

*findings...*

School of Art Gallery  
Building 2 Level 2  
Bowen Lane  
City Campus

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*Findings* presents the range of investigations that may take place in sophisticated art research practice. Often in privileging the finished work over studio practice a commonly held value judgement is made that exploratory art works are somehow simplistic renderings of yet to be realised grand works. Contrary to this conventional notion the works on exhibition in *findings* reverse this idea in many ways.

Through presentation of the works that usually remain in studio drawers, cupboards or simply abandoned, this exhibition demonstrates the cognition and practical activity that artistic research involves. Each of the artists in this exhibition was chosen for the capacity of their studio practice to visually articulate research process. Whether it be through the placement of physical objects such as a beam in every studio that one of the artists sets up; the movement through and about sculptural work as a mapping exercise; or the layering of documentary modes such as the recording of the environment by sonar, walking or video imagery through various codes of visual language or innovating notions of place by way of methodical documentation of a designated location tells us about the manner in which artistic activity functions.

Making public such aspects of practice in *findings* in *unfinished* or *unresolved* states for each artist has been somewhat of a challenge. Being able to let go of the usual notions of the summarised or condensed artwork that one would most often be confronted by in the public space of a gallery is at one and the same time akin too showing potential mistakes or failed works. Time and continued research will shed light on which side of the artistic fence these works sit. However it must be said in opening up artistic methodology and indeed curatorial viewpoint we can hopefully enter into a potential dialogue with audiences about artistic practice and research that would not otherwise be achieved and thereby override any claim to failure as we learn most from that which does not initially succeed.

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