

JUSTINE VARGA

When we think of photography we naturally think of a camera, even if it is just as an icon on our smart phone. The two go hand in hand. But we can take the camera out of the equation and still have photography. All we need is light. Indeed, the Greek roots of the word literally mean 'drawing with light'.

Anne O'Hehir, Curator, Photography, National Gallery of Australia, 2016

For me, this portrait didn't deal with the appearance of somebody in the way a selfie phenomena does, for me it was like 'Wow, this is a really contemporary portrait, and one that pushes the boundaries of portraiture at a time when the idea of taking a photograph of someone standing in front of you or turning a camera around and taking a photo of yourself and posting or sharing that is such a part of every day life.

Dr Shaune Lakin, Senior Curator, Australian and International Photography, 2017

JUSTINE VARGA

Born 1984

Lives and works in Sydney, Australia and Oxford, UK

Represented by Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne

EDUCATION

2007

Bachelor of Fine Art (Photography), Honours, National Art School, Sydney

2005

Bachelor of Fine Art (Photography), National Art School, Sydney

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2023

End of Violet, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne, 11 March – 6 April

2021

Masque, Hugo Michell Gallery, Adelaide

Tachisme, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne – PHOTO 2021 International Festival of Photography exhibit

2020

Tachisme, Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne (online)

2019

Memoire, Auckland Festival of Photography, Two Rooms, Auckland, New Zealand

Areola, Hugo Michell Gallery, Adelaide

2017

Photogenic Drawing, Hugo Michell Gallery, Sydney Contemporary, Carriageworks, Sydney

Photogenic Drawing, curated by Claire Monneraye, Australian Centre for Photography, Sydney

2016

Memoire, Hugo Michell Gallery, Adelaide

2015

Accumulate, Stills Gallery, Sydney

2014

Sounding Silence, Hugo Michell Gallery, Adelaide

Sounding Silence, Stills Gallery, Sydney

2012

Moving Out, Stills Gallery, Sydney
Film/Object, Hugo Michell Gallery, Adelaide

2010

29 Palms, Hugo Michell Gallery, Adelaide

2009

Empty Studio, studio exhibition, Sydney

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2023

Bright Sparks: Photography and the Talbot Archive, Kilian Brier, Burton Brothers, Julia Margaret Cameron, Camille Corot, Tim Davis, Elisabeth Feilding, Anne Ferran, Andrea Fraser, Daniel Meadows, Garry Fabian Miller, Simon Murison-Bowie, Helen Muspratt, Cornelia Parker, Martin Parr, Man Ray, Gerhard Richter, Alison Rossiter, Hiroshi Sugimoto, Constance Talbot, William Henry Fox Talbot and Justine Varga, Treasury Gallery, Bodleian Library, Oxford University, United Kingdom, 16 March – 15 June

Aotearoa Art Fair, Mark Adams, Anne Noble, Justine Varga and Robin White, Two Rooms, Tāmaki Makaurau, Auckland, Aotearoa New Zealand, 1 – 5 March

Direct Contact: Cameraless Photography Now, Yto Barrada, Anthea Bhem, Iñaki Bonillas, Jillian Marie Browning, Granville Carroll, Ellen Carey, Judith Nangala Crispin, Gohar Dashti, Hernease Davis, Marta Djourina, Chris Duncan, Joy Episalla, Arash Fewzee, Julio Grinblatt, Sheree Hovsepian, Roberto Huarcaya, Nikolai Ishchuk, Kei Ito, Laurie Kang, Tatiana Kronberg, Galina Kurlat, Priya Suresh Kampli, Farrah Karapetian, Hitoshi Kuriyama, Dakota Mace, Amanda Marchand, Aspen Mays, Brent Mestre, Fabiola Menchelli, Nadezda Nikolova-Kratzer, Wang Ningde, Lisa Oppenheim, Leticia Ramos, Mariah Robertson, Anna Katherina Scheidegger, Stefanie Seufert, Assaf Shaham, David Benjamin Sherry, Iswanto Soerjanto, Thu Van Tran, Justine Varga and Daisuke Yokota, curated by Lauren Richman, Sidney and Lois Eskenazi Museum of Art, Indiana University, Indiana, United States of America, 16 February – 9 July

