova Paul, Julian Aubrey Smith, and Justine Varga, curated by Pippa Milne, Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne, 3 July – 6 September

Against a degree of blindness, Anna John, Del Lumanta, and Justine Varga, curated by Isobel Parker Phillip, MOP, Sydney, 22 July – 16 August

Slow Burn, Jacqueline Gothe, Firesticks with UTS Design, Claire Healy and Sean Cordeiro, Euan Macleod, Djambawa Marawili, Mandy Martin, Rerrkirrwanga Munungurr, Trent Parke, Mike Parr, Kharma Phuntsok, Ajay Sharma, Jeanette Siebols, Maxie Tjampitjinpa, Hossein Valamanesh, Justine Varga, Lachlan Warner, and Barrupu Yunupingu, Delmar Gallery, Trinity College, Sydney, 20 June – 26 July

Some Australian Photographs, Marian Drew, Anne Ferran, James Tylor and Justine Varga
McNamara Gallery, Wanganui, Aotearoa New Zealand, June

Kaleidorama, Danica Chappell, Emilio Gomariz, Biljana Jancic, Taree Mackenzie, Justine Varga, and Emma White, curated by Josephine Skinner, Stills Gallery, Sydney, 13 June – 18 July

Art on Paper: Hazelhurst Art Award, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, New South Wales, 30 May – 26 July

Josephine Ulrick & Win Schubert Photography Award, Gold Coast City Art Gallery, Queensland, 28 March – 10 May

2014

NSW Visual Arts Fellowship (Emerging), Tim Bruniges, Sarah Contos, Agatha Gothe – Snape, Jonny Niesche, Ramesh Mario Nithiyendran, Lillian O'Neil, Badan Pailthrope, Leyla Stevens, Marion Tubbs, Justine Varga, Jason Wingand, and Tessa Zettel, curated by Alexie Glass-Kantor, Artspace, Sydney, 24 October – 13 December

William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize, Monash Gallery of Art, Melbourne, 4 September – 12 October

Melbourne Art Fair, Narelle Autio, Pat Brassington, Patrina Hicks, Polixeni Papapetrou, Trent Parke, Glenn Sloggett, Robyn Stacey, Justine Varga, Kawita Vatanajyankur, and Jamie Warren, Stills Gallery, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne, 13 – 17 August
Melbourne Art Fair, Richard Lewer, Fiona Lowry, Paul Sloan, Aida Tomescu, and Justine Varga, Hugo Michell Gallery, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne, 13 – 17 August

The Churchie National Emerging Art Prize, Griffith University Art Gallery, Brisbane, 1 August – 20 September

View from the Window, Sean Barrett, Danica Chappell, Kim Demuth, Jackson Eaton, Mike Gray, Megan Jenkinson, Benjamin Lichtenstein, Phuong Ngo, Izabela Pluta, Kate Robertson, Jo Scicluna, Vivian Cooper Smith and Jason McQuoid, Melanie Jayne Taylor, and Justine Varga, curated by Vivian Cooper-Smith, Edmond Pearce, Melbourne, 2 July – 19 July Josephine Ulrick & Win Schubert Photography Award, Gold Coast City Art Gallery, QLD, 29 March – 25 May

2013

I Spy: Windows and Doors in Art, Sean Cordeiro and Claire Healy, Kirrily Hammond, Callum Morton, Scan, Justine Varga, Craig Walsh, and Yuendumu Door artists Paddy Jupurrurla Nelson, and Paddy Japaljarri Stewart, curated by Meryl Ryan and Stephen Goddard, Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery, New South Wales, 23 November – 9 February 2014

On the Surface of Things, Kate Beckingham, Bianca Chang, Deb Mansfield, Tasha Ong, Isobel Parker Philip, Eloise Rapp, Jacob Ring, and Justine Varga, curated by Isobel Parker Philip, Firstdraft Gallery, Sydney, 16 October – 2 November

