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# PLANT + HUMAN 2019 - EXHIBITION

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**Steven Cavanagh | Liss Fenwick | Phillip George | Hayley Millar-Baker | Polixeni Papapetrou |  
Pony Express | Merri Randell | Diana Scherer | Erica Seccombe**

For many the intimate connection between humans and the botanical has often been assumed, overlooked or not even considered. For others, plants are revered and appreciated through the filter of cultural beliefs and practices. The artists in *Plant + Human* approach their vegetal subjects with intensity, exploring both our historical and contemporary entanglements with ecology.

The performance-driven work of Pony Express assumes an equality in the plant-human relationship that importantly considers plants as sentient beings. While, Merri Randell's *Touching the Mauri* (2018) acknowledges heritage and wellbeing through old growth trees.

Our inter-species relationship is formalised in the aesthetics of Erica Seccombe's series *Permutations* (2018). Phillip George, Steven Cavanagh and Polixeni Papapetrou each consider flora as a cultural symbol of life and death, beauty and abundance. While the photography of Hayley Millar-Baker and Liss Fenwick explore the politics of place, plants and human habitation.

Through art and nurture, Diana Scherer has created delicate laces from root fibres, designed to wrap or clothe the human body. It seems nature has trained our understanding of existence more than we realise.

### **Curator**

Allison Holland

### **Teaching & Learning Resource**

This learning resource for teachers, parents and students is closely aligned with the Australian Curriculum in the following areas:

- The Arts: Drama, Dance, Media Arts, Music, Visual Arts
- English: Literature
- Humanities and Social Science: History, Geography, Civic and Citizenship, ATSI Histories and Culture
- Science: Earth and Environmental Science, Biology

Download resource [here](#)

### **Additional Resources**

Exhibition Brochure I available [here](#)

Exhibition Brochure II available [here](#)

### **Exhibition Details**

ACP Project Space Gallery, 15 February – 27 April 2019

## Images:

Pony Express, *Exosex pinup boy #1*, 2016. Courtesy of the artists

Erica Seccombe, *Purity in form*, 2019. Courtesy of the artist

Polixeni Papapetrou, *Rhodora*, 2016. Courtesy of the artist's estate and Michael Reid Gallery, Sydney

Phillip George, *Eden*, 2012. Courtesy of the artist

Diana Scherer, *Rootbound #6*, 2017. Courtesy of the artist

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The Australian Centre for Photography acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we work and live. We pay our respects to the Elders past, present and future, and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

## INSTAGRAM







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