

Helen JOHNSON: Curriculum Vitae

Born 1979, Melbourne. Lives and works in Melbourne.

Studies

2014 PhD (Fine Art), Monash University, Melbourne
2002 Bachelor of Fine Art – Painting (First Class Honors), RMIT University, Melbourne

Solo Exhibitions and Collaborations

2018 *Warm Ties*, Artspace, Sydney
ART021, with Parker Ito, Shanghai
Helen Johnson and Megan Cope, Chapter Gallery, UK

2017 *Ends*, New Museum, New York
Warm Ties, Chapter, Cardiff
Warm Ties, ICA, London

2016 *Barron Field*, Glasgow International, Glasgow
2016 *Keep your voice low and you can win any point*, Art Basel Statements, Basel

2015 *Cafe Fatigue*, Sutton Gallery, Melbourne
The body is through, Laurel Gitlen, New York
Slow Learners, Château Shatto, Los Angeles

2014 *Time Flies*, Sutton Projects, Melbourne
At Once, with Adelle Mills, 55 Sydenham Rd, Sydney
Ex-execs, Minerva, Sydney
Just Paintings, with George Egerton Warburton and Hamishi Farah, Westspace, Melbourne
Problem History, MADA Gallery, Monash University, Melbourne
I can spare what you asked for, flag for the Westgate Bridge, in association with Melbourne Now, with Brook Andrew, Jon Campbell and Kate Daw, NGV

2013 *Time enough for love*, Chapter House Lane, Melbourne
Meantime, Sutton Gallery, Melbourne
Air to Surface, with Parker Ito, Prism, Los Angeles

2012 *Dead Metaphor*, ACME Project Space, London

2011 *System Preferences*, Sutton Gallery, Melbourne
Universal Remote, Y3K Gallery, Melbourne

2010 *An Effort of Memory*, Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne

2009 *On the Make*, Utopian Slumps, Melbourne
Love over Gold, Sutton Gallery, Melbourne

2007 *Do not go gentle into that goodnight*, Sutton Gallery, Melbourne
Some thoughts on interiority, Summer residency presentation, Künstlerhaus Dortmund, Germany
Australia in the Seventies, Joint Hassles, Melbourne

2006 *Melbourne Art Fair*, with Michelle Ussher, Project space for Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces

2005 *Customs and Mods*, Galleri Schnauzer, Oslo, Norway
Not to be confused with the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show, with Kylie Forbes, ClubsProject Inc., Melbourne
The time has come to unlearn almost everything you know, Little Salon, Melbourne

2004 *Like theatre, like perfume they are dreaming of themselves*, Studio 12, Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces, Melbourne
You must have been in strange places, Westspace, Melbourne
Live at the Obelisk, Bus Gallery, Melbourne

