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5, 6, 7 Dec 2014

melting dreams
melting dreams
payal sehgal



POD CraftACT, Lonsdale St Traders, 27 Lonsdale St Braddon,
Canberra, Australia

Opening hours

Friday 5 Dec 12-8pm

Saturday 6 Dec 10-4pm

Sunday 7 Dec 10-4pm

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A percentage of the proceeds from the exhibition will go toward UNHCR to support their various programs in aid of people fleeing poverty and persecution. I thank you for your support.

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Artist Statement

“...the apparent passage of time is an illusion. If we could stand outside the universe and ‘see it as it is’, it would appear to be static.”¹

My art practice, which is a part of my meditative practice, is a combination of photography, writing and now installation and has revolved around the concept of Time. A Time whose different planes, past, present and future, exist in tandem and that runs like a static river. This belief is deeply rooted in the Indian Philosophy of Time. The above excerpt from Julian Barbour’s book, *The End of Time*, appears to be close to explaining in the realm of Modern Physics some of the concepts of this philosophy that I grew up with.

In August this year I was an artist-in-residence at projectspace Gorman House in Canberra. This is where this project first took shape. The flattening of the newspaper sheets for this project equated to the literal and conceptual flattening of time, providing the space wherein I wove my thoughts into organic sculptural shapes that trap *Time* itself within their form.

The objects are made out of folded sheets of vintage Australian Women’s Weekly and other magazines (1945-59) as well as found newspapers from the current year like *The Chronicle*, *La Fiamma*, Greek and Panjabi newspapers. The works created thus have both a direct and indirect reference to Time.

Payal Sehgal 2014
www.payalsehgal.com

¹ Julian B. Barbour, *The End of Time*, (New York: Oxford University Press, 2000)
<http://www.platonina.com/books.html>

PAYAL SEHGAL

EDUCATION

- 2008 ANU School of Art, Australian National University, Canberra
Honours (combined thesis in Visual Arts and creative writing) Photography and Media Arts
- 1990-94 Government College of Art, Chandigarh, University of Panjab, India
Bachelor of Fine Arts (Printmaking)

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2014 *Melting Dreams*, POD, CraftACT, Lonsdale St, Braddon
- 2012 *and then there were none...*, a retrospective of photographs, drawings and crochet from 2003-2012, ANCA Gallery Dickson, Canberra
- 2011 *penso a te...*, selected works, Engine Room, Canberra Glassworks, Canberra
- 2010 *penso a te...*, The Gallery, Canberra Boys' Grammar School, Canberra
- being on the edge of abstraction*, Ramp Gallery, Monash Gallery of Art, Melbourne
- 2009 *Survey of works 1997-2009*, Parsons School Of Art and Design, Paris
- 2007 *les bleues et les rouges*, Huw Davies gallery, Canberra
- 2003 *imperfect, impermanent, incomplete...*, Huw Davies gallery, Canberra

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2014 *SeeMe Takeover 2014*, Times Square, New York
- 2013 *Photoville 2013*, Brooklyn Bridge Park, New York
- 2013 *The Story of the Creative*, see.me, Long Island City Gallery, New York
- 2013 *Capture the fleeting*, Brunswickstreetgallery, Fitzroy, Melbourne
- 2012 *Selected work by five M16 Artists*, Artespresso, Kingston, ACT
- Rebuilt*, Legislative Assembly, Canberra
- 2009 *Phoenix Prize for Spiritual Art*, School of Art Gallery, Canberra
- One Shot*, Tuggeranong Arts Centre Gallery, ACT
- art:house, art and design festival*, Benedict house, Queanbeyan, NSW
- 2008 *Graduating Show*, School of Art Gallery, Canberra

GRANTS AND AWARDS (SELECTED)