Responsive Forms, Birdi Gillman, Sam Gold, Jahnne Pasco-White and Justine Varga, Hugo Michell Gallery Adelaide

2022

Hugo Michell Gallery at Jan Murphy Gallery, Narelle Autio, Sam Gold, Lucas Grogan, Ildiko Kovacs and Justine Varga, Jan Murphy Gallery, Brisbane, Queensland, 15 November – 3 December (forthcoming)

Captured 20 Years: Josephine Ulrick and Win Schubert Photography Award 20th Anniversary, HOTA, Liam Benson, Polly Borland, Anna Carey, Danie Mellor, Gerwyn Davies, Tamara Dean, Cherine Fahd, Rose Farrell, Paul Ferman, Anne Ferran, Shaun Gladwell, Owen Leong, Polixeni Papapetrou, Helen Pynor, Eugenia Raskopoulos, Jaky Redgate, Glenn Sloggett, David Stephenson, Darren Sylvester, Lynn Roberts-Goodwin, Dr Christian Thompson AO and Justine Varga, Gold Coast, Queensland, 17 September – 8 January

2022 National Works on Paper, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery

Transcending Likeness: Contemporary Portraits from the Collection, Joanna Braithwaite, Guy Maestri, Ben Quilty, Justine Varga and Michael Zavros, Tweed Regional Gallery and Margaret Olley Art Centre, New South Wales

2021

Collide: Maverick Minds, Gordon Bennett, Kathy Cavaliere, Adam Cullen, Lynda Draper, Mikala Dwyer, Shaun Gladwell, Pat HOFFIE, Jan Hynes, Richard Larter, Joan Letcher, Diane Mantzaris, Noel McKenna, Callum Morton, Poliexeni Papapetrou, r e a, Julie Rrap, Sally Smart, Kathy Temin, Justine Varga, Jenny Watson and Jay Younger, HOTA, Gold Coast, Queensland

Gut Feeling: works from the Murray Art Museum Albury collection, Brook Andrew, Hany Armanious, Pat Brassington, Mitch Cairns, D Harding, Nigel Milsom, Justine Varga and Amanda Williams, Murray Art Museum Albury, New South Wales

Spring, Del Kathryn Barton, Tony Clark, Sir William Dobell, Louise Harman, Robert Klippel, Janet Laurence, Lindy Lee, Anne Macdonald, Noel Mckenna, Makinti Napananka, Susan Norrie, Bronwyn Oliver, Justine Varga and Savanhday Vongpoothorn, Annette Larkin Fine Art, Sydney

William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize, Monash Gallery of Art, Melbourne, 9 September – 5 December

National Art: Part 1, Charles Blackman OBE, Les Blakebrough AM, Euphemia Bostock, Bill Brown, Mitch Cairns, Sophie Cape, Kevin Connor, Lucy Culliton, Elisabeth Cummings OAM, Karla Dickens, Ken Done AM, Marilyn Fairskye, Fiona Foley, Todd Fuller, Adrienne Gaha, Peter Godwin, Sarah Goffman, Fiona Hall AO, Michael Johnson, Alan Jones, Jan King, Juz Kitson, Ildiko Kovacs, Fiona Lowry, Guy Maestri, Tim Maguire, Dani McKenzie, Marie McMahon, Reg Mombassa (Chris O'Doherty), Idris Murphy, Catherine O'Donnell, Robert Owen, Peter Powditch AM, Les Rice, Joan Ross, Julie Rrap, Bill Samuels, Jeffrey Samuels, Luke Sciberras, Garry Shead, Gria Shead, Nicola Smith, Michael Snape, Tim Storrier AM, Ann Thomson, Ken Unsworth AM, Justine Varga, Guy Warren AM, Coen Young, Anne Zahalka, curated by Judith Blackall, Maitland Regional Art Gallery

Dark Matter, Bright Light, Josef Albers, Mikala Dwyer, Olafur Eliasson, Garry Fabian Miller, Marco Fusinato, Alicja Kwade, Lindy Lee, Tim Maguire, Colin McCahon, Cornelia Parker and Justine Varga, curated by Leigh Robb, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide

