

## **MEDIA RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **VANESSA STOCKARD**

**30 January to 20 February 2020**

Presented by Abbotsleigh Young Curators and 3:33 Art Projects

#### **Exhibition launch**

Saturday 1 February 2-4 pm

The Grace Cossington Smith Gallery is delighted to present an exhibition by artist Vanessa Stockard.

Stockard has been an Archibald finalist multiple times and has exhibited across the country and internationally. The collaboration between Vanessa Stockard and the Abbotsleigh Young Curators is an inspiring learning experience facilitated by Max Germanos and 3:33 Art Projects.

Stockard's ethereal works are a window into the soul of a talented and complex artist, one whose legacy is bound to resonate well past her generation. Her paintings provide an intimate gaze into her artistic pursuits where she examines emotions of isolation and sadness often expressed in her bold colour palette and gestural expression. Her vivid and enthralling artworks are embedded with her curiosity to redefine what it means to love. Stockard also engages with notions of the peculiar and the surreal pulling the viewer into a dreamlike sequence. This is also highlighted by the fact that she paints from memory, where fact and fiction can become blurred.

Born in 1975 in Sydney, Vanessa Stockard spent her formative years in a small country town in the Mid North Coast of New South Wales, completed high school as a boarder at Abbotsleigh and in 1998 graduated from the College Of Fine Arts (COFA) Sydney (now UNSW Art & Design) with a BFA.

#### **3.33 Art Projects** <http://www.333artprojects.com/>

3:33 Art Projects has created an innovative art program, *Young Curators*, to partner with secondary schools to support education in the arts and provide unique experiences for the students, the school and the broader community whilst supporting Australian artists.

In 2019 3:33 Art Projects commenced working with leading artists Jasper Knight, Euan Macleod and Vanessa Stockard at schools including Knox Grammar School, Abbotsleigh School and Trinity Grammar School.

**Short statement 50 words**

GCS Gallery, 30 January - 20 February. Vanessa Stockard, presented by Abbotsleigh Young Curators and 3:33 Art Projects. Exhibition launch: Saturday 1 February 2-4 pm.

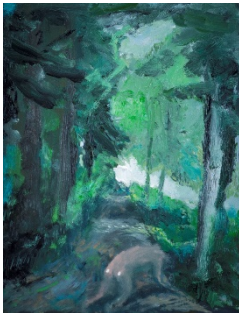
Stockard's love of the peculiar, the comic and the ethereal can be seen in her paintings from memory of figures, portraits, landscapes and pets.



*Blindfold*, 2019  
oil on hardboard  
40 x 40 cm



*Oh*, 2019  
oil on board  
40 x 40 cm



*Lost keys*, 2019  
oil on board  
35 x 27 cm



*Self-portrait*, 2018  
acrylic and oil on board  
52 x 52 cm

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High Resolution images are available.

The **Grace Cossington Smith Gallery** is a not-for-profit gallery, run by Abbotsleigh, serving the public through free admission and a changing exhibition program. The Gallery is open Monday to Friday from 10 am-5 pm and Saturday 9am – 4pm. Enter via Gate 7, 1666 Pacific Highway Wahroonga.

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