William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize, Monash Gallery of Art, Melbourne, 4 October – 3 November

NSW Visual Arts Fellowship for Emerging Artists, Ella Barclay, David Capra, Jonny Niesche, Jamie North, Tome Polo, Sean Rafferty, JD Reforma, Todd Robinson, Mark Shorter, Marion Tubbs, Pia van Gelder, and Justine Varga, Art Space, Sydney, 4 October – 20 October

Auckland Art Fair, Laurence Aberhart, Andrew Beck, Joyce Campbell, Ben Cauchi, Anne Noble, Fiona Pardington, Trent Parke, Peter Peryer, and Justine Varga, McNamara Gallery, Auckland, Aotearoa New Zealand, 7 August – 11 August

Available Light: imagining more than we see, Laurence Aberhart, Andrew Beck, Joyce Campbell, Ben Cauchi, Anne Noble, Fiona Pardington, Trent Parke, Peter Peryer, and Justine Varga, Mahara Gallery, Waikanae, Aotearoa New Zealand (touring), December – January

Art on Paper: Hazelhurst Art Award, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, New South Wales

Available Light: imagining more than we see, Laurence Aberhart, Andrew Beck, Joyce Campbell, Ben Cauchi, Anne Noble, Fiona Pardington, Trent Parke, Peter Peryer, and Justine Varga, McNamara Gallery, Wanganui, Aotearoa New Zealand, 7 June – 30 August (touring)

Josephine Ulrick & Win Schubert Photography Award, Gold Coast City Art Gallery, Queensland, 6 April – 19 May

2012

Primavera 2012, Dion Beasley, Benjamin Forster, Anastasia Klose, Todd McMillan, Kate Mitchell, Teho Ropeyarn, and Justine Varga, curated by Anna Davis, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, 3 October – 2 December

Flatlands: Photography and Everyday Space, Pat Brassington, Harold Cazneaux, Olive Cotton, Simryn Gill, Fiona Hall, Geoff Kleem, David Moore, Daido Moriyama, Robert Rauschenberg, Josef Sudek, Justine Varga, and Minor White, curated by Vigen Galstyan, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, 13 September – 3 February

The Lookout, Locust Jones, Anri Sala, Rania Stephan, and Justine Varga, curated by Katie Dyer, National Art School Gallery, Sydney, 13 August – 13 October

Interior, Delmar Gallery, Jupp Linssen, Jude Rae, Tim Sliver, and Justine Varga, curated by Catherine Benz, Delmar Gallery, Trinity College, Sydney, 11 March – 15 April

What Destroys What, David Burns, Frank Minnaert, Ms&Mr, Todd McMillan, Justine Varga, and Nadia Wagner, curated by N, Firstdraft Gallery, Sydney, 21 - 25 November, Sydney

William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize, Monash Gallery of Art, Melbourne, 4 October – 18 November

Photographs Arranged in Series, Sarah Oscar, and Justine Varga, curated by Anne Ferran, Sutton Gallery Projects, Melbourne, 28 September – 20 October

2011

Helen Lempriere Traveling Art Scholarship, Nathan Babet, Ella Barclay, David Capra, Michaela Gleave, Daniel Hollier, Anna Kristensen, Kate Mitchell, Tom Polo, Mark Shorter, Soda Jerk, Justine Varga, and Tessa Zettel & Karle Khoe, Artspace, Sydney, 7 October – 23 October

No Room to Hide, Sarah Contos, Christopher Hanrahan, Lou Hubbard, Caroline Rothwell, Charlie Sofo, and Justine Varga, curated by Peter Fay, Macquarie University Gallery, Sydney, 15 June – 29 July

2010

Fully Booked, Benjamin Armstrong, Dorothy Berry, Alan Constable, Bill Culbert, Shaun Gladwell, Julian Martin, Noel McKenna, Justine Varga, and Louise Weaver, curated by Peter Fay and Sue Forde, Arts Project, Melbourne

