



4A Centre for  
Contemporary  
Asian Art



Rakini Devi, *Urban Kali*, 2022, performance documentation, 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art; photo: Push Media

181–187 Hay Street  
Haymarket  
Warrane/Sydney  
NSW 2000 Australia

Tue–Sun: 11am–5pm  
Thu: 11am–8pm  
Closed Monday

📍 [4a.com.au](https://www.4a.com.au)  
☎ +61 2 9212 0380  
📱 @4a\_au  
🎵 @4aplus

# HEY THERE, 2023.

Get ready to have your mind blown! 4A is back in action, and we've got some seriously cool exhibitions and events lined up for you. We're all about celebrating the diversity of the Asian diaspora and exploring the power of faith, digital identity, connectivity, and more through cutting-edge contemporary art.

And get this - we're not just talking traditional art forms here.

We're bringing the heat with mind-bending digital art that will have you questioning everything you thought you knew about the world.

But it's not all about being mind-blown. We're also tackling some seriously important issues, like anti-racism and collective identity.

So come on down to our Haymarket gallery or check us out online. We can't wait to welcome you back to 4A and show you the power of contemporary Asian and Asian Australian arts and culture!

Thea, the 4A Team and ChatGPT

## FUNDERS



## MEDIA PARTNERS



## MEMBERSHIP

C

A

O

A

WE LOVE OUR PATRONS  SHOW US  
YOUR LOVE  DONATE TODAY TO 4A



 4A.COM.AU/DONATE

4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art acknowledges the cultures of the First Nations peoples of Australia and their continuing cultural and creative practices in this land. We pay respect to the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation and their Elders past, present and emerging as the traditional custodians of the lands where we live, work and create.

All images courtesy the artists, individuals, and organisations. Visit our website for full artwork captions and acknowledgements.

14 JANUARY – 16 FEBRUARY 2023



Rel Pham, *Cache*, installation view, 2022; photo: Anna Hay

# LUNAR NEW YEAR: EVI O AND REL PHAM

📍 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art and Haymarket, NSW

📱 rel.pham  
📱 evi\_o.studio

4A rings in Lunar New Year 2023 with two newly commissioned projects and a suite of public programs throughout Haymarket. Rel Pham explores digital identity, memory and surveillance in *Cache*, the artist's first institutional solo exhibition.

Going beyond the gallery walls, Evi O will wrap Sydney's light rail carriages with her stylistic abstraction paintings in a bold public artwork. *A Pair of Marbled Cone Snails Races To Chinatown For The Special Braised Eggplant* celebrates Australia's unique biodiversity while paying homage to the culinary classics of Chinatown.

25 FEBRUARY – 9 APRIL 2023

# DORCAS TANG 邓佳颖: LOVE ME LONG TIME

📍 4A Centre for  
Contemporary  
Asian Art and  
Haymarket, NSW

📷 [dorcass\\_tang](#)

*Love Me Long Time* expands on Dorcas Tang's audiovisual project examining desire, intimacy, and Asian identity through portraits and oral interviews with Asian diasporic and Asian Australian women and nonbinary people.

The project invites conversations about joy and pleasure while reflecting on the legacies of gendered, anti-Asian violence in a white supremacist society.



Dorcas Tang, *Aaqila, 22, they/them*, 2022, digital photograph. Courtesy the artist

Proudly funded by





29 APRIL – 11 JUNE 2023

# LOUISE ZHANG: NO DUST LEFT IN THE LILIES

📍 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art and Haymarket, NSW

📱 [louise\\_zhang](#)

Against a backdrop of increased religious oppression in Wenzhou and Zhejiang province, Louise Zhang examines the changing identity of the Chinese Christian diaspora.

A confluence of faith, CCP policy, global geopolitical shifts and Zhang's personal history, *No dust left in the lilies* synthesises the many strands of her practice into an ambitious body of work.



Louise Zhang, *The eye of Qidu, seeing over me and Grandpa*, 2022, acrylic on canvas. Courtesy the artist

Proudly funded by





Kait James, *Invaders, Game Over 2019*, Private Collection. Courtesy the artist

# A SOFT TOUCH

Anney Bounpraseuth,  
Drew Chan, Makeda  
Duong, Paula do  
Prado, Mehwish Iqbal,  
Kait James, Yasbelle  
Kerkow, Haneen  
Mahmood Martin, Amy  
Meng, Siying Zhou

Curated by Sophia Cai

📍 sophiatron

📍 4A Centre for  
Contemporary  
Asian Art and  
Haymarket, NSW

*A Soft Touch* brings together contemporary artists whose practices engage visually and conceptually with the material softness of textiles, but whose works clearly embody values of empowerment and resistance. The exhibition challenges negative connotations associated with the phrase ‘soft touch’.

Speaking from a range of feminist, queer, migrant and decolonial positionalities, the artists invite audiences to recognise the importance of living in the world with softness at heart, and what possibilities are granted by these expressions.

