

Michael Staniak

Biography

Michael Staniak was born in Melbourne in 1982 where he currently lives and works.

He obtained a BFA and a MFA from the Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne, as well as a BA in Digital Media Communications from the Middle Tennessee State University.

Staniak creates the paintings mostly by hand - he builds up texture with uneven layers of plaster and then paints the surface in a range of ways - his paintings bear an uncanny resemblance to flat digital prints. Indeed, one must view the works up close to perceive any texture or depth, and as such, they behave like contemporary trompe l'oeil paintings that baffle the senses. Some paintings do however utilize digital methods of output and in so doing create a dialogue between the two modes of production. His works explore a new aesthetic in painting, one which is influenced by digital technologies, including touch pads, smart phones, personal computing and the Internet.

In addition to Staniak's identification with an art-historical heritage that includes cave paintings, ancient marble reliefs, minimalism and drip paintings, he also adds to the legacy of Southern California's Finish Fetish artists of the 1960s and 1970s and the Light and Space artists of the same era.

Staniak was the protagonist of personal exhibitions at the Eduardo Secci Gallery, Florence (2018); Steve Turner Contemporary, Los Angeles (2017); Museum of Contemporary Art in St. Louis, St. Louis (2015); Annarunna Gallery, Naples (2015); Artereal Gallery, Sydney (2014).

Among the group exhibitions we mention the exhibitions at the galleries: Steve Turner Contemporary, Los Angeles (2018); Eduardo Secci Contemporary, Mexico (2018); Homeostatis Pavilion, São Paulo, Brazil; The Journal Gallery, Brooklyn (2017); Gertrude Contemporary, Melbourne (2016); Blain Southern, Berlin (2015); The Moving Museum, Istanbul (2014); Kunsthalle Wien, Vienna (2014); Horton Gallery, New York (2013); Northern Territory Center for Contemporary Art, Melbourne (2012).

In 2017, the Contemporary Art Museum of St. Louis published a monograph of his work, titled IMG_, which was then reported in numerous publications, including Artforum, Flashart Italy, Vault, Australia and Leap Beijing.

MICHAEL STANIAK

Born 1982 in Melbourne, Australia

Lives and works in Melbourne, Australia

EDUCATION

2011 MFA, Victorian College of the Arts University of Melbourne, Australia

2009 BFA, Victorian College of the Arts University of Melbourne, Australia

2003 BA, Mass Communication (Digital Media), Middle Tennessee State University, Tennessee

SOLO EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

2018

Fictions #2, curated by Domenico de Chirico, Eduardo Secci, Florence

2017

From Memory, Steve Turner, Los Angeles

Guidance, STATION, Melbourne

2016

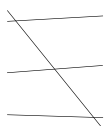
Anytime Anywhere, Steve Turner, Los Angeles

2015

New Surface, NKN Gallery, Melbourne

Solid State, Steve Turner, Los Angeles

IMG_, Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis, St. Louis



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Permanent Display, Annarumma, Naples

2014

Data loss, NKN Gallery, Melbourne

Slow Pictures, Arterreal Gallery, Sydney

Internet Blueprints, Art Brussels with Steve Turner Contemporary, Brussels

Image DNA, Steve Turner Contemporary, Los Angeles

2013

Standard Output, Block Projects, Melbourne

Instapaint, Paradise Hills, Melbourne

2012

Square of Heroes, Arterreal Gallery, Sydney

GROUP EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

2018

Alchemy, Steve Turner Contemporary, Los Angeles

STATION, Sydney, 36-40 Queen St, Woollahra, Sydney

Zona Maco, Eduardo Secci Contemporary, Mexico City

2017

Wrong Digital Biennale, Homeostatis Pavilion, Sao Paulo, Brasil

Spring 1883 Art Fair, STATION, Sydney

Homeostase, Centro Cultural Sao Paulo, Sao Paulo

Summer Sun, The Journal Gallery, Brooklyn

Nothing You Have To Understand, Galerie Mikael Andersen, Copenhagen

Art Brussels with Steve Turner, Brussels

Evolutionary Urge: 24h Sculpture, curated by Ursula Stroebele and Andreas Greiner, NAVEL, Los Angeles