Presence/Absence: Australian photography from the Collection, S. Cahill, Zoe Croggon, Daniel Crooks, Norman Deck, John Eaton, Janina Green, Tim Handfield, Andrew Hazewinkel, Steven Lojewski, Honey Long & Prue Stent, Jill Orr, David Moore, Graham Radley, Justine Varga and Jo Scicluna, Horsham Regional Art Gallery, Victoria

National Art: Part 1, Charles Blackman OBE, Les Blakebrough AM, Euphemia Bostock, Bill Brown, Mitch Cairns, Sophie Cape, Kevin Connor, Lucy Culliton, Elisabeth Cummings OAM, Karla Dickens, Ken Done AM, Marilyn Fairskye, Fiona Foley, Todd Fuller, Adrienne Gaha, Peter Godwin, Sarah Goffman, Fiona Hall AO, Michael Johnson, Alan Jones, Jan King, Juz Kitson, Ildiko Kovacs, Fiona Lowry, Guy Maestri, Tim Maguire, Dani McKenzie, Marie McMahon, Reg Mombassa (Chris O'Doherty), Idris Murphy, Catherine O'Donnell, Robert Owen, Peter Powditch AM, Les Rice, Joan Ross, Julie Rrap, Bill Samuels, Jeffrey Samuels, Luke Sciberras, Garry Shead, Gria Shead, Nicola Smith, Michael Snape, Tim Storrier AM, Ann Thomson,

Ken Unsworth AM, Justine Varga, Guy Warren AM, Coen Young, Anne Zahalka, curated by Judith Blackall, Glasshouse, New South Wales

2019

News from the Sun, Harry Culy, Justine Varga, Shaun Waugh, curated by Aaron Lister, City Gallery Wellington, New Zealand [three person exhibition featuring *Areola* series]

William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize, Monash Gallery of Art, Melbourne

Contemporising the Modern: Photography from the 20th and 21st Century from The Russell Mills Foundation Collection, Narelle Autio, Greg Barrett, Richard Beck, Pat Brassington, Jeff Carter, Harold Cazneaux, Pegg Clarke, Olive Cotton, John Degotardi, Kerry Dundas, Max Dupain, Rex Dupain, John Eaton, Peter Elliston, Gerrit Fokkema, Branco Gaica, Bill Henson, Petrina Hicks, Mark Kimber, Robert McFarlane, David Mist, William Moffitt, David Moore, Trent Parke, David Potts, Michael Riley, Roger Scott, Wolfgang Sievers, Mark Strizic, Justine Varga, Jozef Vissel, and Laurie Wilson, curated by Bianca Acimovic, Bega Valley Regional Gallery, New South Wales and Town Hall Gallery, Hawthorne, Victoria (touring)

Capital, Gabi Briggs, Peta Clancy, Mark Curran, Simryn Gill, Kristian Haggblom, Newell Harry, Lisa Hilli Nicholas Mangan, Darren Siwes, Martin Toft, Yvonne Todd, Justine Varga and Arika Waulu, curated by Naomi Cass and Gareth Syvret, National Centre for Photography, Ballarat International Foto Biennale, Victoria

Beyond Place: Australian Contemporary Photography, Hoda Afshar, Polly Borland, Pat Brassington, Michael Cook, Rosemary Laing, Ricky Maynard, Tracey Moffatt, Polixeni Papapetrou, Trent Parke, Patrick Pound, Jacky Redgate, James Tylor and Justine Varga, Museum of Photographic Arts, San Diego, USA (touring)

Ways of Seeing: Recent Acquisitions from the Collection, Allora & Calzadilla, Brook Andrew, Ben Armstrong, Peter Drew, Helen Frankenthaler, Brent Harris, Tracey Moffatt, Justine Varga and Fred Williams, curated by Maria Zagala, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide

Exposed: Confronting Photography Through New Australian Writing, Vanessa Berry, Hannah Donnelly, Khalid Warsame and Charlotte Wood (writers), Mervyn Bishop, Herbert Ponting, Leonie Reisberg and Justine Varga (photographers), Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney

