

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

2025

And suddenly, an iceberg, Hugo Michell Galley, Adelaide SA

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

Paul Guest Drawing Prize, Bendigo Art Gallery, Bendigo VIC

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

2026

Winner, Mosman Prize, Mosman Gallery, New South Wales

2025

Winner, Eva Breuer Scholarship, in conjunction with Art Gallery of New South Wales

2021

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

2025

Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris, France

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://thedesignfiles.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://thedesignfiles.net/2021/02/art-eleven-emerging-artists/>