



Emerald Dunn Frost, 'Hand-drawn review: Contagious Magic at Galerie pompom', fbi radio, 16 June 2017

<http://fbiradio.com/hand-drawn-review-contagious-magic-at-galerie-pompom/>

'The advent of photography brought with it a captivating mysticism, one which was born out of the medium's uncanny ability to render reality so clearly. Such was its reception, though its depictions were still only impressions whose 'truthfulness' was not always reliable.'

It is from this premise that Galerie pompom presents Contagious Magic, where Jess Bradford, Simon Del Favero, Charles Dennington, David Greenhalgh, Harley Ives, Vivian Cooper Smith and Tina Havelock Stevens all provide a unique avenue of exploration into this theme.

Simon Del Favero's work in particular utilises high resolution digital photography in Water Drop Refraction (2017) and Non-Linear Chemical Oscillator (2017). The former, a still photograph and the latter, a video work, unveil microscopic life. In Non-Linear Chemical Oscillator, the artist recreates the process of the same name. By mixing potassium bromate, sulfuric acid, methyl orange, sodium bromate, malonic acid and ferrous, the outcome is something hyper-real; its brilliance in colour and effect is found, as the artist describes, in a reality beyond the scope of human vision, embodying non-human concepts and dimensions.

Likewise, Water Drop Refraction depicts a series of water droplets sitting on a high density LCD panel, the banding of colour in the work created by the interaction of various layers of LCD and a nearby angled light. Creating something so beautiful and abstract, it's hard for the viewer to believe the image was drawn from the real world.

Lucy McNabb, 'Contagious Magic: Galerie pompom's diverse new group exhibition of video and photographic artists', Concrete Playground, 30 May 2017

<https://concreteplayground.com/sydney/event/contagious-magic/>

Nope, we're not finished with the group exhibitions. Pompom is hosting Contagious Magic, a group show featuring seven artists whose practice revolves around video and photography. Both the show title and the featured works apparently make reference to "the otherness" of Jon Hassell and Brian Eno's 1980 album Fourth World, Vol. W: Possible Musics (ten points if you know what that means).

Artists include Vivian Cooper Smith, whose Memory Loss series features rocks his now deceased grandfather collected over decades travelling around WA, exploring themes of time, mortality and memory. There's also Jess Bradford, whose pieces form part of an ongoing project on the Tiger Balm Gardens, a Chinese cultural theme park in Singapore, drawing upon the park's representation of Chinese culture in the form of myths, legends and history. You'll also see work from Simon Del Favero, Charles Dennington, Tina Havelock Stevens, David Greenhalgh and Harley Ives.

A diverse, eclectic show that will suit art lovers possessing short attention spans.