DARREN
KNIGHT
GALLERY

MICHELLE NIKOU

1967
Born Adelaide, South Australia
Lives Adelaide

EDUCATION

1989
Bachelor of Design (Ceramics), SA School of Art, University of South Australia

1990
Graduate Diploma of Arts (Visual Art), SA School of Art, University of South Australia

2000
Residency, Ceramics Department, University of South Australia

2005
Master of Visual Arts (MA), SA School of Art, University of South Australia

2018
PhD, Visual Art, SA School of Art, Architecture and Design, University of South Australia

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2026
Tell It Slant, Guildhouse Project, Art Gallery of South Australia
Space Sailor has a Sister, Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney, Australia

2022

In Vivo, Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney, Australia

2016-2018
a e i o u, Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne and touring Benalla Art Gallery, Victoria; Cairns Regional Gallery, Queensland; Anne & Gordon Samstag Museum of Art, Adelaide; Caloundra Regional Gallery, Queensland; Western Plains Cultural Centre, Dubbo, New South Wales

2015

Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney, Australia

2014
Vacancy, Contemporary Food Lab Exhibition Space, Berlin, Germany

2012
Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney, Australia

2009
Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney, Australia

2007
Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney, Australia
Greenaway Art Gallery, Adelaide, Australia

2005
Greenaway Art Gallery, Adelaide, Australia

2004
Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney, Australia

2002
Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney, Australia
Greenaway Art Gallery, Adelaide, Australia

2001
Greenaway Art Gallery, Adelaide, Australia

2000
Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney, Australia

1999
Greenaway Art Gallery, Adelaide, Australia

1998
Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney, Australia

1997
Greenaway Art Gallery, Adelaide, Australia

1996
Mildura Arts Centre, Victoria, Australia

1995
Ararat Regional Art Gallery, Victoria, Australia
Greenaway Art Gallery, Adelaide, Australia

1994
Public Domain Art Projects Exhibitions

1993
Greenaway Art Gallery, Adelaide, Australia

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2026
Love Letters, Heide Museum of Modern Art, Victoria
Fiftieth, Cellar Door, Sydney

2025
SPRING 1883, Room 224, Hotel Windsor, Melbourne

2024
Stupid As, Gertrude Contemporary, Melbourne

2023

Preference Deal, curated by Mitch Cairns, Cellar Door, Sydney
Spring 1883, Room 224 Hotel Windsor, Melbourne
Darren Knight Gallery at Sydney Contemporary, Carriageworks NSW
Group Exhibition, Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney NSW

2021
Safe Space, University of Sunshine Coast Gallery, QLD
This is a Poem, curated by Melissa Keys, Buxton Contemporary, Melbourne
The National 2021: New Australian Art, Carriageworks, Sydney
Safe Space, Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, NSW, 16 April - 13 June 2021

2020
Safe Space, Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery, VIC
Safe Space, Devonport Regional Gallery, TAS
Safe Space, Grafton Regional Gallery, NSW
Safe Space, Maitland Regional Art Gallery, NSW
Sydney Contemporary 2020, online platform

2019
Safe Space, Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery, Queensland, Australia
Spring 1848, curated by Scott Donovan, Knulp, Sydney, Australia
I could sleep for a thousand years, curated by Jon Campbell, Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney, Australia
Safe Space, Dogwood Crossing, Miles, QLD, Australia
Safe Space, Bundaberg Regional Art Gallery, QLD, Australia

2018
Darren Knight Gallery, Booth G01, Sydney Contemporary, Carriageworks, 13-16 September
From Will to Form: TarraWarra Biennale 2018, TarraWarra Museum of Art, Victoria
Safe Space, curated by Christine Morrow, Logan Art Gallery, Queensland (and touring)

2017
Darren Knight Gallery at Spring 1883, Room 55, The Establishment Hotel, Sydney
World Material, Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney, curated by Chloe Wolifson

2016
SPRING 1883, Room 224, Hotel Windsor, Melbourne

2015
Tender Thing, Adelaide Town Hall, Adelaide
Writing Art, Artspace, curated by Scott Donovan, Sydney
CACSA Contemporary, Contemporary Art Centre of South Australia, Adelaide

2014
Return Threshold – Michelle Nikou, Charlie Sofo, Marcin Kobylecki and Patrick Hartigan, Fontanelle Gallery and Studios, Adelaide, Australia

