

# OLIVIA CHIN

*WALKING PRACTICE*



THIS IS NO FANTASY

dianne tanzer & nicola stein

# OLIVIA CHIN

## WALKING PRACTICE

01 - 23 MAY 2026

THIS IS NO FANTASY is pleased to present *Walking Practice*, a solo exhibition of new work by Naarm/Melbourne-based multidisciplinary artist Olivia Chin, her second with the gallery.

*Walking Practice* brings together a body of works transcribed from sketches made during Chin's time on the Jatbula Trail, located outside Katherine in the Northern Territory. Traversing ancient tablelands shaped by extraordinary plant life and geology, the works emerge from a landscape carrying thousands of years of memory. Through processes of translation, from movement to mark, from sketch to material form, Chin captures the durational experience of walking: the slow accumulation of sensation, the shifting awareness of the body in space, and the quiet intensities of extended time on Country.

The resulting works function as traces - layered material records that hold something inherently ephemeral. They evoke the rhythm of footsteps, the weight of time, and the embedded histories of the land. In the Australian context, where walking is inseparable from the presence of deep and often painful histories, Chin's practice acknowledges the gravity of what has been lost and stolen. At the same time, *Walking Practice* holds space for the joy and subtle magic of moving slowly through the landscape: the intimacy of shared experience, the act of noticing, and the possibility of seeing more fully.

### BIOGRAPHY

Olivia Chin is a Naarm (Melbourne, VIC) based multidisciplinary artist whose practice merges sculptural, textile, and oil painting disciplines. Rooted in her diasporic heritage—spanning Asian and French ancestral trajectories—Chin's practice explores the migrations of bodies, materials, and memories across global landscapes. Her work traces the pathways of human movement and resource transformation, examining how cultural identities and material histories are reshaped by displacement, exchange, and interconnection.

Art making is used as a tool to contemplate multifarious topics where Chin archives her personal investigation. She is interested in how memory and histories become embedded in art objects, much like the temporal dimensions of the physical landscape. These investigations deeply inform her current works, which explore the intersections of time, material transformation, and the continual evolution of resources.

Her practice is fundamentally grounded in a deep reverence and awe for nature, critically examining ecological processes as frameworks for understanding material transformation and cultural interaction. Informed by meditative deep listening and playful engagement with her surroundings, Chin explores the intricate connections between human experience and broader natural systems. Through bright, layered compositions, Chin adds to the memory layers within the landscapes and scenes she inhabits, inviting viewers to see their world anew and reconsider their place within the ongoing transformations of the natural world.

Chin graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Art in Sculpture from the National Art School of Australia in 2015. She has been a finalist in numerous national awards, including the Ravenswood Australian Women's Art Prize (2025, 2024), George's River Art Prize (2025), the MAC Yapang Art Prize (2025), the Mosman Art Prize (2024), Fisher's Ghost Art Award (2024), and the Macquarie Group Emerging Artist Prize (2024).





17 Mile Falls, Katherine, 2026 (diptych)  
oil on linen  
142 x 117 cm each, 142 x 234 cm total  
\$12,000





Edith Falls Study, 2026  
oil on linen  
97 x 122 cm  
\$6,600





Biddlecombe Cascades, 2026  
oil on linen  
97 x 117 cm  
\$6,600



Crystal Falls, 2026  
oil on linen  
163 x 132 cm  
\$8,800





Hidden Falls, Jatbula Trail, 2026  
oil on linen  
142 x 117 cm  
\$7,700



Sandy Camp, Jatbula Trail, 2026  
oil on linen  
132 x 163 cm  
\$ 8,800



# OLIVIA CHIN CV

## QUALIFICATIONS

- 2023 Certificate II in Engineering, Jewelry, Melbourne Polytechnic
- 2019 Diploma in Community Services, RMIT Melbourne
- 2015 Bachelor of Fine Arts (Sculpture), National Art School, Sydney

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2026 Walking Practice, THIS IS NO FANTASY, Melbourne VIC
- 2025 Anito of the Forest, THIS IS NO FANTASY, Melbourne VIC
- 2024 Body Field, Incinerator Gallery, Melbourne VIC
- 2023 An H not at 11, Seventh Gallery, Melbourne VIC