2018

Land & Title, Gordon Bennett, Asher Bilu, John Coburn, Gunter Christmann, Olive Cotton, Russell Drysdale, Ian Fairweather, Mary Jane Griggs, Bill Henson, Bea Maddock, Tracey Moffatt, Uncle Phil Murray, Jimmy Njiminjum, Mike Parr, Gloria Petyarre, Tom Roberts, Aida Tomescu, Justine Varga and Fred Williams, Murray Art Museum, Albury, Victoria

William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize, Monash Gallery of Art, Melbourne

Warm Bodies, Loretta Fahrenholz, Adham Faramawy, Angela Goh, Jaimie Warren, curated by Megan Monte and Josephine Skinner, Cement Fondu, Sydney

Contemporising the Modern: Photography from the 20th and 21st Century from The Russell Mills Foundation Collection, Narelle Autio, Greg Barrett, Richard Beck, Pat Brassington, Jeff Carter, Harold Cazneaux, Pegg Clarke, Olive Cotton, John Degotardi, Kerry Dundas, Max Dupain, Rex Dupain, John Eaton, Peter Elliston, Gerrit Fokkema, Branco Gaica, Bill Henson, Petrina Hicks, Mark Kimber, Robert McFarlane, David Mist, William Moffitt, David Moore, Trent Parke, David Potts, Michael Riley, Roger Scott, Wolfgang Sievers, Mark Strizic, Justine Varga, Jozef Vissel, and Laurie Wilson, curated by Bianca Acimovic, Hawkesbury Regional Art Gallery, Windsor (touring)

Performing Drawing, Marco Fusinato, Nicci Haynes, Joyce Hinterding, Gabriella Mangano, Silvana Mangano, David Moore, Cameron Robbins, David Rosetzky, Justine Varga, Ilka White, Gosia

Wlodarczak, and John Wolseley, curated by Sarina Noordhuis-Fairfax, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra

From Will To Form: Tarrawarra Biennial 2018, Belle Bassin, Vicki Couzens, Naomi Eller, Artists from Erub, Starlie Geikie, Agatha Gothe-Snape, Julie Gough, Dale Harding, Claire Lambe, Lindy Lee, Bridie Lunney, Rob McLeish, John Meade, Sanné Mestrom, Alison Murray, Michelle Nikou, Kusum Normoyle, Mike Parr,

Michael Snape, Hiromi Tango, Fairy Turner, Michelle Ussher, Justine Varga, Isadora Vaughan, curated by Emily Cormack, Tarrawarra Museum of Art, Victoria

Death and Desire: Hair in the Turnbull Collection curated by Fiona Oliver, Alexander Turnbull Library, National Library of New Zealand, Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa, Wellington, New Zealand

The Obscure Camera, Andrew Dearman, Dan McCabe, Cassie Thring and Justine Varga, curated by Andrew Purvis, Adelaide Central Gallery, Adelaide

Antipodean Emanations: Cameraless Photography from Australia and New Zealand, curated by Stella Loftus-Hill, Monash Gallery of Art, Melbourne

Runes: Photography and Decipherment, William Henry Fox Talbot, Nicolaas Henneman, James Tylor, Killian Breier, Lewis Rutherford, NASA, Justine Varga, Man Ray, Thomas Barrow, Marion Hardman, Anne Ferran, Andreas Müller-Pohle, Alison Rossiter, Shaun Waugh, Danica Chappell, Ben Cauchi and Ghazaleh Hedayat curated by Geoffrey Batchen and Justine Varga, Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne

2017

National Self-Portrait Prize, curated by Glenn Barkley and Holly Williams, University of Queensland Gallery, Brisbane

William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize Monash Gallery of Art, Melbourne

Voodoo Gods, Burchill/McCamley, Don Driver, Gavin Bell, Greatest Hits, Benjamin Hirte, Sven't Jolle, Sean Peoples, Joshua Petherick, and Justine Varga, curated by Jack Willet, STATION, Melbourne

Grounded: Contemporary Australian Art, curated by Judith Blackall, National Art School Gallery, Sydney

Olive Cotton Award for Photographic Portraiture, Tweed Regional Gallery, New South Wales

Ramsay Art Prize Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide

Curtain Call, a salon retrospective of the gallery 1991-2017 curated by Kathy Freedman, Bronwyn Rennex and Sandy Edwards Stills Gallery, Sydney

