

# SELINA OU

I am a Chinese Australian visual artist, photographer, VCA Access Mentor & mother to two children who are nine and seven years old.

I was born in Malaysia and moved to Australia with my family when I was two years old.

I live and work in Naarm/Melbourne.

## Education

- 2001 Bachelor of Fine Arts (Honours), Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne  
1996–98 Bachelor of Fine Arts, Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne

## Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2022 *Neighbourhood Tales*, Sophie Gannon Gallery, Melbourne (forthcoming)  
2011 *New York*, Sophie Gannon Gallery, Melbourne  
2010 *Beside Myself*, GRANTPIRRIE Gallery, Sydney  
2008 *Mono/Mono*, Gallery Raku, Kyoto University of Art & Design, Japan  
*Japan Portraits*, Centre of Contemporary Photography, Melbourne  
2007 *Chile*, GRANTPIRRIE, Sydney  
2006 *Sakura Season*, Sophie Gannon Gallery, Melbourne  
2005 *Selina Ou: Photo Espana: Ciudad*, NH Madrid Nacional, Madrid, Spain  
2003 *Selina Ou, China* GRANTPIRRIE, Sydney  
*Work*, Uplands Gallery, Melbourne  
2002 *Enclosure*, Linden Arts Centre, Melbourne  
2001 *Ache*, TCB Artist Run Space, Melbourne  
2000 *Locate*, West Space Inc., Melbourne

## Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2022 *WHO ARE YOU: Australian Portraiture*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne; National Portrait Gallery, Canberra (forthcoming)  
2020 *Family Album*, Town Hall Gallery, Melbourne  
2018 *20/20: Celebrating twenty years with twenty new portrait commissions*, National Portrait Gallery, Canberra  
2013 *Melbourne Now*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne  
2011 *Conversations from here*, 3+1 Arte Contemporanea, Lisbon, Portugal.  
2010 *Gertrude Studios 2010*, Gertrude Contemporary, Melbourne  
2009 *'Til You Drop: Shopping A Melbourne History*, Keith Murdoch Gallery, State Library of Victoria, Melbourne  
2008 *Art as a Bridge: Tsuyoshi Ozawa, Selina Ou, paramodel*, Oyamazaki ArtFesta 2008, Asahi Beer Oyamazaki Villa Museum of Art, Kyoto, Japan  
*Basil Sellers Art Prize*, Ian Potter Museum of Art, University of Melbourne, Melbourne  
2007 *BLAST! The Influence of Manga and Contemporary Japanese Culture on Australian Artists*, Logan Art Gallery & Redcliffe City Art Gallery, QLD  
2006 *Light Sensitive: Contemporary Australian Photography from the Loti Smorgan Fund*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne  
2006 *Trans-versa; conversing across the south*, Museo de Arte Contemporaneo, Santiago, Chile  
2005 *The All-Australian Show*, curated by Tristian Koenig, Il Ponte, Rome, Italy  
*Outdooring* Senkukan Gallery, Tokyo, Japan  
*The Great Leap Forward*, Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne  
*Open Letter*, Asialink touring exhibition 2005–06, Gallery 4A, Sydney; National Gallery, Bangkok, Thailand; Metropolitan Museum, Manila, The Philippines; National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

## Commissions

- 2021 Commissioned artworks for Hyatt Centric Melbourne  
2018 Commissioned portrait of Professor Michelle Simmons, 2018 Australian of the Year. Funded by the National Portrait Gallery, Canberra  
2008 Oyamazaki Art Festa 2008, Asahi Beer Oyamazaki Villa Museum of Art / Kyoto University of Art & Design, Kyoto, Japan  
2006 Flash: Australian Athletes in Focus, National Portrait Gallery, Canberra / Melbourne Festival, Melbourne.  
Photographic commission from the Royal Australian Institute of Architecture for the Australian Pavilion at the 2006 Venice Architecture Biennale  
2003 Photographic essay for the 2004 Changchun, China, International Sculpture Symposium  
Annual Photographic Commission presented by Brunswick Street Bookstore and the Centre of Contemporary Photography, Melbourne  
2002 Company profile, Elenberg Fraser Architecture Firm  
2001 *Serving You Better*, commissioned artwork, Daniel Palmer and Russell Storer (eds), *Big: Australia*, no .44, Nov.

