

ALEXANDRA STANDEN

STAGED



THIS IS NO FANTASY

dianne tanzer + nicola stein

# ALEXANDRA STANDEN

## STAGED

27 May - 18 June 2022

Alexandra Standen's large-scale ceramics explore our relationships with both physical and emotional spaces. Her work focuses on the subjective, cultural, and ideological meanings of material objects, examining the way objects and their relationships act as metaphors for human behaviour. Her practice also speaks to the process of making work in ceramic and a sense of unease that comes with engaging with a medium that holds a functional quality yet has a connotation of being fragile or precarious in nature. The repetitive gesture of 'pinching' her hand-built forms is as much conceptual as it is an act of realisation.

As Standen creates, and the works begin to accumulate around her in her studio, she finds herself feeling more like a performer than an artist - with her creations the audience members. Slightly intimidated by their scale and growing number, they stand so statuesque on their cinder blocks, watching her perform. Now, emerging from her studio and on 'stage', arranged on their central platform in the gallery, they evolve from spectator to performer. Where she felt subject to their forms and resonating presence, this role is now reversed and in relation to their audience, play their part, subject to the world around them. The new works in Staged draw attention to the dramatic effect the pieces have when interacting with each other on display.

Each individual work in this show is a survivor.

"As I scaled-up and experimented with the limitations of the medium, I experienced collapses, cracks, blowouts, and glaze disasters. These are all things that happen when working with clay, nothing is ever straightforward or predictable, but I found it hard to reconcile this with my own expectations. The process of creating this work took a little more than it usually does. Each surviving piece endured the rigours of its creation - traversed potential relegation to the dust bin and now revels in its singular uniqueness. As much defined by my intent, they are equally imbued with a personality gained through the journey of their making and survival."

### BIO

Alexandra Standen's work explores our relationships to both physical and emotional spaces. Her work focuses on the subjective, cultural, and ideological meanings of material objects, examining the way objects and their relationships act as metaphors for human behaviour.

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In 2019 Standen was the recipient of the prestigious Cité Internationale des Arts Residency in Paris and undertook self-guided research living in Istanbul, and has also undertaken residencies in Geneva and Tel Aviv. Winner of the Sidney Myer Award for Ceramics, Shepparton Art Museum 2012, Standen was a finalist in awards including the Churchie National Emerging Art Prize, Gold Coast Ceramic Award and the Wynne Prize.



ALEXANDRA STANDEN  
Staged, 2022  
THIS IS NO FANTASY  
Photography: Simon Strong

1. Milky Honey, 2021  
lumina porcelain, terracotta, glaze, lustre  
84 x 37 x 38cm  
\$5,500

2. Everyday Balloons, 2022  
lumina porcelain, terracotta, glaze, lustre  
91 x 39 x 43cm  
\$6,000

3. City Pop, 2022  
lumina porcelain, terracotta, glaze, lustre  
79 x 34 x 35cm  
\$5,500

4. Bitter Earth, 2022  
lumina porcelain, terracotta, glaze, lustre  
92 x 40 x 41cm  
\$6,000

5. Off White, 2022  
lumina porcelain, terracotta, glaze, lustre  
74 x 34 x 35cm  
\$5,500





6. Green Fleck Dream, 2022  
lumina porcelain, terracotta, glaze, lustre  
87 x 56 x 57cm  
\$6,000

7. A Deep Pause, 2021  
lumina porcelain, terracotta, glaze, lustre  
90 x 39 x 40cm  
\$5,500

8. Free To Browse, 2021  
lumina porcelain, terracotta, glaze, lustre  
88 x 38 x 42cm  
\$5,500

9. Light Therapy, 2021  
lumina porcelain, terracotta, glaze, lustre  
93 x 38 x 38cm  
\$5,500

10. Can I Touch It, 2021  
lumina porcelain, terracotta, glaze, lustre  
72 x 57 x 59cm  
\$6,000

11. Water Tight, 2021  
lumina porcelain, terracotta, glaze, lustre  
77 x 39 x 37cm  
\$5,500

12. Make Someone Happy, 2022  
lumina porcelain, terracotta, glaze, lustre  
85 x 55 x 51cm  
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11