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2018 *The Shape of Things to Come*, Buxton Contemporary, Melbourne
Today Tomorrow Yesterday – Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney
- 2017 *The History Show*, Foxy Production, New York
The world is waiting for the sunrise, TCB, Melbourne
The National 2017: new Australian art, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
Out of the ordinary, AGNSW, Sydney
- 2016 *Painting. More Painting*, Australian Centre for Contemporary Art
TarraWarra Biennial 2016, TarraWarra Museum of Art, Healesville, Victoria
- 2015 *Pleasure and Reality*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
Relational Changes, Christine König Galerie, Vienna
In my absence, Galerie Jocelyn Wolff, Paris
June: A Painting Show, Sadie Coles, London
Care, Interstate, New York
I refuse to participate in failure, SPREEZ, Munich
- 2014 *Nine paintings presentation*, The Alderman, Melbourne
Geelong Contemporary Art Prize, Geelong Gallery, Geelong
Faux Museum, C3 Contemporary Art Space, Melbourne
Fin, Utopian Slumps, Melbourne
Re-raising Consciousness, TCB, Melbourne
Elizabeth, Sutton Projects, Melbourne
At Once, 55 Sydenham Rd Marrickville NSW
Sunny and Hilly, Minerva, Sydney
Fundraiser, Westspace, Melbourne
Sublet, 50 Napier Street, Fitzroy
- 2013 *Method and Gesture*, Utopian Slumps, Melbourne
Melbourne Now, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
Monochrome Exhibition, Sutton Projects, Melbourne
Mural Problem, OTRAS Obras, Tijuana
Decline, Top Shelf, Melbourne
Third/Fourth, Margaret Lawrence Gallery, Melbourne
Wavy Banners Project, ET4U, Denmark
Collage: The Heide Collection, Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne
Westspace Fundraiser, Westspace, Melbourne
- 2012 *Negotiating this world*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
Art & Australia Collection 2003-2013, regional touring exhibition, NSW
Ode to Form, Westspace, Melbourne
Chinatown: the sequel, LTD, Los Angeles
Temperament Spectrum, Sutton Gallery, Melbourne
Of Virgins, Greenwood Street Projects, Melbourne
- 2011 *Art2: Horsham*, for the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Horsham Regional Art Gallery, Horsham
Subtext, UnProjects at Westspace, Melbourne
You're Welcome, Fundraiser for the Asylum Seekers Resource Centre, Mars Gallery, Melbourne
- 2010 *Stick It! Collage in Australian Art*, National Gallery of Victoria, Australia
Addition/Erasure, VCA Margaret Lawrence Gallery, Melbourne
- 2009 *Octopus 9: I forget to forget*, Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces, Melbourne & Canberra Contemporary Art Space, Canberra
Cross Colouring, Hell Gallery, Melbourne & Gambia Castle, Auckland
Y3K Fundraiser, Y3K, Melbourne
St Michaels Archangel Prize, St Michaels Grammar, Melbourne
Order/Disorder, C3 Contemporary Art Space, Melbourne
- 2008 *Y2K Artist Run Artist Funded Melbourne Biennale*, TCB, Melbourne
Robert and Bobby Creely perform 'Listen' (1972 Radio Play), Joint Hassles, Melbourne
The Library Project, Frankston City Library, Melbourne
ABN Amro Emerging Artists' Prize, ABN Amro, Sydney
The Nightclub Project: Everybody's Free, Billboard for Next Wave Festival, Melbourne
Skin and Bones, Bus Gallery, Melbourne
The Monobrow Show, Hell Gallery, Melbourne
- 2007 *The Independence Project*, Galerie Petronas, Kuala Lumpur

- 2006 *A Bridge too Far*, Alliance Francaise, Melbourne
 eg, Plimsoll Gallery, Hobart
Octopus 6: We know who we are, Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces, Melbourne
 and Gippsland Art Gallery, Sale
New06, Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Melbourne
Escape Artist-Run Artist Party, High Street Project, Christchurch, New Zealand
Great Dividing Range, Canberra Contemporary Art Space, Canberra
Group Show, Joint Hassles, Melbourne
Another Product Exhibition, Cornerhouse, Manchester, UK
CLUBSproject at Ocular Lab, Ocular Lab, Melbourne
National Works on Paper Exhibition, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery,
 Victoria
The Packet Agency, Storage Gallery, Vancouver, Canada
Upholding the ideal of Democracy (Australia for I), JIPB Cube, Nees, Denmark
The Salon Show, Flat File, Melbourne
- 2005 *A short ride in a fast machine*, with Andrew McQualter, Gertrude Contemporary
 Art Spaces, Melbourne
Slave 3, VCA Gallery, Melbourne
You must have been in strange places, Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces,
 Melbourne
The Air Between Us, Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces, Melbourne
All about us, Arts Victoria, Melbourne
- 2004 *Smash your own Windows*, Clubsproject Inc, Melbourne
Gertrude Studio Artists 2004, Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces, Melbourne
There's a hole in the Bucket, Clubsproject Inc, Melbourne