2002

### Awards and Grants

- 2009 Australia Council for the Arts, (Visual Art) Skills and Arts Development Grant – Greene St, New York City, USA, three-month studio residency
- 2008 Arts Victoria, International Cultural Exchange Grant
- 2006 Australia Council for the Arts, New Work – Established Grant
- 2005 ANZ Emerging Artist Award
- 2003 Australia Council for the Arts, (Visual Art) Skills and Arts Development Grant – Tokyo Artist Residency  
The City of Hobart Art Prize 2003 Photography
- 2002 The Pat Corrigan Artists' Grant, NAVA, 2002
- 1998 George Hicks Award, VCA School of Art Awards, 1998

### Residencies

- 2011 Australia Council for the Arts, Greene Street, New York City, three-month studio residency
- 2010–11 Studio Residency, Gertrude Contemporary, Melbourne,
- 2008 *Art as a Bridge*, Oyamazaki ArtFesta 2008, Asahi Beer Oyamazaki Villa Museum of Art and the Kyoto University of Art & Design, Kyoto, Japan
- 2007 *Women in Research*, two-week artist in residence, Monash University, Melbourne
- 2006 South Project, *Trans-versa: conversing across the south*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Santiago, Chile
- 2005 Australia Council for the Arts, Tokyo studio residency, Japan
- 2004 The Pat Corrigan Artist Residency, Gold Coast, QLD
- 2001 Artist in Residence, Eltham Secondary College, Melbourne

### Professional Experience

- 2020– VCA Access Mentor, Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne
- 2019 Sessional tutor, VCA Design, Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne
- 2007– Photographer, part-time, Photographic Services Department, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- 2001– Freelance photographer
- 2007 Sessional tutor, Photomedia – School of Fine Art, Monash University Melbourne.  
Sessional tutor, Media Arts, R.M.I.T., Melbourne.
- 2003 Outreach Education Program, Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Melbourne
- 2002 Member of Damp, Melbourne artists collective

### Bibliography

- Brett Adlington, catalogue essay, *Blast!: The Influence of Manga and contemporary Japanese culture on Australian artists*, exh. cat., Redcliffe City Council Library/Gallery Complex, QLD, 2007.
- Edward Colless, 'Smart Art', *Australian Art Collector*, no. 26, Oct.–Dec. 2003, p. 83.
- Edward Colless, *Icy Immortality: Simone Ewenson and Selina Ou*, exh. cat., Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces, Melbourne, 2003.
- Mario Cresci, *Future Images*, 24 ORE Motta Cultura srl, Milan, Italy, 2009, pp. 198–9.
- Zelda Cawthorne, 'Destination Changchun', *Poster*, no. 4, Jan. 2004, pp. 62–70.
- Ashley Crawford, 'Downtown', *Australian Art Collector*, no. 45, July–Sep. 2008, pp. 140–5.
- Isobel Crombie, 'Here and Now: Contemporary photography in Australia', *Light Sensitive: Contemporary Australian Photography from the Loti Smorgon Fund*, exh. cat., National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne 2007, pp.7–23, 30–1.
- Blain French, 'The Anthropological Impulse: More Thoughts on Contemporary Photography', *Broadsheet: Contemporary Visual Arts and Culture*, Feb.–May 2004, pp. 27–31, and *Out of Time: Essays Between Photography & Art*, Contemporary Art Centre of South Australia, 2006, pp. 34–42.
- Blair French, 'Picture Perfect: New Australian Photo-Artist 1998', exh. cat., Australian Centre of Photography, Sydney, 1998.
- Robyn Gower, 'Creative: photography series 01', Sights and Sounds, *Australian Creative*, June/July 2003, pp. 42, 43.
- Nicki Harvey, 'Selina Ou', *Arts Hub*, December 2006.
- Tamar Heath, 'Made in Japan: Roving Eye, Series by Selina Ou', *Big Issue*, no. 311, 26 Aug. – 8 Sep. 2008, pp. 24–7.
- Larissa Hjorth, 'Red balloons, tall poppies and other vertiginous vernaculars', *Selina Ou: China*, exh. cat., GRANTPIRRIE Gallery, Sydney, 2003.
- Anneke Jaspers, catalogue essay, *Flaming Youth*, exh. cat., Orange Regional Gallery, Orange, NSW, 2006, pp. 6–9, 15.
- Tristian Koenig, 'Value Added Capital', exh. cat., Westspace, Melbourne, and Gallery 4A, Sydney, 2002.
- Sam Leach, 'Selina Ou', *Artist Profile*, summer 2007, pp. 20–2.
- Dr Anne Marsh, *Doing Feminism: Women's Art and Feminist Criticism in Australia*, Melbourne University Press, Melbourne 2021.
- Dr Anne Marsh, *Look: Contemporary Australian Photography since 1980*, MacMillan, Melbourne, 2010, p. 94.