Extracting/Abstracting, Steve Turner, Los Angeles

2016

UNTITLED Miami Beach with Steve Turner LA, Miami

Antiques Roadshow, curated by Mark Feary, Gertrude Contemporary, Melbourne

CODE with Steve Turner, Copenhagen

Seattle Art Fair with Steve Turner, Seattle

Dallas Art Fair with Steve Turner, Dallas

Face to Face, Palazzo Fruscione Salerno, Salerno

2015

I Was Once Loneliness, Blain Southern, Berlin

UNTITLED Miami Beach with Steve Turner, Miami

Expo Chicago with Steve Turner, Chicago

Extraction, Steve Turner, Los Angeles

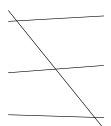
Hunted Projects: Works on Paper, Leo XIII, Tilburg, Netherlands

Post-Analog Painting, The Hole, New York

MiArt with Steve Turner, Milan

The Future of Memory, Kunsthalle Wien, Vienna

2014



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Refraction: The Image of Sense, Blain Southern, London
UNTITLED Miami Beach with Steve Turner, Miami
The Moving Museum, Istanbul
Blue Times, Kunsthalle Wien, Vienna
Art Bogota with Steve Turner, Bogota
Go With The Flow, The Hole, New York
Bien Ou Bien?, Moncheri, Brussels
The Salon is a Living Room, Fanny, Berta, Vienna
Zona Maco with Steve Turner, Mexico City
Dashboard, Kalpany, Milan

2013

Merge Visible, Horton Gallery, New York
UNTITLED Miami Beach Art Fair with Steve Turner, Miami
#Pseudoreal, Judith Charles Gallery, New York
Sydney Contemporary 13, Sydney
Ctrl Paste, New Low, Melbourne
Everything At Once, Paradise Hills, Melbourne

2012

Polarspace.org, Online Exhibition, Melbourne, New York
Primal Mutation, Northern Territory Centre for Contemporary Art, Darwin Not Fair, Melbourne

GRANTS, AWARDS AND RESIDENCIES (SELECTION)

2018

Fogo Island Arts residencies, Canada

2013

Australia Council Artstart Grant

□2010

Australian Post-Graduate Award

□2009

Stirling Group Award, Melbourne

□2008

Acacia Award, Melbourne

BIBLIOGRAPHY (SELECTION)

Print

2017

Michael Staniak: IMG_Jeffrey Uslip, Alex Bacon, Dave Walsh, Contemporary Art Museum, St. Louis, 2017. Monograph.
Australiana to Zeitgeist: An A to Z of Australian Contemporary Art, Melissa Loughnan, Thames and Hudson, London.

2016

Michael_Staniak.jpg, Alejandro Jassan, Elle Mexico, September.
Face To Face, Ernesto Esposito, Salerno, Exhibition catalogue.

2015

Feelings: Soft Art, Tracey Emin, John Baldessari, Ryan McGinley, Sarah Nicole Prickett, Simon Castets, Skira Rizzoli,

New York.

Post-Analog Painting, Kathy Grayson, The Hole, New York, Exhibition catalogue.

Michael Staniak, Annarumma/Napoli, Danzonello Tolve, Flash Art, Italian Edition, No. 321. May/June, 2015.

Postdigital Artisans, Jonathan Openshaw, Frame Publishers, Amsterdam.

New Currents: Material World, Denise Tsui, Art Asia Pacific, Issue 92, March / April, 2015.

2014

Peripatetic Art in Istanbul, Rebecca Anne Proctor, Harper's Bazaar, January-February, 2014.