Silent Spaces, Fabian Astore, Mirielle Astore, Stephen Birch, Iain Brew, Jane Burton, Irena Conomos, Christopher Dean, McLean Edwards, Alex Gawronski, Christopher Hodges, Chris Langlois, Ruark Lewis, Rocket Mattler, Alexander McKenzie, Xavier Modoux, Hu Qinwu, Yuji Sone, Teong-Eng Tan, Hossein Valamanesh, Justine Varga, and Jeremy Welsh, curated by Rhonda Davies and Leonard Janiszewski, Macquarie University Gallery, Sydney, 12 March – 5 April

Josephine Ulrick & Win Schubert Photography Award, Gold Coast City Art Gallery, Queensland

COMMISSIONS

2018

Fusuma, Duo Central Park, Sydney, curated by Barbara Flynn, building designed by Foster + Partners London for Frasers Property Australia and Sekisui House Australia

CURATING

2018

Runes: Photography and Decipherment, curated by Geoffrey Batchen and Justine Varga, Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne

AWARDS

2023

William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize, Highly Commended

2021

Create New South Wales Development Grant

Australia Council for the Arts International Curators Program x PHOTO 2021

2019

21st Dobell Drawing Prize

2017

Olive Cotton Award for Photographic Portraiture

2016

ACME International Residency Programme, London, United Kingdom

Australia Council for the Arts Development Grant

Arts New South Wales Artist Support Grant

Josephine Ulrick & Win Schubert Photography Award

2014

Museum of Contemporary Art Australia Primavera Veolia Acquisitive Prize

Australia Council for the Arts London Studio Residency

2013

Hazelhurst Regional Art Gallery Residency

Josephine Ulrick & Win Schubert Photography Award

Art on Paper Hazelhurst Art Award Preparator Prize

COLLECTIONS

Artbank, Sydney

Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney

Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide

Goulburn Regional Art Gallery, New South Wales

Horsham Regional Gallery, Victoria

HOTA Collection, Queensland

Justin Art House Museum, Melbourne

Laverty Collection, Melbourne

Lusadaran Armenian Photography Foundation

Macquarie University, Sydney

Murray Art Museum Albury, New South Wales

Museum of Australian Photography, Victoria

National Art School Collection, Sydney

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra

Peter Fay Collection, Hobart

Tweed Regional Gallery, New South Wales

University of Queensland Art Museum, Brisbane
Westpac Collection, Sydney

SELECTED PUBLIC TALKS

2025

Invited speaker, 'Emergence: Becoming Photography', *Emergence Symposium*, Department of Physics, University of Oxford, United Kingdom, 29 June

2024

Guest lecture, 'A Necessary Complication', Richmond American University London, United Kingdom, 6 November

Panel discussion, 'Under a Southern Star: Identity and Environment in Australian Photography', Judith Crispin, Vee Speers, and Justine Varga, chaired by Laura Giles and Graham Howe, Princeton University Art Museum, New Jersey, United States, 26 September

Gallery talk, *Under a Southern Star: Identity and Environment in Australian Photography*, Princeton University Art Museum, New Jersey, United States, 19 September

Gallery talk, *End of Violet*, Auckland Festival of Photography Two Rooms, Auckland, Aotearoa New Zealand, 13 July

Panel discussion, *OEI: Photography on Edge*, Geoffrey Batchen and Justine Varga, chaired by Cecilia Grönberg and Jonas J Magnusson, After 8 Books, Paris, France, 31 May

Invited speaker, 'It's Complicated: Photography and Agency', *Image & Object Symposium: Agency*, St. Catherine's College, University of Oxford, United Kingdom, 24 May

Panel discussion, *Nothing that exists excites me... I prefer the monsters of my fantasy*, Lana Adams, Yusuf Ali Hayat, Mark Kimber, Junko Theresa Mikuriya, and Justine Varga, chaired by Michael Newall, The Little Machine, Adelaide, 29 March