Curatorial

- 2015 *Language Face*, Minerva, offsite, Melbourne
 2014 *WORK*, Slopes, Melbourne
 2011 Curator, *Love in the Mourning*, Death be Kind, Melbourne
 2009 Curator, with Nick Mangan, *New World Records*, Sutton Gallery, Melbourne
 2008 Curator, *Ugly Heritage*, Joint Hassles, Melbourne
 Curator, with Alex Vivian, *Informal Rituals*, TCB, Melbourne
 2005 Curator, *Slide* exhibition program 2005, Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces,
 Melbourne
 2003 Curator, *The sun in your eyes makes some of the lies worth believing*, Little
 Salon, Melbourne
 2002 Curator, *The Arch Rival of Verbal Communication*, LaTrobe Street Gallery,
 Melbourne
 2001 Assistant Curator, *Through Women's Eyes*, Glen Eira City Gallery, Melbourne

Film/Video Screenings

- 2003 *A Fistful of Films*, Darwin Fringe Festival
Moving Image Coalition, Cinema Nova, Melbourne
 2002 *Isee** video art program, screened on Channel 31

Published Writing

- 2015 Contribution to *Artists Writing, 2000–2015*, Jennifer Liese (ed.), New York: Paper
 Monument, 2015 (forthcoming)
 'Helen Grace' – contribution to *Frieze Masters: Artists' Artists*, Jennifer Higgie
 (ed.) (forthcoming)
 Critical Ambiguity: A Kantian reading of recent work by Juan Davila – *Discipline*,
 Issue #4, Spring 2014 (forthcoming)
Painting is a critical form (book), published by 3Ply, Melbourne
 Porosity, machine, subtraction, substitution: on the formal address to politics in
 works by Brigid Fitzgerald, Rosie Isaac, Nicholas Mangan and Tom Nicholson –
 with Justin Clemens, *Un Magazine*, Pip Wallis (ed.), Autumn 2015
 Introductory essay for *NEW15* catalogue, ACCA, Melbourne
 Cover image for *Little Star weekly*, January 23, 2015
- 2014 *Kippenberger aus Australien* – Catalogue text for *Martin Kippenberger*, Neon
 Parc, Melbourne
 Contribution to '8 Painters on Painting' (Jennifer Higgie), *Frieze* Issue #160,
 January, February 2014

- 2013 *The Now is Not Present*, Catalogue essay for Damiano Bertoli, *Continuous Moment: Sordid's Hotel* at the Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne
Memory is not a recording device: On Eliza Hutchison's 'Hair in the Gate, a biograph', *Un Magazine*, Jarrod Rawlins (ed.), Spring 2013
Is the research your practice, or is the practice your research?, *Un Magazine*, Jarrod Rawlins (ed.), Autumn 2013
Fiona Connor: Bare Use, catalogue contribution for Fiona Connor at Hopkinson Cundy, Frieze Art Fair, New York, 2013
'Exterior: On Stanislaw Lem', *Science Fiction/World Making*, Amelia Barikin and Helen Hughes (eds.), Surplus, Melbourne
- 2012 'Lend me your ear: On Hany Armanious's "Fountain"', *Discipline*, issue 3
'It seems like everybody knows everybody already so let's get to work', *Un Magazine*, Summer 2012
'On contemporary art and criticality', paper presented at the *Australasian Society of Continental Philosophy Annual Conference*, Auckland, New Zealand