Best of 2014, Nicolaus Schafhausen, Artforum, December.

Data Loss, Ashley Crawford, NKN, Melbourne, 2014. Exhibition catalogue.

10 Questions with Michael Staniak, Yasmin Nguyen, Vault, Issue 6, Melbourne.

The Wrong - New Digital Art Biennale. Review, Tim Gentles, LEAP Magazine, Beijing, Issue 26.

Merge Visible, Dawn Chan, Horton Gallery, New York, 2013. Exhibition catalogue.

Online

2018

Critic's Guide: Sydney, <https://frieze.com/article/critics-guide-sydney>, by Sarinah Masukor

2017

NYC Gallery Scene - New Shows to Know Through, Genevieve Kotz, July 16, 2017, Hamptons Arts Hub.

Exhibition // Evolutionary Urge: 24h Sculpture, Liam Casey, Berlin Art.

2016

Editorial Recommendations: Michael Staniak, Nyah Isabel Cornish, Ryder Ripps, Genie Davis, VisualArtSource.com.

Surface, Image, Reception: Painting in a Digital Age, Alex Bacon, Rhizome.

Stand-Out Booths at the Dallas Art Fair, Delphine De Causans, Whitewall.

Michael Staniak Interview, Jeffrey Uslip, MTV, Redefine.

Look Closely: It's a Painting, Not an Inkjet Print, Jennifer Noémie, Vice.

CAM St. Louis Chief Curator Jeffrey Uslip Named Deputy Director for Exhibitions and Programs, Robin Scher, Artnet.com.

2015

Untitled Art Fair Miami - The Fourth Edition of the Beach Show Ready to Kick Off, Angie Kordic, Widewalls.

Untitled - The Best Fair in Miami Beach, Sharon Loudon, TwoCoatsofPaint.com.

Abstract Art in Contemporary Creativity Presented in Group Exhibition at Blain Southern, Ricardo Martinez, Widewalls.

Five Artists Explore the Unconventional: Extraction at Steve Turner Gallery, Anika D., Widewalls.

Steve Turner Showing: Michael Staniak and Joaquin Boz, Angie Kordic, Widewalls.

Michael Staniak - Various Abstract Paintings, Bizarre Beyond Belief Magazine.

Paintings That Blur Pixel and Pigment, Eve Perry, Hyperallergic.

From Hieroglyphs to Screen Swipes: Michael Staniak's Paintings Track the History of Communication, Emily Rappaport Artsy.

Michael Staniak - Solid State, Steve Turner, Aujourd'hui.

Australian [Artists] Pop Up on Artsy and Sotheby's Online Experiment, Jane O'Sullivan, Australian Financial Review.

Artist Talk: Michael Staniak, Jeffrey Uslip Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis, youtube.com.

Australian Contemporary Artists Whose Work You Have To Follow, Angie Nordic, Widewalls.

Greetings from Milan: 10 Best Artworks from MiArt, Vin Della Cort, Fisk Frisk Magazine.

Michael Staniak, Annarumma/Napoli", Danzonello Tolve, Flash Art Online.

2014

Refraction. The Image of Sense, Jackie Wullschlager, Blain Southern Gallery, London, Financial Times.

In the Galleries: Art Around Melbourne, Dan Rule, The Sydney Morning Herald.

Australian Artist Michael Staniak Tops Phillips Paddles On! Auction, Nicholas Forrest, Blouin Artinfo.

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Michael Staniak Image DNA at Steve Turner Contemporary, Jens Hoffman, Mousse Magazine.
Auction Analysis: Under The Influence @Phillips, Ana Bambic Kostov, Widewalls.
The Wrong - New Digital Art Biennale. Review, Tim Gentles, LEAP Magazine online.
Must See Painting Shows: April, New American Paintings.

2013

Michael Staniak, Domenico de Chirico, Dust Magazine Online.
The Wrong - New Digital Art Biennale, Ofluxo.