- 2014 Artist in residence, Projectspace, Gorman House, Canberra
- 2010 Artist in residence, Canberra Glassworks, Canberra
- Financial support received from the Multicultural Arts Officer, ACT for *penso a te...*
- 2009 Grant recipient (Out of Round Funding) from artsACT for solo exhibition at Parsons School of Art and Design, Paris
- Shortlisted for Phoenix Prize for Spiritual Art, Canberra
- 2008 *EASS (Emerging Artist Support Scheme)* recipient, Canberra Boys Grammar School Gallery, Canberra
- 2007 Artist in Residence, PhotoAccess Arts Centre, Canberra
- 2005 One of 11 Artists selected to work on a Megalo Project to commemorate the 2003 Bushfires of Canberra

BIBLIOGRAPHY (SELECTED)

- 2012 Cerabona, Ron, *The Canberra Times*, 7/02/12
- 2010 Belfrage Clare, Essay in catalogue for the exhibition *penso a te...*
- 2009 Canberra's got style, Emma Davidson, <http://canberrasgotstyle.blogspot.com>, 03/02/09
- 2007 Shifting red and blue moods, Ogilvy, Charly, *The Canberra Times*, 30/10/07
- 2006 Broad visions in focus, Ogilvy, Charly, *The Canberra Times*, 08/06/06
- 2006 A walk on the wildside, Ogilvy, Charly, *The Canberra Times*, 10/04/06

I would like to thank Lucy Irvine for giving me the inspiration to move forward with this project; POD, CraftACT and Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centres for providing the physical space that made this project possible, Wanda Beltrame, Julianne Evans for helping with the installation of the work & for moral support and Barry Davis from Project Lighting, Phillip for providing the lights.

List of Works

1. 'There was a life that ran through them all, millions of atoms running this way and that, but on the face of it all was quiet, still...' – excerpt from Interspersed by Payal Sehgal

La Fiamma 27 October 2014
Newspaper, resin, acrylic, H 28cm

2. 'The innocent play of children had slowly, but surely, turned into an emulation of the treacherous world of adults' - excerpt from Interspersed by Payal Sehgal

La Fiamma 27 October 2014
Newspaper, resin, acrylic, H 22cm

3. 'Nothing made sense any more: solid shapes that metamorphosed into runny liquid, green leaves that turned golden at the slightest touch of the rays of the sun, some changing into a brilliant red, as if on fire' – excerpt from Interspersed by Payal Sehgal

Woman and the Missionary Review 6 August 1945
Newspaper, resin, acrylic, H 30cm

4. 'They waited for the breeze that would come along and slowly free them of this bondage, allow them to live this cycle of life and death to the last' - excerpt from Interspersed by Payal Sehgal

Woman and the Missionary Review 1945
Newspaper, resin, acrylic, H 28cm

5. 'Frozen Time, there it streaked, straight down, before ending with a short dash, a definitive full stop' – excerpt from Interspersed by Payal Sehgal

The Cosmos October 2014
Newspaper, resin, acrylic, H 47cm

6. 'Time stands still as now I will it to move and the clock continues its ticking and tocking. Tick- tock, tick-tock' – excerpt from Interspersed by Payal Sehgal

Australian Women's Weekly 16 December, 1959
Newspaper, resin, acrylic, H 45cm

7. 'The echoes of war cries filled the surrounding air as the subjects jumped and danced around their thus coronated monarch' – excerpt from Interspersed by Payal Sehgal

The Chronicle 28 October 2014
Newspaper, resin, acrylic, H 60cm

8. 'And once the flow began there was no end to the generosity of the gods above. All was forgiven, all forgotten, as nature joined in on this purging of souls' – excerpt from Interspersed by Payal Sehgal

Pardes, August 2014
Newspaper, resin, acrylic, H 66cm

9. 'The atmosphere was dry, the air crackled like a brown autumn leaf while the world bristled as it readied itself for another day' – excerpt from Interspersed by Payal Sehgal

Australian Women's Weekly and Woman 1945
Newspaper, resin, acrylic, H 68cm

Please note that this is an ongoing project and I am open to receiving commissions. Contact me on payalsehgal007@gmail.com or contactpayal@yahoo.com.au if you would like to commission a work.

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