

Vibrant Matter

16 July – 14 December 2024

Artists: *Susan Jacobs, Ross Manning, and Simone Slee.*

Bringing together works from the UQ Collection and beyond, this exhibition is attentive to the agency of materials and to the vibrancy of matter.

The artists included in *Vibrant Matter* have co-produced their work with material components of drawing, sculpture, and sound art. Welcoming the active participation of these more-than-human materials and beings as co-creators, the works move away from notions of the singular intention of authorship. Artistic control over the final outcome is balanced with chance, accident, and collaboration with the more-than-human as a creative driver: the gravitational force of volcanic rocks; the will of a snake; and the sonic potential of consumer detritus from the urban world. By establishing the parameters for the unexpected to occur and embracing the performative nature of materials, Jacobs, Manning, and Slee animate the drama of our tumultuous ecological present: a time when matter means more than ever before.

Images and captions for media

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Contact: Dr. Anna Hickey, Acting Senior Education and Engagement Manager, UQ Art Museum
Email: anna.hickey@uq.edu.au | UQ Art Museum Phone: +61 7 3365 3046



Ross Manning

Pixel Points 2018

LED lights, bolts, computer fans, glass bowls, tin, bamboo, aluminium pipe, metal rulers, tripods, and cable

Installation view, *Material Sound*, Plimsoll Gallery, Hobart

Courtesy of the artist and Milani Gallery, Turrbal and Yuggera Country/Brisbane.

Photo: Remi Chauvin



Simone Slee

Rocks holding up #4 2019

red scoria rock and glass

Collection of The University of Queensland, purchased 2019.

Courtesy of the artist and Sarah Scout Presents, Naarm/Melbourne.

Photo: Christo Crocker

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

SUSAN JACOBS

Born 1977 in Gadigal Country/Sydney, New South Wales. Lives and works in London, UK. Susan Jacobs is represented by Anna Schwartz Gallery in Melbourne, and The Renshaws in Brisbane. Recent solo exhibitions include *Worlds*, The Renshaws, Brisbane (2023); *The Ants are in the Idiom*, Buxton Contemporary, Melbourne (2022); and *Animal Grammar*, Mackintosh Lane, London, UK (2018). Recent group exhibitions include *Inside, Underground*, Bundanon Art Museum, Illaroo (2022); *Not Painting*, Cøpperfield Gallery, London, UK (2021); *Slippery Sum*, APT Gallery, London, UK (2019); *Incerteza Viva: 32nd São Paulo Bienal*, Ciccillo Matarazzo Pavilion, São Paulo, Brazil (2016); *Believe not every spirit, but try the spirits*, Monash University Museum of Art (MUMA), Melbourne (2015); and *Nature/Revelation*, The Ian Potter Museum of Art, Melbourne (2015).

ROSS MANNING

Born 1978 in Turrbal and Yuggera Country/Brisbane, Queensland. Lives and works in Turrbal and Yuggera Country/Brisbane, Queensland. Ross Manning is represented by Milani Gallery in Brisbane. Recent solo exhibitions include *Matter and Matrix*, Milani Gallery, Brisbane (2023); *Idling Engines*, Children's Art Centre commission, Gallery of Modern Art (GOMA), Brisbane (2020); *Ross Manning: Dissonant Rhythms*, Lismore Regional Gallery, Lismore (2020); and *Ross Manning: Melody Lines*, Carriageworks, Sydney (2016). Recent group exhibitions include *Courage & Beauty: The James C. Sourris Collection*, GOMA, Brisbane (2022); *Art Mixtape*, Home of the Arts (HOTA), Gold Coast (2021); *The National: New Australian Art*, Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA), Sydney (2019); *Autoluminescent*, La Trobe Art Institute, La Trobe University, Bendigo (2019); and *Material Sound*, Murray Art Museum, Albury (2018).

SIMONE SLEE

Born 1965, Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Wergaia and Jupagik Country/Horsham, Victoria. Lives and works in Naarm/Melbourne, Victoria. Simone Slee is represented by Sarah Scout Presents in Melbourne. Recent solo exhibitions include *rocks holding up*, Sarah Scout Presents, Melbourne (2019); *rocks and things, happy to help*, Sarah Scout Presents, Melbourne (2017); and *SAM Drawing Wall #23*, Shepparton Art Museum (SAM) (2016). Recent group exhibitions include *Fabrik*, Margaret Lawrence Gallery, Melbourne (2015); and *Less is More: Minimal and Post-Minimal Art in Australia*, Heide Museum of Modern Art, Bulleen (2012). Slee completed her PhD in 2017 at the Victorian College of the Arts, University of Melbourne. She is now Head of the School of Art at the University of Melbourne.