- Dr Chris McAuliffe, 'Life, Shadow and Spectacle: An Overview of Art and Sport in Australia', Basil Sellers Art Prize, exh. cat., Ian Potter Museum of Art, University of Melbourne, 2008, pp. 6–11, 26–7.
- Dr Chris McAuliffe, 'Surburbia Revisited', *Surburbia Photofile*, no. 69, Aug. 2003, pp. 24–5.
- Pablo Lopes Medel, 'PhotoEspaña', *Foto Revista*, no. 270, June 2005, pp. 38, 66, front cover.
- Robert Nelson, 'The Look: Lisa Gipton, Selina Ou, Mariko Mori, Cherine Fahd', Trade, *Photofile*, no. 65, May 2002, pp. 26–7.
- Monte Packham, 'ANZ Emerging Artists Program: Selina Ou', *Art and Australia*, vol. 34, no. 1, spring 2005, pp. 160, back cover.
- Daniel Palmer, 'Between Place and Non Place: the poetics of Empty Space', *Fresh Photofile*, no. 62, Apr. 2001, p. 48.
- Daniel Palmer and Kate Rhodes, 'Between Place and Non Place', exh. cat., VCA & CCP, Melbourne, 2001.
- Daniel Palmer and Russell Storer (eds), 'Serving You Better', Australia, *Big Magazine*, no. 44, Nov. 2002, pp. 86–91.
- Nikos Papastergiadis, 'TheSpace for Reflection', Leica/CCP Documentary Photography Award, exh. cat., Centre of Contemporary Photography, Melbourne, 2003.
- Kate Rhodes, 'Serving You Better: Selina Ou in Japan', *Sakura Season*, exh. cat., 2006.
- Kate Rhodes, 'Work It.', *Surburbia Photofile*, no. 69, Aug. 2003, pp. 42–7.
- Zara Stanhope, 'On The Street', *Selina Ou: Chile*, exh. cat., Sophie Gannon Gallery, Melbourne, 2008.
- Zara Stanhope, 'Take a Good Look at my Face; 'Love at First Sight': artists and their relationship with the camera', *Eyeline; contemporary visual arts*, autumn/winter 2003, front page, pp. 26–9.
- Linda Williams, 'Art & The Idea of the Animal', *The Idea of the Animal*, exh. cat., RMIT Gallery and the Melbourne International Arts Festival, Melbourne, 2006, pp. 5–9, 17.
- Rika Yamashita & Junichi Yamashiro, 'Document: Selina Ou' & 'The photographer walks around town and gazes at people', *Art as a Bridge*, exh. cat., Asahi Beer Oyamazaki Villa Museum of Art and the Kyoto University of Art & Design, Kyoto, Japan, 2008, pp. 54–85.

### **Collections**

National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne  
 National Gallery of Australia, Canberra  
 National Library of Australia, Canberra  
 Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney  
 National Portrait Gallery, Canberra  
 Pat Corrigan Collection, Australia  
 City of Boroondara Collection, Melbourne  
 City of Hobart Collection, Hobart  
 Monash Gallery of Art, Melbourne  
 Penrith Regional Gallery, Penrith, NSW  
 The Esk Collection, Hobart  
 Australia Council for the Arts  
 Auscorp, Sydney  
 Artbank, Australia  
 The Joy of Giving Something Incorporated, New York, USA  
 The UBS Collection, Zurich, Switzerland  
 Museum of Contemporary Art, Santiago, Chile  
 Asahi Beer Oyamazaki Villa Museum of Art, Kyoto, Japan  
 Gold Coast City Gallery, Gold Coast, QLD  
 Private collections

### **Current Representation**

Sophie Gannon Gallery  
 2 Albert Street, Richmond, VIC, 3121  
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