KINGS

James Nunn

GORSELIGHT POURS

SEPTEMBER
10.09.26–04.10.26

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
12 - 4pm, Saturday - Sunday

69 Capel Street,
West Melbourne VIC 3003

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.

Artwork details:

Gorselight Pours, 2026, single-channel video, colour, sound, 0:11:22.

James Nunn

Gorselight Pours

What is gorselight? In 1736 the Swedish botanist Carl Linnaeus is riding through Putney Heath in London. The father of modern taxonomy, he sees a flowering gorsebush, falls to his knees and begins to weep. Or so they say. One year earlier Linnaeus releases the first edition of Systema Naturae, the breakthrough publication in his lifelong quest to name and classify all life, especially plantlife. Years later while walking through Dry Diggings, I see a gorsebush in bloom and hallucinate. Body-temperature liquid pours down the back of my head. The distance between the bush and I thickens like a substance. We remain locked in this position for some time. 'What is Gorselight?' asks Anne Carson. The first word from Paul Celan's Matière de Bretagne, gorselight instigates a failure in language, its materiality as it breaks down. And so I disguise myself as a gorsebush and hold a series of conversations and mock interviews with Carl Linnaeus. Together we question the practice of regulating and delimiting emotions through systems of classification. And we ask each other, what is gorselight?

James is interested in economies of affect and language. He is always searching for the spooky feeling. He works with autism poetics, scripted dialogues and semi-comprehensible vocalities to explore anarchival processes inherent to systems of neurological normativity. He is particularly interested in the increasing demand to auto-filter information and experience.

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