2023

Invited speaker, 'Staging Photography', *Photography Falls Apart*, Chau Chak Wing Museum/Power Institute, University of Sydney, 6 September

Gallery talk, Sydney Contemporary, Hugo Michell Gallery, Carriageworks, Sydney, 7 - 8 September

Speaker, 'Staging Photography', *In the Darkroom*, University of Westminster, London, United Kingdom, 8 - 9 June

2022

Speaker, 'Staging Photography', Perphoto International Conference, *The Archive, the Body, and the Medium: Crossing Photography and Performance in Theory and Practice*, School of Arts and Humanities, University of Lisbon, Lisbon, Portugal, 23 September

Public lecture, 'Staging Photography', Toi Rauwhārangī College of Creative Arts, Massey University, Wellington, Aotearoa New Zealand, 13 September

'Darkroom tour with Justine Varga', in-conversation with Isobel Parker Phillip, Senior Curator of Contemporary Australian Art Gallery of New South Wales and photographic printer Sandra Barnard, for the Art Gallery of NSW Photography Benefactors, sandyprints, Sydney, 31 August

2021

Panel discussion, 'William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize: Alternative Approaches', Ali Tahayori and Justine Varga, chaired by Anoushka Phizacklea, Monash Gallery of Art, Victoria, 1 December

Public lecture, 'Tachisme: a stain on photography', *Writing and Concepts/PHOTO 2021*, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne, 3 March

Gallery talk, 'Tachisme', *Writing and Concepts/PHOTO 2021*, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne, 19 February

2019

Gallery talk, 'News from the Sun', in conversation with Kirsty Baker, City Gallery Wellington, Aotearoa New Zealand, 16 November

Guest lecture, 'A Necessary Complication', postgraduate seminar, National Art School, Sydney, 24 July

Gallery talk, 'Dobell Drawing Prize', National Art School Gallery, Sydney, 30 March

2018

Gallery talk, 'National Art: Part One', National Art School Gallery, Sydney, 14 and 18 August

Gallery talk, 'TarraWarra Biennial 2018: From Will to Form', TarraWarra Museum of Art, Victoria, 4 August

Keynote speaker, 'A Necessary Complication', *Deus Ex Photos Photomedia Conference*, Sydney, 28 March

Panel discussion, 'Is the Photogram More Performance Art than Photography?', chaired by Stella Loftus-Hills, *Antipodean Emanations: Cameraless Photography from Australia and New Zealand*, symposium, Monash Gallery of Art, Victoria, 11 March

2017

Gallery talk, 'Artist Insight: Teacher Professional Development Event', Australian Centre for Photography, Sydney, 25 September

Gallery talk, 'Justine Varga: Photogenic Drawing', Australian Centre for Photography, Sydney, 23 September

Panel discussion, 'Talk Contemporary: Artist Profile Presents Portraiture in Non-Objective Art', Sydney Contemporary, Sydney, 8 September

Panel discussion, 'Art Forum: Grounded: Contemporary Australian Art', National Art School Gallery, Sydney, 30 August

Gallery talk, 'You Are Looking at Something That Never Occurred', Zabłudowicz Collection, London, 8 April

Gallery talk, 'New Matter: Recent Forms of Photography', Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, 11 January

2016

Public lecture, 'Surrendering to the Photograph', Queen Adelaide Club, Adelaide, 17 May

Crucible Symposium, Victoria University of Wellington; National Library of New Zealand; The Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa; and Toi Rauwhāangi College of Creative Arts, Massey University, Wellington, Aotearoa New Zealand, 19 - 21 February

Invited speaker, 'Surrendering to the Photograph', National Visual Art Education Conference, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, 21 January

2015

Panel discussion, Arts New South Wales Young Regional Artist Scholarship, Carriageworks, Sydney, 21 October

