

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

*Priscille Xavier, Playte,
Nicholas Currie, Nisha Hunter,
Matisse Laida, Olivia Stephen*
NOW AND THEN

Curated by We Eatin' Good

POP-UP

02.04.25-05.04.25

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 - Sunday
69 Capel Street,
West Melbourne VIC
3003

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Matisse Laida, Olivia Stephen*

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Now and Then

Now and Then is an immersive exhibition that reimagines food as art, exploring gastro-sculpture and the ways intergenerational knowledge is preserved and transformed.

Through scent, taste, texture, and movement, *Now and Then* transforms KINGS into a living archive of culinary memory. The exhibition brings together artists working across sculpture, textiles, installation, and performance, using food as both material and medium to explore cultural resilience, migration, and shared histories.

At the heart of the exhibition sits a monumental vessel filled with gâteau piment, inviting visitors to partake in the act of eating as a means of connection. *Now and Then* asks: **how does food carry history? How does it move from one place to another, one hand to the next?**

Priscille Xavier of Châteaux Creole uses flavour as aphorisms to invite you into the open source of knowledge. She uses methods for igniting memory and resonance, all through the pleasure of discovery and devotion to Earth.

Playte are a gastro-architect duo who use local food as a tool to create site-specific experiences exploring the intersection between art, architecture, food security and Heritage.

Nicholas Currie's work features themes and subject matter of contemporary Australian Indigenous masculinity. These histories come from shared perspectives and are demonstrated with the use of colour, mark and the familiar objects. Iconic features of Currie's practice are the large-scale paintings created through mark making performances entrenched and achieved by the body through chance, rehearsed actions, playing with medium and culturally significant movements. To coincide these paintings on canvas is the sculptural and performance practice with the use of readymade material linking with iconography associated with the Australian Indigenous experience. As a result action in the space is the major linking aspect throw-out my whole practice if it be active with a performance or still with an artwork.

Nisha Hunter lives and works on Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Country.

Matisse Laida is a creative producer with a commitment to empowering and uniting underrepresented communities, particularly Queer, First Nations, Black, and people of colour. She founded We Eatin' Good, a collective that fosters connection and shared experiences through food and identity.

Olivia Stephen is a dynamic curator, artist and member of We Eatin' Good. Her multidisciplinary practice explores her Mauritian and Rodriguan heritage, using food and music to foster dialogue, shared knowledge, and community connection.

Artwork details (left to right):

GALLERY ONE

Playte constructs a gastro-sculptural installation of hung chillis—mapping the transitions of ingredients across geographies and generations

Priscille Xavier from Châteaux Creole activates the space with a live cooking performance, engaging audiences in the communal act of making and sharing food.

Nicholas Currie presents the tapestry *All My Cousins Eat Good*, weaving familial narratives of abundance and nourishment.

Curator **Olivia Stephen** collaborates across performances, helping to cook and facilitate shared experiences of food and storytelling.

GALLERY TWO

Nisha Hunter presents a turmeric-dyed tapestry, embodying the deep histories of spice and fabric as vessels of cultural transmission.

GALLERY THREE

Curator **Matisse Laida** prepares food throughout the exhibition, infusing the space with the scent of slow-cooked spices, activating sensory memory.

We Eatin' Good is a collaborative food platform dedicated to amplifying Queer and diverse voices at the intersection of food, art, and community,