



Hayley Millar Baker, *There we were all in one place*

Flinders University Museum of Art presents *There we were all in one place*, an early career survey of cross-cultural artist Hayley Millar Baker.

From 2016 to 2019 Hayley Millar Baker produced five photographic series. Made almost exclusively in black and white, the photographs use historical reappropriation and citation, in tandem with digital editing and archival research, to consider human experiences of time, memory and place.

Millar Baker's layered photographic assemblages affirm Aboriginal experience and culture within the Australian Imaginary to form a complex image narrative of place, family, identity and survival. Her work is informed by her Gunditjmara and cross-cultural heritage, grounded in research of the historical archive, and guided by a non-linear form of storytelling that sees past, present and future as an unbroken continuum.

There we were all in one place brings these five bodies of work together for the first time to consider the ways in which Millar Baker uses photography and storytelling to re-author history and assert the authority of memory and experience across generations.

There we were all in one place is extended by a catalogue with full work reproductions and essays by exhibition curator Stella Rosa McDonald, curators Hetti Perkins and Talia Smith and a commissioned poem by Gunditjmara poet and artist Vicki Cousins. The catalogue will be available to purchase in gallery and through partner venues and retailers.

Millar Baker's encrypted images purposefully elude easy categorisation or typecasting; they are cinematic, documentary, archival, and surreal still lifes. In much the same way, the lives of contemporary Aboriginal people resist stereotyping or pigeonholing... In constructing dioramas of the past, Millar Baker re-asserts her place in contemporary Australia as a Gunditjmara woman and emerges as the architect of her own identity.

"Girl, Interrupted", Hetti Perkins, *There we were all in one place*, published by UTS, 2021.

There we were all in one place is accompanied by a Learning Experience designed by curator and educator Emily McDaniel in consultation with the artist. Aimed at tertiary students across disciplines, the experience is designed to facilitate the development of personal connections to the work of Hayley Millar Baker and encourages participants to reflect on their own personal experiences, memories and understandings in relation to the themes and stories represented in the exhibition.

An online 'In Conversation' with Hayley Millar Baker and Ali Gumillya Baker is presented as part the FUMA iteration of 'There we were all in one place'. The 'In Conversation' program is an ongoing series of artist talks which engage with exhibition themes and contemporary art practice. Exhibition tours are available on the 18, 25 October; 1, 16 November and 1 December.

Link to download high-res images/credits: <http://bit.ly/HayleyMillarBakerMedia>

Interviews with the artist and curator available by request, contact:

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Exhibition dates: 4 October – 16 December

Header image: Hayley Millar Baker, *I'm the Captain Now, Untitled 8*, 2016, 20 x 20 cm, inkjet on cotton rag. Courtesy the artist and Vivien Anderson Gallery.