2013
Future Primitive, Heide Musuem of Modern Art, Melbourne
Atelier Paris: The Power Studio, University Art Gallery, The University of Sydney, Sydney
Black Square, Australian Foundation of Experimental Art, Adelaide

2012
Volume One: MCA Collection, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney
Post-planning, Ian Potter Museum of Art, The University of Melbourne, Victoria, Melbourne
Look, Look Again, Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery, Western Australia

2011
Rundgang, Hochschule für bildende Künste, Braunschweig, Germany

2010

2010 Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art: Before and After Science, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide

2008
Uneasy – recent South Australian art, Anne & Gordon Samstag Museum of Art, University of South Australia, Adelaide, Australia
Scope Basel, Greenaway Art Gallery stand, Switzerland
GAG Projects, Berlin

2006
Imagine…the creativity shaping our culture, Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne, Australia
Things Will be Great, MOP, Sydney, Australia
Taking the cure, Downtown Art Space, Adelaide
Art (212) Art Fair, Greenaway Art Gallery stand, New York
Calenture, Light Square Gallery, Adelaide
17th Annual Fibre Textile Biennial, Tamworth Regional Gallery, Tamworth
New York Art Fair, New York

2005
Mentor/Mentored, Contemporary Art centre of South Australia, Adelaide
Brisbane Art Fair, Greenaway Art Gallery
ARCO 05, Greenaway Art Gallery stand, Madrid, Spain

2004
2004: Australian Culture Now, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia
MCA Unpacked II, Selections from the MCA Collection by Michelle Nikou and Joan Grounds, University of South Australia Art Museum, Adelaide; Bendigo Art Gallery; Hazelhurst Regional Art Gallery, Australia
Revenge, Downtown Art Space, Adelaide
Manifesto, Downtown Art Space, Adelaide
Melbourne Art Fair, Greenaway Art Gallery

2003-2004
Home Sweet Home: Works from the Peter Fay Collection, touring National Gallery of Australia, Canberra; Hazelhurst Regional Art Gallery, Australia

2003
MCA Unpacked II, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, Australia
Mystic Medusa on Art, New Contemporaries, Sydney, Australia

2001-2002
Home is where the heart is, South Australian touring exhibition, Burra Regional Art Gallery, Adelaide Art Museum, University of SA, Port Pirie Regional Art Gallery, Port Augusta Fountain Gallery, Australia

2001
Jamboree Clay, The Jam Factory, Adelaide, Australia

2000
Chemistry – Art in South Australia 1990-2000. The Faulding Exhibition. Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, Australia
Genespill, Imperial Slacks, Sydney, Australia

Melbourne Art Fair, Greenaway Art Gallery

1998
Defiling the Object, Nexus Gallery, Adelaide, Footscray Community Art Centre, Melbourn, Australia, The Substation, Singapore
Strange Brew, Jam Factory, Adelaide, Australia

1997
Comfort, First Draft, Sydney, Australia
North Adelaide School of Art, South Australia

1996
Brisbane Art Fair, Greenaway Art Gallery, Brisbane, Australia

1994
Fania, University of South Australia Art Museum, Adelaide, Australia

1993
Side Step, Prospect Gallery, Adelaide

1992
The China Cabinet, Jamboree Workshop, Adelaide

1990
Post Graduate Exhibition, University of South Australia Art Museum, Adelaide, Australia
Frank, The Bullring, Adelaide, Australia

AWARDS & RESIDENCIES

2024
2024 The Guildhouse Fellowship

2016
NAVA Visual Arts Fellowship

2010-2011
Hochschule für Bildende Künste Braunschweig, Germany (studying under Professor Thomas Rentmeister)

2009
Anne and Gordon Samstag Visual Arts Scholarship

Arts SA Project Grant
2008
Arts SA, Professional Development Grant

2007
Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi Japan Travel Fund
Residency at Cité des Artes, Paris, University of Sydney

2006
Helpmann Academy Mentorship Scheme
Australia Council for the Arts, New Work Grant

2005
Recipient of the Arts SA sponsored *South Australian Living Artist Festival* publication prize
Arts SA Project Grant

2004
SALA monograph, 2005

2003
MF & MH Joyner Scholarship of Fine Arts
Australian Post Graduate Award (APR)
University of South Australia Post Graduate Research Award (USAPRA)
Catalogue funding, Arts SA, South Australia