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2026 PUNCTUATE. THIS IS NO FANTASY, Melbourne VIC
- 2025 LAST BUT NOT LEAST, THIS IS NO FANTASY, Melbourne VIC  
Spring1883 Art Fair, THIS IS NO FANTASY, Hotel Windsor, Melbourne VIC  
NOFANTASY25, THIS IS NO FANTASY, Melbourne VIC  
Ravenswood Australian Women's Art Prize, Finalist Exhibition, Gordon NSW  
MAC Yapang Art Prize, Finalist Exhibition, Museum of Art and Culture MAC Yapang, Booragul NSW  
Georges River Art Prize, Finalist Exhibition, Hurstville NSW
- 2024 ARTSLAB, Arts in the Valley Trail, Kangaroo Valley NSW  
Mosman Art Prize, Finalist Exhibition, Mosman Art Gallery, Sydney NSW  
all but mirrors, AIRspace Projects, Sydney NSW  
Fisher's Ghost Art Award, Finalist Exhibition, Campbelltown NSW  
Macquarie Group Emerging Artist Prize, Finalist Exhibition, Sydney NSW  
Ravenswood Australian Women's Art Prize, Finalist Exhibition, Gordon NSW  
Colossal Cyanic Tub, Priscilla's Ship, Melbourne VIC  
Hold On, DRIVER ARI, Melbourne VIC
- 2023 Small, Unassigned Gallery, Melbourne VIC  
Flood Relief Art Auction, Anti-Gallery, Sydney NSW
- 2022 Ash, PARI ARI, Parramatta NSW
- 2020 Moreland Summer Show 2020: Solitude & Solace, Counihan Gallery, Melbourne VIC  
Backlog, Anti-Gallery, Sydney NSW
- 2017 NOW, Bar SK, Melbourne VIC
- 2015 Graduate Exhibition, National Art School, Sydney NSW  
DeForm, Library Stairwell Gallery, Sydney NSW  
Crossing Borders, Sydney NSW

## AWARDS | PRIZES

- 2025 Finalist – Ravenswood Australian Women's Art Prize
- 2025 Finalist – MAC Yapang Art Prize
- 2025 Finalist – Georges River Art Prize
- 2024 Finalist – Fisher's Ghost Art Award
- 2024 Finalist – Mosman Art Prize
- 2024 Finalist – Macquarie Group Emerging Artist Prize
- 2024 Finalist – Ravenswood Australian Women's Art Prize

## INSTALLATIONS | COMMUNITY PROJECTS

- 2026 Public Art Commission, Ascot Vale Library, Melbourne VIC
- 2024 Body Field, Incinerator Gallery, Melbourne VIC
- 2024 Artist Liaison, Crip Rave Theory, Rising, Melbourne VIC
- 2023 Artist Liaison, TANZ, Florentina Holzinger, Rising, Melbourne VIC
- 2023 Artistic Support Worker, Back to Back Theatre, Melbourne VIC
- 2022 Community Producer, Rising: Multituud by Tamara Cubas, Melbourne VIC
- 2022 Artistic Support Worker, Back to Back Theatre, Melbourne VIC

# OLIVIA CHIN CV

- 2022 Community Producer. Rising: Single Channel Video by Back to Back Theatre, Melbourne VIC
- 2021 Mosaic community mural, undisclosed women's refuge, Melbourne VIC
- 2017 Installation and mural, Sugar Mountain Festival, Southbank, Melbourne VIC
- 2016 Installation, Red Bull Sound Select, Beach Road Hotel, Sydney NSW
- 2016 Installation, Red Bull Music Academy, Oxford Art Factory, Sydney NSW
- 2016 Installation, Red Bull Music Academy, Marrickville Bowling Club, Sydney NSW
- 2014 Drawing Installation, Cockatoo Island, Sydney NSW

## COLLECTIONS

Macquarie Group Collection  
Shark Island Institute  
Private Collections Australia and United Kingdom

## RESIDENCIES

- 2024 Visual Arts Residency, Shark Island Kangaroo Valley
- 2023 Visual Arts Residency, Shark Island Kangaroo Valley

## PUBLICATIONS

- 2025 Olivia Chin: Sketches Outdoors With Friends, Words by Grant Ionatán, 52-page Risograph booklet. Printed & designed by Simon Gardam. Published by Stray Pages Naarm / Melbourne 2025, 1st edition of 100  
ISBN: 978-0-646-71660-2

Photography: Michael Nicolazzo



# THIS IS NO FANTASY

dianne tanzer & nicola stein

108-110 GERTRUDE STREET  
FITZROY MELBOURNE 3065

[thisisnofantasy.com](http://thisisnofantasy.com)  
[info@thisisnofantasy.com](mailto:info@thisisnofantasy.com)  
+61 03 9417 7172  
[@thisisnofantasy](https://www.instagram.com/thisisnofantasy)