'Scott Mitchell: A silent modification of the specific present', *Un Magazine*, Autumn 2012
'Mira Gojak: A moment an immeasurable whole', *Discipline*, issue 2, Autumn 2012
- 2011 'Review: Christoph Menke, Daniel Loick, Isabelle Graw, "The Power of Judgment: A Debate on Aesthetic Critique"', *Discipline*, issue 1, Winter 2011
Artist's pages, *Discipline*, issue 1, Winter 2011
'Groundwork', *Subtext: Artists and Writing*, UnProjects for Westspace, Melbourne
'Treason and Crime', *Reason and Rhyme*, catalogue essay, Gertrude Contemporary, Melbourne, and St Paul St, Auckland
Act Natural, catalogue essay for Annika Koops's exhibition of the same name, Nellie Castan Gallery, Melbourne
The Gift and the Curse, catalogue essay for Drew Pettifer's exhibition of the same name, various venues, Melbourne
- 2009 *New World Records*, catalogue essay, Sutton Gallery, Melbourne
Nathan, catalogue contribution for *Attack Decay Sustain Release* by Nathan Gray, Craft Victoria, Melbourne
- 2008 *Gone Bush*, catalogue contribution for *A Time Like This*, Margaret Lawrence Gallery, Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne
Kate Smith, artist page for *Un Magazine*, Issue 2.2
The Superpit, catalogue essay for Brodie Ellis' exhibition of the same name, Conical, Melbourne
Happy Days, review, Jason Heller and Lucrecia Quintanilla for *The South Project Strange 4* (cover image), postgraduate journal of creative writing, The University of Melbourne
- 2007 'Seeing things in black and white: Deutscher and Hill', *Whitehot Contemporary Art Magazine*, issue 7, October 2007
'Door Slamming Festival at Mehringdamm 72', *Whitehot Contemporary Art Magazine*, issue 4, May 2007
Black River (illustrations), published by Re:Press, Melbourne
Omnipraxis, catalogue essay for *Omnipresents* by Christopher L G Hill, Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces, Melbourne
- 2006 'Pushing the Envelope: The Packet Agency', *Eyeline*, issue 62, Summer 2006-
'Forum: Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces at the Melbourne Art Fair', *Eyeline*, issue 61, Spring 2006
- 2005 *The Colony*, catalogue essay for exhibition of the same name by Nick Mangan, Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces, Melbourne
Achmed Lobrowski at Slip'n, ClubsProject Inc. publication, Melbourne
'The art of Nick Mangan', *Natural Selection*, issue 4, Winter 2005
'Cate Consandine, Kate Fulton, Starlie Geikie, Bianca Hester, Katherine Huang at Mir11', *un Magazine*, issue 3, March 2005
'Take Every Day as it Comes, Brothers and Sisters', ongoing blog:
<http://triangularsun.blogspot.com>
- 2002 *The Arch Rival of Verbal Communication*, catalogue essay for exhibition of the same name, LaTrobe Street Gallery, Melbourne
- 2001 *Through Women's Eyes*, catalogue essay for exhibition of the same name, Glen Eira City Gallery, Melbourne

