

NOELLA LOPEZ
G A L L E R Y





SAM HEYDT IN CONVERSATION

WITH NOELLA LOPEZ

I first met Sam at an open day at an art residency in the Blue Mountains last year. It was cold. She stood there with her camera, apart from the crowd, different from the crowd. She talked to the group briefly about her practice. I sensed her nervousness. We discussed a documentary filmed in Rajasthan she was working on and was looking to raise its profile.

There was something about this artist, something indefinable. I was curious. She was very engaging and came across as extremely passionate about various current topics, sociological and environmental issues, people and their past, her practice in general. It was refreshing and inspiring. She had chosen to show a couple of her photographs there and also some scratched films. I was drawn to this artist and wanted to know more about her approach to being a global artist, how her globe-trotting shapes her practice, how she constructs her images and where does it all come from.

Sam Heydt is a prolific, versatile, intelligent, focussed, internationally recognised artist. What attracted me to her art and to Sam as an artist is this special quality of her constant desire to explore, search and adapt to many different places in the world, make her art, sustain and feed her practice wherever she is; probably her apparent sense of freedom of being too.

Sam's artistic practice is concerned with body perceptions, consumerism and

the consequent environmental degradations seen through the lens of her camera and her interpretation of their impact on us physically, emotionally and spiritually resulting in re-shaping our identities, memories and perceptions. That is on the surface! At a deeper level, the artist delves into the mystery of our psyche, our identity, our imagination, our distorted perceptions of the world and ourselves, our place in that world, and our memories and constructed narratives of the past.

As an Artist you state that “Memories of the past are dictated by the present”. Can you please expand on how this concept impacted on the creation of the series *Another Resurrection*? (Series to be released at a later date)

Guised as visceral artefacts, photographs are a marriage between experience and imagination, a tragic inseparability that turns a blind eye to the betrayal of perception. These fleeting moments captured are children of deceit. The image painted by light counterfeits an instance; it constructs a narrative of the past that is informed by the present. Once framed, reality reiterates as representation - obscured by the lens' bias and the myriad of subjective meaning prescribed by the audience. In defiance of the medium's claim to truth, the series *Another Resurrection* converges the past with the present, collating disjointed narratives temporally estranged-more honest in many ways than a single frame shot.

The Marrow Series is your most abstract, exuberant and colourful series so far. I find these large shiny images beautiful, all encompassing and an intriguing interpretation of your practice. Can you tell us what informed that departure or exploration? Where did it take you?

Marrow emerged from the internal shifts and external realities I faced at the conception of the series. There is no darkness, only light in the Icelandic summer. I know from experience after a motor-bike accident sliced my stomach open and left

me bedridden for months there. In my immobility, I began experimenting with the manual manipulation of 16 mm film. No longer able to physically explore the world around me, I discovered different creative avenues I could take in my static state. Despite my crippling circumstances, the exuberant palette reflects the gratitude I felt to still be alive.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THIS CONVERSATION, [CLICK HERE](#)



SAM HEYDT

'Irrational'

Photograph - Marrow Series - Ed. 2/4 + 1 A/P (NFS) - Pigment Print Face-Mounted on Acrylic - 90cm x 160cm x 4cm - **AS6500**

"Never in focus - the world - a blur of movement amidst globalisation and the obscurity of social media. The social landscape has become a noisy, fractured space dominated by advertisements. Amid the onslaught of media images, we experience life as a sequence of schizophrenic moments..."

Sam Heydt

See More Artworks by Sam Heydt, [CLICK HERE](#)



WATCH

Sam Heydt's Video 'What Actually Did Happen?' inspired by Marrow and Another Resurrection Series, [CLICK HERE](#)

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