9



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13. Little Yellow, 2021  
lumina porcelain, terracotta, glaze  
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14. Ginger Jar, 2021  
lumina porcelain, terracotta, glaze  
81 x 35 x 24cm  
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# ALEXANDRA STANDEN

## CV

### EDUCATION

- 2018 Masters of Fine Art, Research UNSW Art and Design
- 2011 Bachelor of Fine Art, Honours, National Art School
- 2010 Bachelor of Fine Art, National Art School

### SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 Staged, THIS IS NO FANTASY, Melbourne
- 2021 Considerate Touch, THIS IS NO FANTASY, Melbourne
- 2020 Dirt Stories, Chalkhorse gallery, Sydney
- 2020 Physical Nature, THIS IS NO FANTASY, Melbourne
- 2018 Every Habitual Action, Chalk Horse Gallery, Sydney
- 2016 Be Quiet. Blend In. Small Spaces, Redfern  
Uneasy, Gallery Ecosse, Exeter
- 2015 The Blue Line Mansfield Gallery, Darlinghurst
- 2013 Before Time Could Change Us, Sabbia Gallery, Paddington  
Deposits, Mclemoi Gallery, Chippendale
- 2012 Sidney Myer Fund, Shepparton Art Museum, Victoria

### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2021 Craft Victoria, Melbourne  
Doom, Chalk Horse Gallery, Sydney
- 2020 Chalk Horse Gallery at Melbourne Art fair
- 2019 True Nature, Chalk Horse Gallery, Sydney  
Simple Softness, SPRING 1883, Sydney
- 2018 Sydney Contemporary, Sydney
- 2017 Art Stage, Jakarta Art Fair with Chalkhorse Gallery  
New work Chalk Horse Gallery, Sydney  
New work Jan Murphy gallery, Brisbane
- 2016 Clay Book Launch, Thames & Hudson, Sydney  
So Fresh, Wellington Street Projects, Chippendale  
Studio Wars, Jan Murphy Gallery, Brisbane
- 2015 New work, At Home 735 Gallery, Surry Hills  
Mug Shot, Still Life group show Gallery Ecosse, Exeter  
Fleurt Saint Cloche Gallery, Paddington  
ArtVert Saint Cloche Gallery, Paddington. New works from a residency in Paris
- 2014 Sake Ware, Mr Kitly Melbourne  
Back to the Table Sturt Gallery, Mittagong
- 2013 Enucleo ArtSpace Hobart



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- 2013 Eucleo University of Tasmania's College of the Arts, Launceston
- 2012 Shadows of a Nation, Mclemoi Gallery, Sydney  
Showcase, Object Gallery, Sydney
- 2011 Post Graduate (Honours) Show, National Art School  
Missing Pages, Library Stairwell Gallery National Art School  
Make It, Gaffa Gallery, Sydney
- 2010 Under Graduate Show, National Art School

### AWARDS AND RESIDENCIES

- 2019 Artist residency, Cité internationale des arts, Paris
- 2017 Finalist Churchie Emerging art prize, QUT Art Museum Brisbane  
Finalist Wynne Prize, Art Gallery of NSW
- 2016 Finalist 30th Gold Coast Ceramic Award, NSW  
Finalist Stanthorpe art award, Queensland  
Finalist Clunes Ceramic Award, Victoria
- 2014 Artist residency, Harley foundation, Welbeck UK  
4 week Ceramic studio residency in Tel Aviv, Israel
- 2013 Sturt Art Centre, Mittagong, Artist in residence.  
Australia Council, Artstart Grant
- 2012 Winner Sidney Myer Award for Ceramics. Shepparton Art Museum  
Bathurst Regional Art Gallery, Hill End Artist in Residence December to February 2013  
Aboriginal Art Centre Internship. 10 weeks (July –September). Titjikala, NT  
Sturt Art Centre, Mittagong, Artist in Residence.
- 2011 Winner N. E Pethebridge Honours Award  
Winner Sabbia Gallery, 2013 Exhibition Award
- 2010 Winner Ceramic Art and Perception Award

### COLLECTIONS

- Shepparton Art Museum
- Art Gallery of Western Australia
- Australian Catholic University
- Monash University Foundation
- Artbank