Contemporising the Modern: Photography from the 20th and 21st Century from The Russell Mills Foundation Collection, Narelle Autio, Greg Barrett, Richard Beck, Pat Brassington, Jeff Carter, Harold Cazneaux, Pegg Clarke, Olive Cotton, John Degotardi, Kerry Dundas, Max Dupain, Rex Dupain, John Eaton, Peter Elliston, Gerrit Fokkema, Branco Gaica, Bill Henson, Petrina Hicks, Mark Kimber, Robert McFarlane, David Mist, William Moffitt, David Moore, Trent Parke, David Potts, Michael Riley, Roger Scott, Wolfgang Sievers, Mark Strizic, Justine Varga, Jozef Vissel, and Laurie Wilson, curated by Bianca Acimovic, Muswellbrook Regional Art Centre, Hunter Valley (touring)

From the Darkness Bill Henson, Anne Ferran, Olive Cotton, Justine Varga, Darren Sylvester, Daniel von Strumer, Zoë Croggon and Petrina Hicks, Horsham Regional Gallery, Victoria

In the Mood for Love, Narelle Autio, Pat Brassington, Danica Chappell, Trent Parke, Glenn Sloggett, Robyn Stacey, Justine Varga, Kawita Vatanajyankur, Emma White, Emmaline Zanelli, curated by Josephine Skinner, Stills Gallery, Sydney

2016

Silver and Salt: Experimental Photography, Ashleigh Garwood, Justine Varga and Amanda Williams, curated by Carrie Kibbler, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, Sydney [three person exhibition featuring Memoire series]

New Matter: Recent Forms of Photography, a collection exhibition featuring recent work by Australian and international photographers, curated by Isobel Parker Philip, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney

Emanations: The Art of the Cameraless Photograph, a survey exhibition of over 50 artists from 12 countries: Anna Atkins, Andrew Beck, Walead Beshty, Marco Breuer, Danica Chappell, Liz Deschenes, Anne Ferran, Joan Fontcuberta, Adam Fuss, Běla Kolářová, Christian Marclay, László Moholy-Nagy, Anne Noble,

Man Ray, Thomas Ruff, Hiroshi Sugimoto, William Henry Fox Talbot and Justine Varga, curated by Geoffrey Batchen, Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth, New Zealand

Is/Is Not, curated by Kiron Robinson, West Space, Melbourne

2015

Australian Art: Now, eX de Medici, Jan Nelson, Jacky Redgate, Sally Smart and Justine Varga, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra

Paris Photo, Stills Gallery, Grand Palais, Paris, France

NSW Visual Arts Fellowship (Emerging), curated by Alexie Glass-Kantor and Talia Linz Artspace, Sydney

Contemporising the Modern: Photography from the 20th and 21st Century from The Russell Mills Foundation Collection, Narelle Autio, Greg Barrett, Richard Beck, Pat Brassington, Jeff Carter, Harold Cazneaux, Pegg Clarke, Olive Cotton, John Degotardi, Kerry Dundas, Max Dupain, Rex Dupain, John Eaton, Peter Elliston, Gerrit Fokkema, Branco Gaica, Bill Henson, Petrina Hicks, Mark Kimber, Robert McFarlane, David Mist, William Moffitt, David Moore, Trent Parke, David Potts, Michael Riley, Roger Scott, Wolfgang Sievers, Mark Strizic, Justine Varga, Jozef Vissel, and Laurie Wilson, curated by Bianca Acimovic, Murray Art Museum Albury, New South Wales (touring)

William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize Monash Gallery of Art, Melbourne

Sydney Contemporary, Stills Gallery, Carriageworks, Sydney

Pedestrian, Charles Cooper, Joe Frost, Deb Mansfield, Sian McIntyre, Dale Miles, Tania Rollond, Tim Silver, Charlie Sofo, Justine Varga and Oliver Watts, curated by Jaime Tsai, Hoff Project Space, National Art School, Sydney

The Churchie National Emerging Art Prize, Griffith University Art Gallery, Brisbane

For Future Reference, Sophie Calle, Rodney Glick and David Solomon, Siri Hayes, Nova

