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Nextdoor Artist Run Initiative exists to champion the experimental practices of early career contemporary artists. Founded in 2020 by five emerging Brisbane (Meanjin) based artists, we endeavour to be the 'next door' for aspiring artists, providing opportunities for artistic development and personal growth. With a current focus on Queensland artists, our aim is to generate new and authentic art experiences, by facilitating the creation, exhibition and discussion of contemporary art.

THE WALLS ART SPACE

THE WALLS ART SPACE is located in Miami on Queensland's Gold Coast and is a regional Artist Run Initiative that was founded in 2013 by local artist Rebecca Ross. It is run by artists to support artists to present work that is experimental and innovative through its offerings of exhibition and studio space, performance events, publications and discussions. THE WALLS is an incorporated association and runs on a not-for-profit basis. THE WALLS' mission is to connect people with current and experimental art on the Gold Coast and to provide transformative art experiences and enrich the Australian cultural landscape.

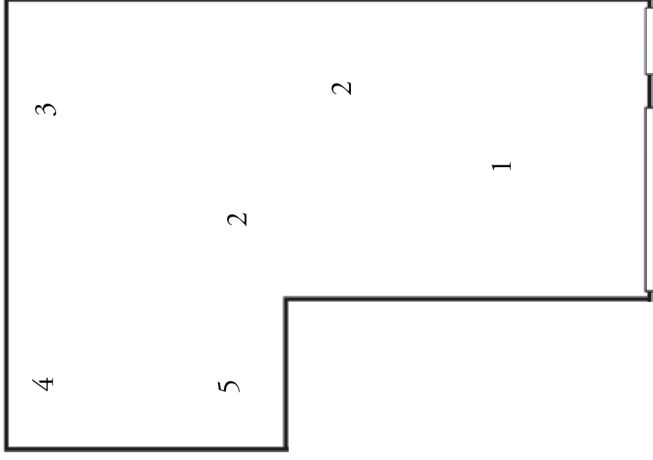
CITY OF
GOLDCOAST.

THE WALLS is supported by the City of Gold Coast through the Accelerate Triennial Grant Program.

THE WALLS acknowledge the YUGAMBEH people, the traditional owners of the land on which we operate, and pay our respects to their Elders past and present, and all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples on the Gold Coast today.

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Nextdoor ARI
The Walls
24th - 26th July 2020



1. **Rebirth: The Chronicle**, (2020), two-channel video, audio, bath tub, latex, 3 minutes 2 seconds.

Rebirth: The Chronicle is a two-channel video installation installed within a latex-coated bathtub from performance work, Domestic Metamorphosis. The videos depict the artist covering and uncovering herself with photographs of pink latex within a bathtub. The artwork is concerned with themes of life and death, as throughout the video the artist immerses herself within imagery of latex, a medium resembling the internal human body. The artist's conscious involvement with this medium suggests her awareness of her body's organic qualities. The two opposing representations of the artist can be interpreted as the living self and the deteriorating, natural self.

2. **Orifice**, (2020), latex installation on metal rings, 160x90cm; 128x78cm.

Orifice consists of two immersive installations comprised of flesh-like pink latex suspended from metal rings. The immersive qualities of the installations invite viewers to become acquainted with the internal body; stripping the human form of intellectual and dignifying qualities, and instead likening it to a natural form. Viewers may compare the installations to showers, contrasting the body's innate natural qualities with domestic habitats.

3. **Earth Belly**, (2020), single-channel video projection with audio and sand, 1 minutes 51 seconds.

Earth Belly is a single-channel video projection with audio depicting three varying perspectives of a beach, all of which merge with representations of the human body. This work aims to treat imagery of nature and the human body as interconnected and equal to echo ideals of ecocentrism. The presence of sand within the physical gallery space replicates this notion by inviting viewers to unite with nature on an even plane.

4. **In the Absence of Nature**, (2020), text projection onto latex sheet, with audio, 2 minutes 1 seconds.

In the Absence of Nature is an environmentally-concerned poem projected onto a suspended sheet of sheer yellowish, red latex. This work incorporates scientific facts regarding the similarities between humans and nature. By conveying facts poetically and controlling the rhythm and timing that they will be read, it is intended that viewers will be reminded of these commonalities.

5. **Peaceful Protest I**, (2020), acrylic paint, coloured photographs and latex on cardboard, 53 x 150cm

Peaceful Protest I is a multimedia collage presented as a protest sign. The photographs used in this collage depict a pink sheet of latex, used due to its resemblance to human flesh, skin or the internal body. This protest sign draws on the organic form of human anatomy to advocate for the body to remain within nature. Efforts to mediate imagery of the human body by substituting it for latex mimics humanity's efforts to remain distant from our natural surroundings.

(Online). **Domestic Metamorphosis**, (2020), performance involving the body, latex, and domestic bath tub, 7 minutes 19 seconds.

Domestic Metamorphosis is a performance whereby the artist ritualistically strips herself of layers of clothing and flesh-like latex strips while simultaneously adorning a bathtub with these latex items. Similarly to the accompanying two-channel video, the artist enacts a process of cleansing and 'skin-shedding' to reveal herself resembling a more organic form. The bathtub, covered in fleshy latex strips, remains as a remnant of this performance: juxtaposing the domestic space with the natural and organic qualities of the human body.