Workshops

- 2004 Workshop with International Baccalaureate students from United World College – Dalsåsen, Norway
Mask-making program with students from Dingemoen Skule – Dale, Norway
- 2002 Practical workshop for teachers – Art Education Victoria

Bibliography

- 2017 Glover, Alexander and Helen Johnson. "Helen Johnson: 'I wanted to resist presenting some sort of unified image of history,'" *Studio International*, March 25, 2017
Lejins, Janis. "Empire strikes back: 'Australia's Impressionists' at the National Gallery, London," *Art Monthly Australasia*, March 2017
March Judah, Hettie. "Stolen Australia: the ferocious anti-colonial art of Helen Johnson," *The Guardian*, January 27, 2017
Higgie, Jennifer. "History Pictures," *Frieze*, Issue 184, January
- 2016 Ari Akkermans, Barron Field (cat.), *Glasgow International*, April, 2016
Marina Cashdan and Molly Gottschalk, *The 20 Best Booths at Art Basel*, Artsy, June 15, 2016
Hettie Judah, *Female Artists Take Centre Stage at Glasgow International 2016*, *Artnet News*, April 8, 2016
Sophie Knezic, *5th Tarra Warra Biennial*, *Frieze* Issue #182, October, 2016
Pippa Milne, Helen Johnson, *Vault*, Issue 13, February, 2016
Harry Thorne, *Critic's Guide: Glasgow*, *Frieze* online, 13 April, 2016
Vitamin P3: *New Perspectives in Painting*, Phaidon, London, 2016
- 2015 Berardini, Andrew - 'Critics' Picks: Helen Johnson, Château Shatto,' *Artforum* online, January 2015 <http://artforum.com/picks/id=49943>
Matorin, David – Reviews in Brief: Helen Johnson, Château Shatto, *Modern Painters* Vol. 27, Issue 5, May 2015
Smith, Roberta – 'Review: Kate Newby and Helen Johnson at Laurel Gitlen,' *The New York Times*, July 16, 2015
Wullschlager, Jackie – 'Critics' Choice, June: A Painting Show', *FT Weekend*, 06 – 07 June 2015, p. 17
- 2014 Butler, Rex – 'Modernism: More Popular Than Populism,' *Broadsheet* 43.4, Spring 2014
Loughnan, Melissa – 'Paintings about Painting' (interview), *The Blackmail*, offline issue #3, Spring 2014
Mills, Adelle – *Foggy shields are breathing* poem to accompany *Ex-execs* at Minerva, May 2014
Rule, Dan – Review: Just Paintings, *The Age*, 'Your weekend: In the galleries,' May 3, 2014
- 2013 Edgar, Ray, *Unfurling Flags*, *The Age*, November 29, 2013
Frost, Andrew, What can nostalgia bring to contemporary art? *The Guardian* online, <http://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/australia-culture-blog/2013/jul/31/nostalgia-contemporary-art-culture> July 31, 2013
Radford, Lisa, 'de for,' review: *Decline* at Top Shelf Gallery, *Stamm* <http://www.stamm.com.au/de-for/> September/October issue, 2013
Rainforth, Dylan, *Let Love Emerge*, *The Age*, 'Space: Around the Galleries' November 6, 2013
Rule, Dan, Helen Johnson: Time Enough For Love, *The Age*, 'In the Galleries' November 23, 2013
Rule, Dan, Monochrome Exhibition, *The Age*, 'In the Galleries' September 7, 2013
Rule, Dan, REVIEW: Helen Johnson – Meantime, *Raven* <https://www.ravencontemporary.com.au/helen-johnson-meantime/> July 18, 2013
Rule, Dan, Helen Johnson: Meantime, *The Age*, 'In the Galleries' July 6, 2013
Nelson, Roger (interview) – Hovering uneasily close to sea level, *Das Superpaper* #27, pp. 66-69, June 2013
Waite, Julia, *Meantime* (cat.), June 2013
- 2012 Wise, Kit, Review: Helen Johnson, *Frieze* Issue #159, November - December
Gellatly, Kelly (ed.), *101 Contemporary Australian Artists*, National Gallery of Victoria, 2012