Paul, Julian Aubray Smith and Justine Varga, curated by Pippa Milne, Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne

Against a degree of blindness, Anna John, Del Lumanta and Justine Varga, curated by Isobel Parker Phillip, MOP, Sydney

Slow Burn, Jacqueline Gothe, Firesticks with UTS Design, Claire Healy and Sean Cordeiro, Euan Macleod, Djambawa Marawili, Mandy Martin, Rerrkirrwanga Munungurr, Trent Parke, Mike Parr, Kharma Phuntsok, Ajay Sharma, Jeanette Siebols, Maxie Tjampitjinpa, Hossein Valamanesh, Justine Varga, Lachlan Warner and Barrupu Yunupingu, Delmar Gallery, Trinity College, Sydney

Some Australian Photographs, Marian Drew, Anne Ferran, James Tylor and Justine Varga McNamara Gallery, Wanganui, New Zealand

Kaleidorama, curated by Josephine Skinner, Stills Gallery, Sydney

Art on Paper: Hazelhurst Art Award, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, New South Wales

Josephine Ulrick & Win Schubert Photography Award, Gold Coast City Art Gallery, Queensland

2014

NSW Visual Arts Fellowship (Emerging), curated by Alexie Glass-Kantor Artspace, Sydney
William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize, Monash Gallery of Art, Melbourne
Melbourne Art Fair, Stills Gallery and Hugo Michell Gallery, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
The Churchie National Emerging Art Prize, Griffith University Art Gallery, Brisbane
View from the Window, Sean Barrett, Danica Chappell, Kim Demuth, Jackson Eaton, Mike Gray, Megan Jenkinson, Benjamin Lichtenstein, Phuong Ngo, Izabela Pluta, Kate Robertson, Jo Scicluna, Vivian Cooper Smith and Jason McQuoid, Melanie Jayne Taylor and Justine Varga curated by Vivian Cooper-Smith, Edmond Pearce, Melbourne
Josephine Ulrick & Win Schubert Photography Award, Gold Coast City Art Gallery, QLD

2013

I Spy: Windows and Doors in Art, Sean Cordeiro and Claire Healy, Kirrily Hammond, Callum Morton, Scan, Justine Varga, Craig Walsh, and Yuendumu Door artists Paddy Jupurrurla Nelson and Paddy Japaljarri Stewart, Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery, NSW
On the Surface of Things, curated by Isobel Parker Philip, Firstdraft Gallery, Sydney
William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize, Monash Gallery of Art, Melbourne
NSW Visual Arts Fellowship for Emerging Artists, Art Space, Sydney
Available Light: imagining more than we see, Laurence Aberhart, Andrew Beck, Joyce Campbell, Ben Cauchi, Anne Noble, Fiona Pardington, Trent Parke, Peter Peryer and Justine Varga, Mahara Gallery, Waikanae, New Zealand (touring)
Auckland Art Fair, McNamara Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand
Art on Paper: Hazelhurst Art Award, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, NSW
Available Light: imagining more than we see, Laurence Aberhart, Andrew Beck, Joyce Campbell, Ben Cauchi, Anne Noble, Fiona Pardington, Trent Parke, Peter Peryer and Justine Varga, McNamara Gallery, Wanganui, New Zealand (touring)
Josephine Ulrick & Win Schubert Photography Award, Gold Coast City Art Gallery, Queensland

2012

Primavera 2012, Dion Beasley, Benjamin Forster, Anastasia Klose, Todd McMillan, Kate Mitchell, Teho Ropeyarn and Justine Varga, curated by Anna Davis, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney
Flatlands: Photography and Everyday Space, Pat Brassington, Harold Cazneaux, Olive Cotton, Simryn Gil, Fiona Hall, Geoff Kleem, David Moore, Daido Moriyama, Robert Rauschenberg, Josef Sudek, Justine Varga and Minor White, curated by Vigen Galstyan, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
The Lookout, Locust Jones, Anri Sala, Rania Stephan and Justine Varga, curated by Katie Dyer, National Art School Gallery, Sydney
Interior, Delmar Gallery, curated by Catherine Benz, Trinity College, Sydney
What Destroys What, David Burns, Frank Minnaert, Ms&Mr, Todd McMillan, Justine Varga and Nadia Wagner, curated by N, Firstdraft Gallery, Sydney
William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize, Monash Gallery of Art, Melbourne
Photographs Arranged in Series, Sarah Oscar and Justine Varga, curated by Anne Ferran, Sutton Gallery Projects, Melbourne