Panel discussion, 'Julia Margaret Cameron: Female Gaze', Jane Burton, Justine Varga and Justene Williams, chaired by Suhanya Raffel, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, 14 October

Guest lecture, 'Accumulate', Toi Rauwhāangi College of Creative Arts, Massey University, Wellington, Aotearoa New Zealand, 24 August

Panel discussion, 'Pedestrian', Reiner Hoff Project Space, National Art School, Sydney, 7 August

Public lecture, 'Accumulate', PSM Image Studies Lecture Series, Faculty of Design and Architecture, University of Technology, Sydney, 4 May

2014

Guest lecture, Photo Media, Faculty of Law, Humanities and the Arts, University of Wollongong, New South Wales

Gallery talk, 'After Dark: Composing Art', Gold Coast City Gallery, Queensland, 1 May

Public talk, 'Art Month & Justine Varga Present, Artists on Cinematic Influence: *L'Eclisse*', Golden Age Cinema, Sydney, 16 March

2012

Public lecture, 'Art Forum: The Lookout', Cellblock Theatre, National Art School, Sydney

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

2025

Amber Creswell Bell, *Exposed: Contemporary Australian and New Zealand Photography*, (Thames & Hudson, 2025) (forthcoming)

2024

Justine Varga, 'Being Truthful', *The Brooklyn Rail* (June 2024), pp. 48-49:
<https://brooklynrail.org/2024/06/criticspage/BEING-TRUTHFUL/>

Laura M. Giles, 'Under a Southern Star: Identity and Environment in Australian Photography', *Princeton University Art Museum Magazine* (Princeton, Fall 2024), pp. 4-6

John Hurrell, 'Varga's Painterly Cameraless Photographs' (review), *Eye Contact* (Aotearoa New Zealand, 21 June 2024): <https://eyecontactmagazine.com/2024/06/vargas-painterly-cameraless-photographs>

Cecilia Grönberg and Jonas J Magnusson (eds.), 'Wanting More' + 'Developing the Darkroom: a conversation with Justine Varga' + 'Tachisme: a stain on photography' + 'Staging Photography' + 'Painting with Photography' + 'Måleri med Fotografi' in *OEI: Photography on Edge* (Sweden, 2024), pp. 272-333

2023

Michael Pritchard, 'The Forms of Nameless Things: Experimental Photographs by William Henry Fox Talbot' (review), *The PhotoHistorian*, 197 (The Royal Photographic Society, Bristol, Winter 2023), p.30

Elisa deCourcy, 'Apparitions: A New Power and Bright Sparks at the Bodleian Libraries' (review), *Art Monthly Australasia*, 366 (Australian National University, Canberra, Winter 2023), p.53

Saul Nelson, 'Justine Varga: *End of Violet*' (exh. essay) (Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne, March 2023): <https://tolarnogalleries.com/artists/justine-varga/>

Kristie Kahns, 'By the Action of Light: A Review of Direct Contact: Cameraless Photography Now', *Sixty Inches from the Centre*, (Chicago, USA, 14 July 2023): <https://sixtyinchesfromcenter.org/by-the-action-of-light-a-review-of-direct-contact-cameraless-photography-now/>

Lauren Richman ed., *Direct Contact* (exh. cat.) (Sidney and Lois Eskenazi Museum of Art, Indiana University 2023), pp.22-23,51

John Potts, 'What Does the Author Do?', *The Near-Death of the Author: Creativity in the Internet Age*, (Toronto University Press, 2023), pp.39-41

2022

Geoffrey Batchen, *The Forms of Nameless Things: Experimental Photographs by William Henry Fox Talbot* (Oxford: The Bodleian Library, 2022), pp.73-74

Justine Varga, 'Viewfinder: Tom Waite's *Outline*' (exh. cat.), (Sheffer Gallery/Distillery, Sydney, 2022), pp.1-2

