

KINGS Artist Run acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we operate. We offer our respect to Elders both past and present and extend this offer to all First Nations people.

KINGS

*Chloe Nolan and
Jaxon Waterhouse*
ENTIRELY
VALID ACTION

JUNE
30.05.24 - 30.06.24

Artist Run

Established in 2003, KINGS Artist-Run provides a location for contemporary art practice, supporting distinctive experimental projects by artists at all stages of their careers.

Open 12-5pm Thursday,
Friday, Saturday, Sunday
69 Capel Street,
West Melbourne VIC 3003

GALLERY TWO

Chloe Nolan and Jaxon Waterhouse Entirely Valid Action

Entirely Valid Action is a new body of collaborative work from artists Chloe Nolan and Jaxon Waterhouse exploring the judicial ‘trial by combat’ between man and woman, as depicted in the 14th century manuscript *Fechtbuch* penned by German fencing master Hans Talhoffer. Recreating episodes from Ingmar Bergman’s 1974 teleseries, *Scenes from a Marriage*, this exhibition traces the breakdown of a marriage within a medieval context, culminating in the ‘trial by combat’; a medieval means of separation/divorce.

Entirely Valid Action derives its title from a commonly used phrase in Dungeons and Dragons, which relates to the player’s choice to utilise a ‘free action’ despite its potential consequences as a game strategy. Drawing on this notion; alongside aesthetic motifs found across medieval tradition, vaudevill and LARPing, *Entirely Valid Action* is an exercise in canvassing the relationship between representation, re-enactment and the real.

List of works, L–R:

Innocence and Panic, 2024, acrylic on canvas, 45cm x 38cm

The Art of Sweeping Things Under the Rug, 2024, acrylic on canvas, 45cm x 38cm

Paula, 2024, acrylic on canvas, 45cm x 38cm

The Vale of Tears, 2024, acrylic on canvas, 45cm x 38cm

The Illiterates, 2024, acrylic on canvas, 45cm x 38cm

In the Middle of the Night in the Dark House Somewhere in the World, 2024, acrylic on canvas, 45cm x 38cm

Entirely Valid Action, single channel video loop, 35 minutes

CHLOE NOLAN is an artist based in Melbourne. Her practice oscillates between writing, video, installation and sculpture. The term rumination is central to her practice; functioning as both a psychological definition, but resonating with the pattern of churning, chewing and obsessing over questions surrounding what it means to perform which define her practice. Through collecting and recycling found and personal materials relating to popular culture, Nolan engages audiences in auto-theoretical narratives that propose there is power in vulnerability and exposure of one’s psychological state.

JAXON WATERHOUSE is an artist/researcher living in the remote Western Desert. Working across academic and contemporary arts frames, his work has been presented nationally and internationally across artist-run and institutional spaces, as exhibitions, performances, lectures, texts and interventions. Recent and upcoming shows include *Horizonites* (POP, SA), *Interstellar Return* (Impact) (WTS, NT), *Webbing* (BLINDSIDE, VIC). Together with his long-time collaborator, Chantelle Mitchell, he is Monash University’s Curator-in-Residence for 2023.

KINGS Artist-Run is generously supported by City of Melbourne through the Arts and Creative Partnerships Program, and Burnley Brewing and Heaps Normal through their ongoing drinks sponsorship.

