

MEDIA RELEASE



1 Art Gallery Way
Mosman NSW 2088 AUSTRALIA
02 9978 4178 mosmanartgallery.org.au

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Cordelia Beresford: *Disappointing Doll*

Mosman Art Gallery is pleased to present the work of Australian photo-media artist and cinematographer Cordelia Beresford from **30 March – 9 June 2019**. The video work titled *Disappointing Doll* will be exhibited in The Cube, the Gallery's dedicated space for video and experimental art.

Disappointing Doll is inspired by a photograph from a Sydney asylum c.1860: the image of a girl recorded only as 'Orphan child aged 3'. The two-channel video work explores how everyday female experiences have historically been deemed unworthy of intellectual consideration; and the twentieth century Austrian poet Rainer Maria Rilke's ideas on how children use dolls to seek boundaries of their own self. The piece combines gesture with cinematic devices to evoke a psychological space, one where shame and seclusion from the outside world lead girls in institutionalized care to stand in for imagined mothers, sisters and lovers; and where child's play can echo through the bodies of grown women.

Working between London and Sydney, Beresford's practice explores issues of mental distress and representations of the female body on camera, often collaborating with contemporary dancers. She has exhibited at major public institutions such as the Australian Centre for the Moving Image, Carriageworks, Performance Space, and Tramway in Glasgow, as well as commercial galleries, including Flowers Gallery (London), Double Negative (London) and Michael Reid Gallery in Berlin.

Beresford's screen-based work has been selected for numerous international festivals including Cannes, Moving Pictures Toronto and Edinburgh. Her short narrative films have won several awards including the Dendy Award at Sydney Film Festival and Best Film or TV work at the Australian National Dance Awards, and have also been nominated for the AFI Awards. Beresford has been supported by the Australia Council for the Arts, NSW Film & TV Office, and her work has been screened on both the ABC and SBS television.

Disappointing Doll will officially open, along with the group exhibition *Artists of Mosman: 2088* at an opening night event on Friday 29 March, 6.30pm.

Cordelia Beresford: *Disappointing Doll*

Where: Mosman Art Gallery, 1 Art Gallery Way, Mosman NSW 2088
On view: Saturday 30 March - Sunday 9 June 2019
Open: 7 days, 10am – 5pm (Wednesday 10am-5pm). Closed public holidays.
Tel: 02 9978 4178
Information: www.mosmanartgallery.org.au



Media contact

Public Program, Exhibitions & Media Officer, Jane Gillespie
j.gillespie@mosman.nsw.gov.au 02 9978 4186 m 0419 784 030

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