KINGS

Anna McDermott

A PLAY AND A MISTAKE

OCTOBER
15.10.26–08.11.26

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.

GALLERY TWO

Anna McDermott

A play and a mistake

A play and a mistake stages a scene to cause another.

The scene is this: an encore of misrecognitions
The scene is this: lilies shaved down to the bone.
The scene is this: persistence is our effort, giving up is the reward[1]

Evolving from a preoccupation with images that stick, and words that won't, *A play and a mistake*, contemplates how libidinal investments shape the contours of desire, memory, and meaning.

Ruminations upon a photograph that can't bear to be looked at, and a prefix that hesitates to be spoken, sees imagery and sound undergo a reduction operation[2], towards some kind of remainder.

Artwork details:

A play and a mistake, 2026, mixed-media installation: film still on Canson Rag in stained hardwood frame with inlay bungee strap; scanned drawing on matte floor vinyl, air-dry clay, aluminum ceiling hooks; single-channel video (00:03:59 loop), Gigaset tablet, dollies; sound (00:14:58 loop), Genelec speakers, BrightSign media player, nails, electrical cords; variable dimensions.

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1 Clarice Lispector, The Passion According to G.H., 1964, P186
2 See, Jacques-Alain Miller, Analysis Laid Bare, 2019

Acknowledgements
Thank you to Claudia, for lending their voice and energy to this project, and to Liquid Architecture, for their in-kind support.

Anna McDermott is an artist, arts worker, and writer based in Naarm/Melbourne, working across visual and performing arts contexts. Her practice traverses image-making, spatial practice, language and sound to contemplate how the body comes to be marked, inhibited and remade through choreographic systems. She is interested in what images and words do... and how this 'doing' may be undone.

Anna holds a Masters of Contemporary Art from the VCA, 2020, and a Bachelor of Fine Art, Honours from RMIT University, 2016. In 2017, she was awarded the Nillumbik Prize, and in 2020, the Fiona Myer Art + Australia Award.

Anna works as Executive Producer at Temperance Hall, and previously worked as Executive Producer at The Substation.

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