2001
AIT Arts Foundry, Roma Mitchell Arts Education Centre

2000
Ceramics workshop, University of South Australia
Project Grant, Arts SA, South Australia

1998
EVA Art Prize, Pulteney Grammar School, Adelaide, Australia
Australia Council for the Arts, New Work Grant

1995
Santos Sydney Studio Scholarship
Department for the Arts and Cultural Development, Arts Project Grant

1990
Kym Bonython Art Prize, Adelaide

COMMISSIONS

2009
Aboriginal War Memorial, Torrens Parade Ground - Victoria Drive, Adelaide, with Tony Rosella, Lee-Ann Tjunypa Buckskin, Commissioning Agent, RSL

2008
Public Art Work, Port Adelaide – Commissioning Agent Post Adelaide Enfield Council

2006
Public Art Work, Rundle St Adelaide, Commission Agent Adelaide City Council

COLLECTIONS

Art Gallery of South Australia
University of South Australia Art Museum
National Gallery of Australia
Clo Fleiss Collection, Paris
Gigi and Josef Fainas Collection, Geneva

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Backhouse, M., *Complexly Primitive*, Art Guide Australia, January 2014
http://artguide.com.au/articles-page/show/complexly-primitive/

Bolton, K. Michelle Nikou Wakefield Press, Adelaide 2006

Bolton, K. *Sculptures*, Agenda, Melbourne October 1995

Day, C & Tutton, S. Before and After Science, 2010 Adelaide Biennale of Australian Art, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide. 2010.

Dwyer, L. *Open Gallery*, Sydney Morning Herald-Spectrum, 24-24 November 2012

Eagle, M. *What differentiates art from everyday making?* Home is Where the Heart is, Catalogue Essay, Country Arts S.A., 2000

Fitzgerald, M. *Open Gallery* in Sydney Morning Herald Spectrum, 24-25 Nov 2012, p.14

Hart, D. *Home Sweet Home: an artist-collector's passion*, Home Sweet Home: Works from the Peter Fay Collection exhibition catalogue, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, Australia, 2003

Hill, P. *On their selection*, Sydney Morning Herald, Spectrum, October 18-19 2003

Juliff, Dr. Toby, *translating Michelle Nikou's objects*, aeiou, exhibition catalogue, Heide Museum of Art, Victoria, 2016

Keneally, C. *Where are we now*, Broadsheet, Vol 23, No.3

Keys, Melissa & Kendrah, Murray, *tender: the art of Michelle Nikou*, aeiou, exhibition catalogue, Heide Museum of Art, Victoria, 2016

McDonald, J. *The meaning of colour,* Sydney Morning Herald Spectrum 31 March – 1 April 2007, p. 17

Morrell, T. *Michelle Nikou*, *Uneasy – recent South Australian art* exhibition catalogue, Anne & Gordon Samstag Museum of Art, University of South Australia, Adelaide, Australia 2008, pp.38 – 39.

Nelson, R. *Imagining the forces that shape our artistic culture* The Age Metro Reviews 26 July 2006, p. 22

Newell, M. *Michelle Nikou: Two Spoons*, Broadsheet Vol. 30 32, 2001

Newell, M. *(Foreward),* catalogue essay, Michelle Nikou, 2004

Rainforth, D. *Michelle Nikou*, Art Guide, Issue 100, March/April 2016, pp.93-96

Radok, S. *A Woman's Touch*, Home is Where the Heart is, Catalogue Essay, Country Arts S.A., 2000

Radok, S. The Adelaide Review, July 1995

Radok, S. Here and Now, The Adelaide Review, Vol. 23 NOl3, Sept. 94

Sheedy, M. *For Art's Sake*, Elle, May 1998

Stanhope, Z. (Ed.) *IMAGINE… the creativity shaping our culture,* exhibition catalogue, Heide Museum of Modern Art, 2006

Valamanesh, A. *Self Determination*, Artlink, Vol.14, No.4

Wolfe, R., *The Samstag Alumni: The Anne & Gordon Samstag International Visual Arts Scholarship,* http://www.unisa.edu.au/samstag/scholars/scholars10/nikou.asp, September 2009

Wolfe, R. *The Samstag Legacy, An Artist's Bequest*, The Anne and Gordon Samstag Museum of Art, University of South Australia, 2016, p.345

Wolff, S. *Michelle Nikou* in The Art Life, http://theartlife.com.au/2012/michelle-nikou/, pub. 23 November 2012

Zagala, A., *Michelle Nikou: a e i o u*, Artlink Magazine, 8 June 2016, https://www.artlink.com.au/articles/4460/michelle-nikou-a-e-i-o-u/