2011

Helen Lempriere Traveling Art Scholarship, Artspace, Sydney
No Room to Hide, Sarah Contos, Christopher Hanrahan, Lou Hubbard, Caroline Rothwell, Charlie Sofu and Justine Varga, curated by Peter Fay, Macquarie University Gallery, Sydney

2010

Fully Booked, Benjamin Armstrong, Dorothy Berry, Alan Constable, Bill Culbert, Shaun Gladwell, Julian Martin, Noel McKenna, Justine Varga and Louise Weaver, curated by Peter Fay and Sue Forde, Arts Project, Melbourne

Silent Spaces, curated by Rhonda Davies, Macquarie University Gallery, Sydney

Josephine Ulrick & Win Schubert Photography Award, Gold Coast City Art Gallery, Queensland

AWARDS

2021

Create New South Wales Development Grant

Australia Council for the Arts International Curators Program x PHOTO 2021

2019

Dobell Drawing Prize

2017

Olive Cotton Award for Photographic Portraiture

2016

ACME International Residency Programme, London, United Kingdom

Arts New South Wales Artist Support Grant

Josephine Ulrick & Win Schubert Photography Award

2014

Museum of Contemporary Art Australia Primavera Veolia Acquisitive Prize

Australia Council for the Arts London Studio Residency

2013

Hazelhurst Regional Art Gallery Residency

Josephine Ulrick & Win Schubert Photography Award

Art on Paper Hazelhurst Art Award Preparator Prize

COMMISSIONS

2018

Fusuma, Duo Central Park, Sydney, curated by Barbara Flynn, building designed by Foster + Partners
London for Frasers Property Sydney

CURATING

2018

Runes: Photography and Decipherment, curated by Geoffrey Batchen and Justine Varga, Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne

COLLECTIONS

Armenian Photography Foundation, Armenia
Artbank, Sydney
Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide
Goulburn Regional Art Gallery/Veolia Collection, New South Wales
Horsham Regional Gallery, Victoria
HOTA Collection, Queensland
Lavery Collection, Melbourne
Macquarie University, Sydney
Monash Gallery of Art, Victoria
Murray Art Museum Albury, New South Wales
National Art School Collection, Sydney
National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
Peter Fay Collection, Hobart
Tweed Regional Gallery, New South Wales
University of Queensland Art Museum, Brisbane
Westpac Collection, Sydney

SELECTED PUBLIC TALKS

2023

Speaker, 'Staging Photography', *In the Darkroom*, University of Westminster, London, United Kingdom, 8 - 9 June

2022

Speaker, 'Staging Photography', Perphoto International Conference, *The Archive, the Body, and the Medium: Crossing Photography and Performance in Theory and Practice*, School of Arts and Humanities, University of Lisbon, Lisbon, Portugal, 23 September

Public lecture, 'Staging Photography', Toi Rauwhārangī College of Creative Arts, Massey University, Wellington, Aotearoa New Zealand, 13 September

'Darkroom tour with Justine Varga', in-conversation with Isobel Parker Phillip, Senior Curator of Contemporary Australian Art Gallery of New South Wales and photographic printer Sandra Barnard, for the Art Gallery of NSW Photography Benefactors, *sandyprints*, Sydney, 31 August

2021

Panel discussion, 'William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize: Alternative Approaches', Ali Tahayori and Justine Varga, chaired by Anoushka Phizacklea, Monash Gallery of Art, Victoria, 1 December

2021

Floor talk, Tolarno Galleries with Writing & Concepts, for PHOTO 2021, 19 February 2021

Lecture *Tachisme: A stain on photography*, Writing & Concepts, Melbourne, March 2021

<https://vimeo.com/528058200>

2019

Guest lecture, Post-Graduate Seminar, National Art School, Sydney, 24 July

Gallery talk, Dobell Drawing Prize, National Art School Gallery, Sydney, 30 March