2021

Nataša Ilec Kralj, 'Justine Varga's Photographic Inscriptions: An Interview', *Membrana*, No. 6.2 (Ljubljana, 2023), pp.95-114

Kate Hennessy, 'An inscrutable and open-ended riddle: the life and art of Jeffery Smart', *The Guardian* (Australia, 10 December, 2021): <https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2021/dec/11/an-inscrutable-and-open-ended-riddle-the-life-and-art-of-jeffrey-smart>

Alison Kubler ed., 'Masque' (photo essay), *Vault*, No. 36 (Melbourne, November 2021), pp.86-89

Kirsty Baker, 'Archives of Becoming: Justine Varga's Masque' (exh. essay) (Hugo Michell Gallery, Adelaide, November 2021): <https://hugomichellgallery.com/collections/justine-varga/products/masque>

Daniel Palmer and Martyn Jolly, 'Analogue Materiality', *Installation View: Photography Exhibitions in Australia (1848 - now)* (Perimeter Editions, 2021), pp.378-382

Rachel Ciesla, 'Memory, Place, Image: Photography in a Post-Truth Age', (essay), *PHOTO* (Melbourne, June 2021): <https://photo.org.au/channel/memory-place-image-photography-in-a-post-truth-age>

Geoffrey Batchen, 'Photogenic drawings', *Negative/Positive: A History of Photography* (Routledge, 2021), pp.35-45

Bradley Vincent, 'Justine Varga', *HOTA Collects* (HOTA, 2021), pp.254-255

Susan Best, 'Touching, Feeling' (exh. essay) (Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne, 2021): <https://tolarnogalleries.com/artists/justine-varga/>

Nataša Ilec Kralj, 'Fotografski Vpiis Justine Varge' (interview), *Membrana* (Ljubljana, 2021): <https://www.membrana.si/intervju/fotografski-vpisi-justine-varge/>

2020

Jane Simon, 'Interior Matter: Photography, Spaces, Selves', *Life Writing*, 17:4, (Routledge, 2020), pp.441-443

Tomáš Dvořák and Jussi Parikka eds., *Photography Off the Scale: Technologies and Theories of the Mass Image* (Edinburgh University Press, 2021), pp.253-288

Nanette Orly ed., *National Photography Prize 2020* (exh. cat.), (Murray Art Museum Albury, 2020), pp.99-105

Andrés Mario Zervigón, 'Tachisme' (exh. essay) (Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne 2020): <https://tolarnogalleries.com/artists/justine-varga/>

Aaron Lister, *News from the Sun* (Bad News Books/City Gallery, Wellington, Aotearoa New Zealand, 2020), vol. 1 pp 7-10, vol. 2 pp 1-23: https://citygallery.org.nz/wpcontent/uploads/2020/04/NFTS_Final_Collated.pdf

Anouska Phizacklea ed., *View finding Monash Gallery of Art 1990 – 2020* (Monash Gallery of Art 2020), p.188

Noelle Faulkner, 'Creation in Isolation', *Art on View*, 102 (National Gallery of Australia, Winter 2020), pp.22-27: https://issuu.com/nationalgalleryofaustralia/docs/artonview_102

Kon Gouriotis ed., 'Previous cover artists answer 6 questions', *Artist Profile* No.51 (Sydney 2020), p.59

Elias Redstone ed., 'Q&A with Justine Varga', *PHOTO* (Melbourne, 5 April 2020)

Janet Howie, 'Murray Art Museum Albury National Photography Prize 2020 Supports Both Artists and Gallery', *Border Mail* (Wodonga, 2 June 2020):

<https://www.bordermail.com.au/story/6778482/border-photographic-prize-supports-both-artists-and-gallery/>

Chelsea Hopper, 'Justine Varga, Tachisme Tolarno Galleries', (review) *Memo Review* (Melbourne, 9 May 2020): <https://memoreview.net/blog/justine-varga-at-tolarno-galleries-by-chelsea-hopper>

