



Some sporting and recreational activities, such as surfing, dancing and Tai chi are inflected with powerful aesthetic and cultural associations. As with art, it is typically the most highly engaged practitioners that most enthusiastically promote these aesthetic qualities. Like artists, specialised devotees can find it difficult to verbally express what they do and why they do it, deferring instead to some sense of shared embodied knowledge accessible only to those who participate. And like in art, essentialisation is considered antithetical to idealisation.

For artists, it can seem that the kinds of people interested in sport are rarely the same kinds of people that are interested in art. Yet directly or indirectly, most of us participate in some way in the mass industrialisation of sport and leisure. Perhaps, however, if we look past competitiveness and monetisation, we might wonder if there is something bigger to be found in some of the more mundane and everyday aspects of sport and recreation. Do we compensate the individuation and hyper-specialisation of contemporary existence through the symbolic unity offered by sports clubs, teams and mass recreational events?

Many artistic and recreational activities are autotelic, insofar as the purpose of doing them is found in actually doing them. This exhibition seeks to illuminate something of our inclination toward play through the experiential realm of art. What is the place of art in relationships between work and recreation? Perhaps, if we reduce recreation to something necessary only to recharge before returning to work, we might ignore the value that non-work activities bring to our lives. Although not evenly distributed, perhaps recreation is what makes the rest of life feel meaningful.

Curated by Cūrā8

FEATURING

Andrew Barber, Sophia Cai, Jon Campbell, Judy Dalton & Cūrā8, Shaun Gladwell, Isabella Hone-Saunders, Sarah Rudledge, Nick Selenitsch, Mark Shorter, Peixuan Yang and Anne Zahalka

(see project8.gallery for more information)

RECREATION

25.02—

01.04.23

p r o j e c t 8

Wurundjeri Country
 Level 2, 417 Collins St, Melbourne VIC 3000
 11 am–6 pm, Wednesday–Saturday
project8.gallery

Clockwise from entrance

I

SARAH RUDLEDGE

Garden of Watery Delights, 2023

Digital print on Canson platine fibre rag

Hand-finished acrylic box with aluminium composite material panel backing

Image 100 × 200 cm, framed 112 × 212 cm

Edition 1–3 + 2 AP

\$7,800 framed, \$5,500 unframed each

2

ISABELLA HONE - SAUNDERS

“gains”, “sets”, “reps”... Between Body-Language and Body-Building, 2018

Installation, two-channel video 4' 38", bench press, various weights, Doherty's keyring, monogrammed sweat towel, grab rail, single dumbbell

POA

3

ANNE ZAHALKA

Santa's Kingdom Christmas Tunnel, Fox Studios, Sydney, 2003/04

Type C photograph, edition 9/12

115 × 145 cm

\$12,700 mounted and framed, \$12,000 print only

Courtesy of the artist and ARC ONE Gallery, Melbourne

4

PEIXUAN YANG

Hiking – Walking to the Blossom Land, 2012

Chinese ink and watercolour on rice paper

Image 150 × 73 cm, mount 162 × 83.5 cm

\$25,000

Yoyo, 2007

Chinese ink and watercolour on rice paper

Image 163 × 78 cm, mount 174 × 88.5 cm

\$15,000

5

SOPHIA CAI

I Will Wait for You Until 2025, 2023

Curated selection of BTS “merch,” memorabilia and fan-made goods from personal collection

Not for sale

6

ANDREW BARBER

UR Stardust, 2022

Found sand and pigment on linen

35 × 38 × 50 cm

\$5,000

Courtesy of the artist

7

JUDY DALTON & CŪRĀ8

Untitled (After Wimbledon), 2022

Video with sound, 4K ProRes, 23'24"

Concept and sound design: Cūrā8

Camera: James Wright from NON Studio

Voice recording: Paul Makina at Douglas FM

Audio mastering: Don Bartley

With special thanks to Rhonda and Frank Walker

Edition 1–3 + 2 AP

\$8,888 each

8

SHAUN GLADWELL

Reversed Readymade, 2016

Performance prop and 360 virtual reality video

1:1 replica of Duchamp's *Bicycle Wheel*, 1913

Cinematographer: Joseph Heks

Performer: Simon O'Brien

Producer: Leo Faber/BADFAITH

Not for sale

Courtesy of the artist and Anna Schwartz Gallery

9

MARK SHORTER

Drill 100, 2023

Performance, 10 March 2023, 6 pm

Lobster 401 tennis ball machine, 100 tennis balls, tennis netting, the artist

8 × 3 × 3 m

Duration: 30 minutes

POA

10

NICK SELENITSCH

H, I, J, K, L, M, N, P, 2022

Synthetic polymer paint on foam kickboards

All 22.5 × 31.5 × 4 cm

\$2,000 each

Courtesy of the artist and Sutton Gallery

11

JON CAMPBELL

Beach (Two Reclining Figures), 1986

Enamel paint, oil pastel

22 × 30.7 cm

Surfer (Grey Border), 2019

Watercolour, pencil

22 × 29.7 cm

Surf'n' Turf, 2008

Collage

30 × 21 cm

Driving Down to Wye River, 2002/03

Watercolour, coloured pencil

30.5 × 20.5 cm

Surfer (Purple Sky), 2019

Watercolour, pencil

22 × 29.7 cm

Surfer (Green Wall), 2018

Watercolour, pencil

21.2 × 29.7 cm

Surfer (Blue Wetsuit), 2018

Watercolour, pencil

21 × 29.7 cm

Beach (Relaxing), 1986

Acrylic and enamel paint

30.7 × 21.3 cm

Beach (Red Bikini), 1986

Acrylic paint, ink

30.7 × 21.3 cm

Beach (Group), 1986

Enamel and acrylic paint

22 × 30.7 cm

All \$1,210 each

Yeah/Mr. Football, 2009

Screenprint, cotton, hand stitched

200 × 120 cm

Edition 2/2, \$15,000

All works courtesy of the artist and Darren Knight Gallery