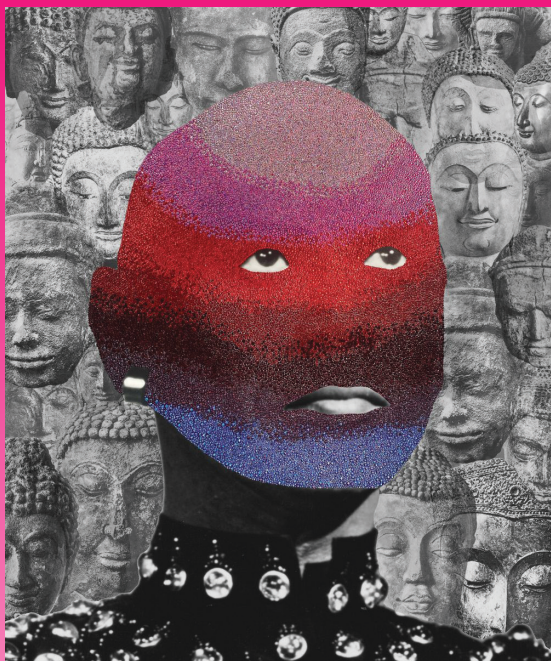
Proudly funded by



CITY OF SYDNEY



2 SEPTEMBER – 15 OCTOBER 2023



Nathan Beard, *King Mongkut* (1956), 2022, mixed media archival photographic print.  
Courtesy the artist

# NATHAN BEARD: A PUZZLEMENT

Curated by Sarah Wall

📍 4A Centre for  
Contemporary  
Asian Art and  
Haymarket, NSW

📱 [nathansbeard](#)

Drawing on his Australian-Thai heritage, Nathan Beard deconstructs characterisations of 'Thainess' to consider the complex influences of culture, memory and biography on the shaping and structuring of diasporic identity.

Presented in partnership with Perth Institute of Contemporary Art, *A Puzzlement* presents an ambitious new body of work - including sculpture, video, and prints - influenced by the artist's research into Thai artefacts, imagery and orchids from archives of The British Museum, Victoria & Albert Museum, British Film Institute, and Kew Gardens.

Proudly funded by



PICA  
Perth Institute of  
Contemporary Arts



4 NOVEMBER – 17 DECEMBER 2023

# WOMANIFESTO: THE WOMANIFESTO WAY

Shuxia Chen, Helen Grace, Virginia Hilyard, Shirley Hilyard, Toby Huynh, Charlotte Mungomery, Sue Pedley, Kyati Suharto, Phaptawan Suwannakudt

Curated by Dr Yvonne Low, Phaptawan Suwannakudt and Marni Williams

📍 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art and Haymarket, NSW

*The Womanifesto Way* is a hybrid digital and in-person exhibition and publication project exploring the histories and collective ethos of Womanifesto.

Presented in partnership with Power Publications, this project explores the importance of doing things 'the Womanifesto Way' for often overlooked women artists, and also follows their principle, developing an experimental form of collective art-history making alongside new works based on intergenerational exchange.

📱 [womanifestoartexchange](https://www.womanifestoartexchange.com)



Karla Sachse and Khun Pikul, Womanifesto Workshop, Boon Bandarn Farm, Kantharaluk, Thailand, 2001; photo: Varsha Nair

Proudly funded by



Power  
Publications





7 SEPTEMBER – 21 OCTOBER 2023



*Drawn by stones*, exhibition view; photo: Silversalt for Drawn by stones, presented by 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art at Wollongong Art Gallery, 2022

# DRAWN BY STONES

Dean Cross, Ray Chan  
See Kwong with Chuen  
Lung community  
members, Penny Evans,  
Ruth Ju-shih Li, Wen-  
Hsi Harman with Lakaw,  
Dogin, Palos, Lisin and  
Byimu, Jody Rallah

Curated by Bridie Moran

Assistant Curators:  
Annette Liu and  
Jody Rallah

*Drawn by stones* brings together artists who utilise the ceramic medium to interrogate contested histories, stolen land, Indigenous sovereignty, and national identity. Exhibiting artists from Australia, Hong Kong and Taiwan investigate 'nationhood' and ownership through ceramics and demonstrate how the ceramic form can both memorialise and tell alternative histories.

📍 Craft ACT,  
Canberra, ACT

17 JUNE – 2 SEPTEMBER 2023

# BUSH DIWAN

Manisha Anjali,  
Anindita Banerjee,  
Perun Bonser,  
Monisha Chippada,  
Sukhjot Kaur Khalsa,  
Amardeep Shergill

Curated by Amrit Gill  
and Reina Takeuchi

📍 Bunjil Place,  
Narre Warren, VIC

Threaded through with stories of migration, *Bush Diwan* gathers artists and storytellers from across Australia, whose work delves into the struggles and triumphs of people and communities who have come from afar to restart their lives in a new place.