Emil McAvoy, 'This Side of the Window' (feature review) *Art News New Zealand*, (Auckland, Autumn 2020), pp.90-93

Deidra Sullivan, 'News from the Sun – Reviewed', *PhotoForum* (Auckland, 6 February 2020): <https://www.photoforum-nz.org/blog/2020/1/31/news-from-the-sun-reviewed>

2019

Sam Hollis, 'We've heard it all before', *Regional News*, 119 (Wellington, 26 November 2019), p.30: <https://www.flipsnack.com/regionalnews/regional-news-issue-119-november-26th-2019.html>

Kirsty Baker, 'Justine Varga' (cover feature), *Artist Profile*, 49 (Sydney, April – June, 2019), pp.62-71: <https://www.artistprofile.com.au/justine-varga-2/>

Carrie Miller, 'Camera Observa', *Art Collector Magazine*, 89 (Sydney, July – September 2019), pp.161-167: <https://artcollector.net.au/justine-varga-camera-observa/>

Heath Gilmore, 'Portrait of the Artist as an Older Student', *Sydney Morning Herald* (Sydney, 31 August 2019): <https://www.smh.com.au/entertainment/art-and-design/portrait-of-an-artist-as-an-older-student-20190829-p52m7e.html>

John Hurrell, 'Justine Varga's Photograms' (review), *Eye Contact* (Aotearoa New Zealand, 1 July 2019): <https://eyecontactmagazine.com/2019/07/justine-vargas-photograms>

Jose Villarreal ed., 'Tolarno Galleries Now Representing Justine Varga', *Art Daily* (international, 31 March 2019): <https://artdaily.cc/news/112422/Tolarno-Galleries-now-representing-Justine-Varga#.XbpSuS1L2qg>

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'Dobell Drawing Prize 2019: Exploring with Light and Long Shadows – In Pictures', *The Guardian* (Australia, 27 May 2019):

<https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/gallery/2019/mar/28/dobell-drawing-prize-2019-in-pictures>

'Justine Varga Wins Dobell Drawing Prize 2019', *Arts Review* (Australia, 27 May 2019):
<http://artsreview.com.au/justine-varga-wins-dobell-drawing-prize-2019/>

'Allawah Artist Wins \$30,000 Dobell Drawing Prize', *The Leader* (Sydney, 9 May 2019):
<https://www.theleader.com.au/story/6114551/allawah-artist-wins-dobell-drawing-prize/>

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Thomas Werner, 'Defining Place/Space: Contemporary Photography from Australia', *IRK Magazine* (Paris, 11 April 2019)

Katie Milton, 'Art Wrap: 5 Shows to See in April', *Broadsheet* (Sydney, 2 April 2019):
<https://www.broadsheet.com.au/sydney/art-and-design/article/art-wrap-five-shows-see-april>

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<https://www.art-almanac.com.au/justine-varga-wins-dobell-drawing-prize-2019/>

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<https://visual.artshub.com.au/news-article/reviews/visual-arts/gina-fairley/review-dobell-drawing-prize-21-257651>

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Justine Nguyen, 'Justine Varga the 2019 Dobell Drawing Prize', *Limelight Magazine* (Australia, 28 March, 2019): <https://www.limelightmagazine.com.au/news/justine-varga-wins-the-2019-dobell-drawing-prize/>

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Donald H. Harrison, 'MOPA turns its focus to Australia', *San Diego Jewish News* (San Diego, 5 March 2019): <https://www.sdjewishworld.com/2019/03/05/mopa-turns-its-focus-to-australia/>

Deborah Klochko ed., *Defining Place/Space: Contemporary Photography from Australia* (exh. cat.) (Museum of Photographic Arts, San Diego 2019), pp.88-93

Kirsty Baker, 'The Fragile Border', (exh. essay), (Hugo Michell Gallery, Adelaide, 2019):
<https://hugomichellgallery.com/collections/justine-varga/products/areola>

