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MEDIA RELEASE



Image details: Susie Dureau, Summer Cicadas on Yaegl Country, NSW, 2022, Archival Pigment Print, 110 x 145cm (framed)

Untethered

4 to 26 November

Alyson Bell
Ingrid Bowen
Susie Dureau
Amanda Fuller
Colleen Southwell

Responding to the concept of being untethered, five contemporary artists uncover a dialogue between spirituality and mortality through the mediums of painting, video, sculpture and immersive installation.

The artworks by **Alyson Bell, Ingrid Bowen, Susie Dureau, Amanda Fuller and Colleen Southwell** engage with themes of weightlessness, ethereality and transcendence balanced against grounded states and earthy connections to nature.

Alyson Bell (video installation) and **Susie Dureau** (spectrogram collages) both employ ethereal phenomena as a creative process. Through the capture of light and sound data, the artists ask the viewer to 'feel' as a way of thinking about the landscape, employing a unity of senses (rather than just sight) in making and viewing the work.

Ingrid Bowen's watercolour paintings trace the migratory path of the Bogong moth, highlighting the complexity of migration in a time of evolving climactic zones. Ingrid's flowing, watery paper works point to the instinct and adaptation required to navigate the next phase of evolution on earth.

Colleen Southwell and **Amanda Fuller** produce contemporary interpretations of curiosity collections. Colleen's delicate paper sculptures seem to grow organically over the surface, the spirit-like natural forms hovering on pins like an 18th Century collection of butterflies. Amanda's sensual oil paintings imbue found objects with metaphorical significance, acknowledging the artistic tradition of memento mori and reminding us of our mortality.



Ingrid Bowen



Amanda Fuller

High resolution images are available.



Alyson Bell



Colleen Southwell

About the artists:

Alyson Bell is a multi-disciplinary artist based on Sydney's Northern Beaches (Garigal Country) working primarily with video and installation. Responding to the world about her, Alyson's artworks explore transformational and darker interior themes, sometimes surprising with an element of playfulness. Enveloped in the ethereal space between the earth and the sky, our senses are bathed in a breeze of movement, light, illumination and sound. In this metaphorical journey, Alyson pairs raw bush materials with repurposed garments to suggest the unfettered female form and the invisible natural forces that connect our spirituality with nature.

Ingrid Bowen is a northern Sydney-based (Dharug Country) artist practising predominantly in watercolours, stretching the boundaries of both material and subject in order to create dreamlike landscapes. Ingrid's panoramic work for Untethered explores the concept of migration; the apparent freedom of creatures in flight, as tethered to their journey as we are to the ground. However, evolving climactic zones will untether most species, unravelling their historical paths and pushing them into foreign biomes in order to survive the Anthropocene.

Susie Dureau lives and works on Garigal land in Sydney's Northern Beaches. Her multi-disciplinary practice is landscape-based, although her artworks invite non-literal interpretations of light and sound phenomena, addressing humankind's kinship with the more-than-human world. For this exhibition, Susie has used landscape sounds such as a crashing wave, a fairy-wren call and summer cicadas to construct works that are vibrant visual celebrations of the earth and its creatures. Each piece is created by layering digital spectrographs: scientific graphs that map sound waves.

Amanda Fuller is based on Sydney's Northern Beaches (Garigal Country) and combines her love of travel with collecting found 'memento mori' to inspire her art practice. Predominantly working in oil painting she aims to depict a sense of time and place. As inspiration for 'Untethered,' feathers, bones and flowers become beautiful motifs presented in a contemporary context. Amanda's collective work combines elements to portray the found objects as being symbolically powerful and beautiful in their silent and dynamic states, untethered but grounded in a new eulogy.

Colleen Southwell is a paper sculpture artist practising from her home in rural NSW (Wiradjuri Country). Drawing on a background in horticulture and life on the land, her intricate works celebrate the beauty of nature both wild and cultivated. She challenges the contemporary quest for manufactured perfection suggesting instead that beauty exists in its most perfect form in nature. Colleen's work reflects the contrasts of release and grounding experienced through a life spent with hands in the soil. Early morning garden wanders invite moments for reflection in quiet light and stillness. The garden appears almost weightless, hovering, though remaining firmly anchored to the earth.