2018

Gallery talk, National Art: Part One, National Art School Gallery, Sydney, 14 and 18 August

Gallery talk, *TarraWarra Biannual: From Will to Form*, 4 August

Keynote speaker, Deus Ex Photos Photomedia Conference, North Sydney, 28 March

2017

Gallery talk, Artist Insight: Teacher Professional Development Event, Australian Centre for Photography, Sydney, 25 September

Gallery talk, Photogenic Drawing, Australian Centre for Photography, Sydney, 23 September

Panel discussion, Talk Contemporary: Artist Profile Presents Portraiture in Non-Objective Art, Sydney Contemporary, Sydney, 8 September

Panel discussion, Grounded: Contemporary Australian Art: Art Forum, National Art School Gallery, Sydney, 30 August

Gallery talk, You Are Looking at Something That Never Occurred, Zabłudowicz Collection, London, 8 April

Gallery talk, New Matter: Recent Forms of Photography, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, 11 January

2016

Public lecture, Queen Adelaide Club, Adelaide, 17 May

Symposium, Crucible, Victoria University of Wellington; National Library of New Zealand; Te Papa and College of Creative Arts, Massey University, Wellington, New Zealand, 19 - 21 February

Invited speaker, National Visual Art Education Conference, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, 21 January

2015

Panel discussion, Arts New South Wales Young Regional Artist Scholarship, Carriageworks, Sydney, 21 October

Panel discussion, Julia Margaret Cameron: Female Gaze, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, 14 October

Guest lecture, College of Creative Arts, Massey University, Wellington, New Zealand, 24 August

Symposium, Pedestrian, Reiner Hoff Project Space, National Art School, Sydney, 7 August

Public lecture, PSM Image Studies Lecture Series, Faculty of Design and Architecture, University of Technology, Sydney, 4 May

2014

Guest lecture, Photo Media, Faculty of Law, Humanities and the Arts, University of Wollongong, New South Wales

Artist talk, After Dark: Composing Art, Gold Coast City Gallery, Queensland, 1 May

Art Month & Justine Varga Present, Artists on Cinematic Influence: *L'Eclisse*, Golden Age Cinema, Sydney, 16 March

2012

Public lecture, The Lookout: Art Forum, Cellblock Theatre, National Art School, Sydney

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

2023

Nelson, Saul (exh. essay) for the exhibition *End of Violet* (Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne, March 2023), forthcoming

Richman, Lauren ed., *Direct Contact* (exh. cat.) (Sidney and Lois Eskenazi Museum of Art, Indiana University 2023), pp.22-23,51

2022

Potts, John 'What Does the Author Do?', *The Near-Death of the Author: Creativity in the Internet Age*, (Toronto University Press, 2022), pp.39-41

Batchen, Geoffrey *The Forms of Nameless Things: Experimental Photographs by William Henry Fox Talbot* (Oxford: The Bodleian Library, 2022), pp.73-74

2021

Ilec Kralj, Nataša, 'Justine Varga's Photographic Inscriptions: An Interview', *Membrana*, No. 6.2 (Ljubljana, 2023), pp.95-114

Hennessy, Kate 'An inscrutable and open-ended riddle: the life and art of Jeffery Smart', *The Guardian* (Australia, 10 December, 2021): <https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2021/dec/11/an-inscrutable-and-open-ended-riddle-the-life-and-art-of-jeffrey-smart>

Kubler, Alison ed., 'Masque' (photo essay), *Vault*, No. 36 (Melbourne, November 2021), pp.86-89

Baker, Kirsty 'Archives of Becoming: Justine Varga's Masque' (exh. essay) (Hugo Michell Gallery, Adelaide, November 2021): <https://www.hugomichellgallery.com/exhibition/2021-exhibitions/justine-varga/>

Palmer, Daniel and Jolly, Martyn 'Analogue Materiality', *Installation View: Photography Exhibitions in Australia (1848 - now)* (Perimeter Editions, 2021), pp.378-382

Ciesla, Rachel 'Memory, Place, Image: Photography in a Post-Truth Age', (essay), *PHOTO* (Melbourne, June 2021): <https://photo.org.au/channel/memory-place-image-photography-in-a-post-truth-age>

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