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2013

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2012

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2011

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2010

Noel McKenna, 'Unfamiliar Works' (exh. essay) for the exhibition *29 Palms* (Hugo Michell Gallery, Adelaide, 2010), np

Rhonda Davies ed., *Silent Spaces* (exh. cat.) (Macquarie University Art Gallery, Sydney, 2010), pp.50-51

2009

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2023

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<https://righteyedominant.buzzsprout.com/1841611/episodes/12844726-lauren-richman-no-camera-required>

2021

Making a Mark (feature documentary, 2017), studio interview in London, directed by Richard Jasek, aired 26 April 2021 (and on demand), SBS/NITV

2020

Postcards, Nine Network (broadcast television and online), episode aired 22 March 2020 (repeated), Bree Pickering (MAMA Director) is interviewed by Sam Groth (Nine Network) about *Areola* series in the exhibition *National Photography Prize 2020*, Murray Art Museum Albury [*Areola* series broadcast]

2019

'Justine Varga: Photographic Process and Portraiture', Museum of Photographic Arts, San Diego (interview) [*Maternal Line*, *Masseuse*, *Postimpression*, and *Droite* featured], published 6 June 2019, running time 3:33: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XBkRU-42oPc>

30 Minutes With, East Side Radio (interview), a recorded discussion with Conor Burke about the Justine Varga's practice and the Dobell Drawing Prize, 29 May 2019, running time 30:00

'Photo 101: Big Ideas in Contemporary Photography', Museum of Photographic Arts, San Diego [*Emollient* and *Masseuse* featured], published 26 March 2019, running time 2:17: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cbLiiw9he7>

'Defining Space/Place: Contemporary Photography from Australia', *KUSI News: Good Morning San Diego*, FOX 5/KUSI-TV (live television interview), aired 9:22am, 5 March 2019 (published online 5 March 2019), Joaquin Oriz (Director of Innovation MOPA) interviewed by Allie Wagner (Reporter) in the Museum of Photographic Arts about the exhibition, running time 1:58 min

2018

The Mix, ABC Television (interview), episode 32, aired 8 & 9 September 2018 (published online 8 September 2018), Justine Varga interviewed by Eloise Fuss within the exhibition *National Art: Part 1*, National Art School Gallery, Sydney [installation view *Photogenic Drawing* at Sydney Contemporary broadcast]

'Justine Varga: Australian Artists Working with Photography', a studio interview in Sydney, commissioned by the University of New South Wales, directed by Vera Hong, 2018

The Mix, ABC Television (interview), episode 11, aired 14 & 15 April 2018 (published online 16 April 2018), a panel discussion about the impact of camera phones on photography [*Gauche*, *Moving out* #1, *6 months*, *2 weeks*, *Postimpression*, *Marking Time* and an installation view of *Photogenic Drawing* at

2017

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Canvas: Art and Ideas, FBI Radio (interview), a live discussion with David Capra and Abdul Abdullah about Photogenic Drawing at the Australian Centre for Photography and the Olive Cotton Award for Photographic Portraiture, 10 September 2017, FBI Radio studios, Sydney, running time 14 minutes (39:41 - 53:41)

'Olive Cotton Award: Prize-Winning Portrait Provokes Debate', ABC National News (television), live interview with Dr Shaune Lakin [*Maternal Line* broadcast], 27 July 2017, running time 3 minutes:

2016

'Justine Varga Artist Interview', *Emanations: The Art The Cameraless Photograph*, Govett Brewster Art Gallery, Aotearoa New Zealand [*Exit* (red state) and *Desklamp* featured], published 14 July 2016, running time 4:32: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-rwa0dO-Pkg>

'Cameraless Photography and Marking Time with Justine Varga', *Evenings*, ABC Radio, a pre-recorded interview with Sarah Howells upon receiving the Josephine Ulrick & Win Schubert Photography Award, broadcast 27 June 2016 at 9 pm, running time 20:00