


What to see at Sydney Contemporary 2023

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With a record number of galleries at this year's art fair, ArtsHub takes the pulse of who's showing what.

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[Celina Lei](#)



Visual Arts

Sydney Contemporary 2023, Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, installation view with works by Dhambit Mununggurr. Photo: ArtsHub.

The seventh edition of Sydney Contemporary boasts a record number of participating galleries and is its largest fair to date, with works from more than 500 artists and 96 galleries. The annual calendar event for galleries, collectors, artists and visitors alike is presented at Carriageworks from 7-10 September.

At the media preview on 6 September, Sydney Contemporary Founder and co-owner Tim Etchells said, 'Sydney Contemporary has grown from strength to strength each year, generating the largest concentration of art sales annually in Australia.'

Major art fairs also act as wind vanes, where parallels can be spotted between institutional exhibitions, art prizes and commercial representation. *ArtsHub* takes the pulse on what to see at Sydney Contemporary 2023.

Gallery booth highlights



Stanley Street Gallery Booth A08. Pictured works by Agus Wijaya (L) and Jackson Farley (R). Photo: ArtsHub.

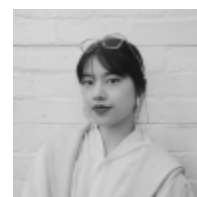
Stanley Street Gallery. (Sydney) A08

In the First Space, Hall A, Stanley Street Gallery is presenting works by three artists: Agus Wijaya, Jackson Farley and Jacquie Meng. Born in Indonesia and of Chinese background, Wijaya is now based in Sydney and his installation *Gugusan* (2023) speaks to the polarities of the diasporic experience. Fluoro pigments of red and green present compositions that are surreal and dream-like.

The motif of naïve art and child-like figures also resonates with the works of Farley and Meng. Farley is a multidisciplinary artist whose works are both engrossing and unsettling, filled with a sense of dark humour abundant in memes and internet culture. Meanwhile, Meng's paintings – their aesthetic suggesting influences from early Japanese manga, folklore and popular culture – present a strong visual language that aims to avoid flat-lined diasporic identities. Meng was a finalist in Perth Institute of Contemporary Art's *Hatched: National Graduate Show 2022*.

Celina Lei

Celina Lei is the Diversity and Inclusion Editor at ArtsHub. She acquired her M.A in Art, Law and Business in New York with a B.A. in Art History and Philosophy from the University of Melbourne. She has previously worked across global art hubs in Beijing, Hong Kong and New York in both the commercial art sector and art criticism. She took part in drafting NAVA's revised Code of Practice - Art Fairs and was the project manager of



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