- McSpedden, Shelley, Game Changer: Helen Johnson – New Painterly Strategies, *Eyeline*, pp. 48-41, Issue #76, 2012
- Razer, Helen, Deflowering the authorised history of the Virgin (<http://www.theage.com.au/entertainment/art-and-design/deflowering-the-authorised-history-of-the-virgin-20120612-207y5.html>), *The Age*, June 13 2012
- Sutton, Irene et al., *Sutton Gallery: The first twenty-one years 1992-2012*, Sutton Gallery, Melbourne, 2012
- Time and Vision: Australia Council for the Arts London Residencies 1992-2002*, Acme Studios, London, 2012
- Triguboff, Eleonora (ed.) – *Art & Australia Collection/Awards/Projects*, Art & Australia, 2012
- 2011 Rule, Dan, Helen Johnson: System Preferences, *The Age*, June 25, 2011, 'Life & Style' p. 5
- 2009 Clemens, Justin, *Love over Gold* (cat.), Sutton Gallery, June 2009
- Gardner, Anthony, *About Between Towards Despite Because: On Helen Johnson's Makings* (cat.), Utopian Slumps, November 2009
- Gilchrist, Stephen, *I Forget to Forget* (cat.), Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces,
- Goh, Leon interviewing Glichrist, Stephen, Forgetting is not an option, *Runway*, Issue 15, Summer 2009-10
- Nelson, Robert, Moulding with the Imagination, *The Age*, p. 19, August 19 2009
- Rainforth, Dylan, Visual Art (What's on), *The Age*, p. 19, June 10 2009
- 2008 Gibson, Prue, Five female artists to watch in 2008, *Vogue Australia*, January
- 2007 Alemani, Cecilia, *Present/Future* (cat.), Artissima 07, Turin, Italy, November
- Backhouse, Meaghan, In galleries, it's show time, *The Age A2*, January 20 2007
- Clemens, Justin, A Law That Cannot Be Enforced, *The Monthly*, March 2007
- Clemens, Justin & Delaney, Max, Of tents and tenets: some relations between art and politics, *Art & Australia*, Autumn 2007
- Das Individuum und die kapitalistische Gesellschaft* (The individual and the capitalist society), *Westdeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*, West Germany, 27 July
- Day, Charlotte, *A Plan for Living* (cat.), for Artissima 07, November 2007
- Fitzgerald, Michael, Helen Johnson, *Art & Australia*, Summer 2007
- Heron, Nicholas, *Do not go gentle into that goodnight* (cat.), Sutton Gallery, 2007
- Palmer, Daniel, Emerging Artists, *Frieze*, p. 137, Issue 104 January – February
- Zwischen Träumen und subtiler Kritik* (Between dreams and subtle critique), *Ruhr Nachrichten*, West Germany, 27 July 2007
- 2006 Backhouse, Meaghan, Windows into Johnson's world, *The Age*, March 21 2006
- Benedictus, Luke, A Shot of the New, *Preview (The Sunday Age)*, March 26 2006
- Engberg, Juliana, *New06* (cat.), The Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, March 2006
- Green, Charles, Critics' Picks: Melbourne: New06, *Art Forum Online*, March 2006
- Macdonald, Anna, Everyday Translations (cat.), *New06*, The Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, March 2006
- 2005 Johns, Kerrie-Dee, Strangely Australian, *Real Time* Issue #66, April/May 2005
- Khan, Jeff, *You Must Have Been in Strange Places* (cat.), Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces, 2005
- Power, Liza, Landscapes you've never seen, *The Age Arts* section, February 15 2005
- 2004 Webb, Penny, Party lines, *The Age*, 10 September 2004
- Williams, Carl, Helen Johnson, *Un Magazine* Issue #2, 2004
- 2003 Clubspiro Inc., Publication Everybody, *Printroom*, 2003
- Reilly, David, *Impedimenta* (cat.), Seventh Gallery, 2003
- Strahan, Lucinda, Modern Portraits, *The Age*, 26 June 2003

Residencies/Grants/Awards

- 2015 Mollie Holman Award for Doctoral Thesis Excellence – Monash University
- 2014 Artist in Residence – Princes Hill Primary School, Melbourne
- Australian War Memorial ANZAC Centenary Print Portfolio Commission
- New Work Grant – Australia Council for the Arts
- Australian Artists' Grant – National Association for the Visual Arts, with Adelle Mills
- 2012 New Work Grant – Australia Council for the Arts
- 2011 London Studio Residency – Australia Council for the Arts
- Artspace residency, Sydney

2010	Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery National Works on Paper Award
2009	New Work Grant – Australia Council for the Arts
2008	Australian Postgraduate Award (Scholarship)
2007	Arts Victoria – Arts Development (Creation) Grant
	Art and Australia/NAVA - <i>Ripe Award</i> for Emerging Artists
	Residency, Lademoen Kunstnerverksteder – Trondheim, Norway
	Residency, Künstlerhaus Dortmund – Dortmund, Germany
2006	Arts Victoria – Arts Development (Presentation) Grant
2005	Residency/Stipend, Nordisk Kunstnarsenter Dalsåsen – Dale, Norway (September – December)
	Ian Potter Cultural Trust – Travel Grant
2004	Studio residency – Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces, Melbourne
	South Project Design Commission – Craft Victoria with Third Drawer Down, Melbourne
2003	<i>Dogs Bar Award</i> (Second Prize), <i>The Postcard Show</i> – Linden Gallery, Melbourne

Selected Collections

Artbank
 Art Gallery of New South Wales
 Australian Catholic University Art Collection
 City of Yarra's Art & Heritage Collection
 Joyce Nissan Collection, Melbourne
 Karpidas Foundation
 Michael Buxton Collection
 Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery
 Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney
 Tate, London
 National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
 National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
 TArt & Australia / ANZ, Sydney
 University of Chicago – Booth Collection,
 Private collections in Australia, China, Israel, Norway, United Kingdom and USA

Helen Johnson is represented by Sutton Gallery, Melbourne, AUSTRALIA