This exhibition is a contemporary reimagining of Benalla local Siva Singh's story from the perspective of artists from South Asian diasporas and First Nations communities. The Punjabi word diwan means gathering or religious event, an important practice in community formation and connecting to a place.



Amardeep Shergill, *Aussie Phulkari*, 2022, DMC thread on perforated mesh; photo: Eric Nash. Courtesy the artist

Portrait of Scotty So; photo: Push Media, 2022




# ART IN THE HEART OF HAYMARKET

*Art in the Heart of Haymarket* is 4A's love letter to our home in Haymarket, one of Sydney's most dynamic precincts, celebrating Asian arts and culture through a pulsating program featuring food, children's and family activities, public art activations, music and performance. It reinvigorates Haymarket through contemporary art that celebrates the diversity of our city and the Asian communities that call Sydney home.

OUT NOW

# 4A PAPERS: ISSUE 11

Bobuq Sayed,  
Candice Chung,  
Deepa Bhasthi,  
Gok-Lim Finch,  
Kirtika Kain,  
Manisha Anjali,  
Michelle Cahill,  
Shu-Ling Chua

Edited by  
Neha Kale  
 [nehakale](#)

Special Projects  
Manager  
Mariam Arcilla  
 [marzigold](#)

Scan the QR  
code to read



Pia Johnson, Holding Still, from Mooramong Green series 2020, Archival inkjet print; courtesy and copyright the artist

4A Papers is a digital publication managed by 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art. Established in 2016, the 11th issue on 'intimacy' is now out.

Edited by Neha Kale, this issue of 4A Papers brings together different forms – from essay, fiction and criticism to memoir and photography – by Australian and international writers and artists. It explores intimacy in all its guises.

LATE 2023

# 4A DIGITAL

Scan the  
QR code



Think gif galleries, USB stick exchanges, and even occupying the metaverses of tomorrow. That's what 4A Digital is - a space where creatives push the limit of digital imaginations.

With our brand new futuristic vision - this is truly the year for 4A's digital expansion.

2023's 4A Digital will be bigger than ever; scan the code bb.

 [4a.com.au/digital](https://4a.com.au/digital)





Rel Pham, *Cache* (still), 2022, two-channel video. Courtesy the artist

# ONSITE

- 1. LUNAR NEW YEAR**  
Artist: Rel Pham and Evi O  
Date: 14 January – 16 February  
Venue: 4A, Haymarket and Inner West  
Curator: Con Gerakaris
- 2. LOVE ME LONG TIME**  
Artist: Dorcas Tang 邓佳颖  
Date: 25 February – 9 April  
Curator: Reina Takeuchi
- 3. NO DUST LEFT IN THE LILIES**  
Artist: Louise Zhang  
Date: 29 April – 11 June  
Curator: Con Gerakaris
- 4. A SOFT TOUCH**  
Artists: Soraya Abidin, Anney Bounpraseuth, Andrew Chan, Paula do Prado, Mehwish Iqbal, Kait James, Yasbelle Kerkow, Haneen Mahmood Martin, Ema Shin, Siying Zhou  
Date: 1 July – 13 August  
Curator: Sophia Cai
- 5. A PUZZLEMENT**  
Artist: Nathan Beard  
Date: 2 September – 15 October  
Curator: Sarah Wall
- 6. WOMANIFESTO: THE WOMANIFESTO WAY**  
Artists: Shuxia Chen, Helen Grace, Virginia Hilyard, Toby Huynh, Charlotte Mungomery, Sue Pedley, Kyati Suharto, Phaptawan Suwannakudt  
Date: 4 November – 17 December  
Curators: Dr Yvonne Low, Phaptawan Suwannakudt and Marni Williams



Scan the  
QR code

# OFFSITE

## TOURING

### DRAWN BY STONES

Artists: Dean Cross, Ray Chan  
See Kwong with Chuen Lung  
community members, Penny Evans,  
Ruth Ju-shih Li, Wen-Hsi Harman  
with Lakaw, Dogin, Palos, Lisin and  
Byimu, Jody Rallah  
Dates: 7 September – 21 October  
Venue: Craft ACT, Canberra, ACT  
Curator: Bridie Moran  
Assistant Curators: Annette Liu  
and Jody Rallah

## TOURING

### BUSH DIWAN

Artists: Manisha Anjali, Anindita  
Banerjee, Perun Bonser, Monisha  
Chippada, Sukhjit Kaur Khalsa,  
Amardeep Shergill  
Date: 17 June – 2 September  
Venue: Bunjil Place, VIC  
Curators: Amrit Gill, Reina Takeuchi



**4A Centre for  
Contemporary  
Asian Art**

181–187 Hay Street  
Haymarket  
Warrane/Sydney  
NSW 2000 Australia

Tue–Sun: 11am–5pm  
Thu: 11am–8pm  
Closed Monday

📍 [4a.com.au](http://4a.com.au)  
☎ +61 2 9212 0380  
📷 @4a\_au  
🎵 @4aplus