



Erica Seccombe, *BIG PINK*
30 October - 24 November 2019

In this new work I explore the saturated colour and the extravagant geometric structure and perfection of a common Dahlia. This multi-petalled variety has been derived through centuries of genetic manipulation to create an appealing and aesthetically perfect flower. Of course, the flower is simultaneously a reproductive organ, and a moment of transition and evolution in the plant's natural life cycle. Trying to capture the balance between the flower's hybrid artificiality and its sensuousity underpins these works. I would like people viewing *Big Pink* to be intrigued, to be seduced by the beauty of the dahlias and to reflect upon their relationships with plants, and the perilous state in which we find nature now.

The mirrored surfaces of the prints in *Big Pink* and the accompanying film, break down conventional ideas of perspective through the distortion of distance and fragmentation of images. In the reflective surfaces we can see ourselves and our environments through and around the image of the Dahlia. In the film, an optical illusion, a virtual flower rotates in the space before us and is reflected in the prints. The mirrors and film enhance the virtual experience of this work, but the Dahlia we see here is a *virtual* object in the true sense of the word. The flower is not mesh-framed, instead I have used 3D micro-CT scanning* to acquire volumetric datasets from a living flower. Rendering and visualising the virtual data in an opensource software called *Drishti* assists in recreating the living Dahlia in a permanent digital and virtual dimension.

Erica Seccombe is a visual artist based in the Canberra region and is an academic at the ANU School of Art & Design. Her practice spans from traditional and photographic print media and drawing to experimental digital platforms using frontier scientific visualisation software. Since 2006 she has been an artist and resident researcher at the ANU Department of Applied Mathematics and Vizlab, NCI, where she has been investigating time-resolved (4D) micro-X-ray Computed Tomography through immersive stereoscopic digital projection installations and 3D printing. Notably, Seccombe's work *Metamorphosis* (2016), won the 2018 Waterhouse Natural Science Art prize. In 2017 Seccombe was awarded the Capital Arts Patrons Fellowship, and in 2015 her work, *Virtual Life* (2014) won the Inaugural Paramor Prize: Art + Innovation, Casula Powerhouse Art Centre, Liverpool, NSW. She is currently a consultant for the Campbelltown Art Centre, Campbelltown Hospital Rebuild Project.
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Acknowledgments: Jose Smith, for her stunning Dahlia, Dr Ashley Latimer for her inspired 3D Micro-CT expertise, Jason O'Brien for his inkjet printing guidance, Ajay Limaye; *Drishti*: a volume exploration and presentation tool, ANU Department of Applied Mathematics, Vizlab, NCI, ANU Centre for Advanced Microscopy, and CT-Lab, ANU School of Art & Design, Inkjet Print Facility.

* 3D micro-X-ray Computed Tomography (3D micro-CT) records a fully three-dimensional map of X-ray opacity throughout the entire volume of the object, with microscopic resolution. The system developed at ANU delivers a resolution of two microns, which is approximately 100 times the resolution of a medical CT instrument.



Enjoy now. Pay later.
10 payments. 10 months.
No interest.





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FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:

1.
Valentina, 2019, inkjet print on mirrored composite board, 40 x 40 cm
2.
Siobhan, 2019, inkjet print on mirrored composite board, 40 x 40 cm
3.
Rowanne, 2019, inkjet print on mirrored composite board, 40 x 40 cm
4.
Seraphina, 2019, inkjet print on mirrored composite board, 40 x 40 cm
5.
Odessa, 2019, inkjet print on mirrored composite board, 40 x 40 cm
6.
Paloma, 2019, inkjet print on mirrored composite board, 40 x 40 cm
7.
Josephine, 2019, inkjet print on mirrored composite board, 60 x 60 cm
8.
Anna-Maria, 2019, inkjet print on mirrored composite board, 60 x 60 cm
9.
Helène, 2019, inkjet print on mirrored composite board, 60 x 60 cm
10.
Tiffany, 2019, inkjet print on mirrored composite board, 60 x 60 cm
11.
Sonia, 2019, inkjet print on mirrored composite board, 60 x 60 cm
12.
Fiona, 2019, inkjet print on mirrored composite board, 60 x 60 cm
13.
Jenny, 2019, inkjet print on mirrored composite board, 60 x 60 cm
14.
Roberta, 2019, inkjet print on mirrored composite board, 60 x 60 cm
15.
Talulah, 2019, inkjet print on mirrored composite board, 120 x 120 cm
16.
Cassandra, 2019, inkjet print on mirrored composite board, 120 x 120 cm
17.
Isabell, 2019, inkjet print on mirrored composite board, 40 x 40 cm
18.
BIG PINK, 2019, Single channel anaglyph 3D movie, 3min looped