

Memory Playgrounds

“Yesterday is but today’s memory, and tomorrow is today’s dream.”

- Kahlil Gibran

What do you remember?

What do you forget?

What creates a memory?

Featuring the works of emerging artist, Kayley Martinez, *Memory Playground* aims to explore how awe and wonder impact upon memory. As our lives progress, we find our memories shifting and changing as we forget small details or alter the interpretation of our truth. This is something we all experience as we move through different stages of our lives. Featured at the Intermission Gallery at Monash University, the exhibition highlights these concepts by linking into the University acting as a gateway into future pathways. Instead of portraying these concepts as problematic or worrying, *Memory Playground* embraces the wonder behind the ever-changing, growing and magical qualities of memory and its impact upon our lives. Through the use of stimuli and an interactive environment, this exhibition aims to allow the audience the opportunity to reminisce on the past, the joy of childhood and reflect upon the wonder of our memories.

Melbourne based artist, Kayley Martinez, works with a variety of media to explore the core themes of awe, wonder, memory, childhood and light. Martinez’s works predominantly encapsulate light as a core material. Through this, the artist explores how light can be manipulated and directed to evoke emotions, ideas, and memories in the viewer. Martinez states that:

“My work often explores our emotional response to light, colour and the abstracted world. Through interactive and immersive light installations, I want to foster experiences that rekindle our inner-child, evoking awe and wonder.”

Memory Playground celebrates two large scale installation works created by Martinez. These two works incorporate different materials to evoke a range of emotional responses. Across the two rooms, the works enable the viewer to move through a journey from childhood and past memories in the interactive installation work *Nostalgia*, to a reflective space in the everchanging light of *Glimpse*. This highlights a contrast between past and present, as well as a reflection upon the similarity between the uncontrollable nature of light with that of memory. The artworks are accentuated by the innovative exhibition design to bring alive the viewer’s inner child whilst also allowing space for reflection.

Memory Playground welcomes you into an interactive artistic experience. With the imaginative art exhibition layout, the curator encourages you to walk through, touch and be a part of the exhibits. Through the emotions evoked in the creation of the artworks by Kayley Martinez, the viewer is encouraged to reflect upon their own memories and experiences. The exhibition aims to create a wonderland of beauty, wonder and joy.

THE VIEWER IS ENCOURAGED TO INTERACT WITH THE EXHIBITS.

Kayley Martinez

Melbourne, Australia

Nostalgia

2018

Cellophane and Wire

Building upon the artists core themes of joy, awe and wonder, *Nostalgia* creates an environment which evokes childhood memories and emotions. Originally created to reflect the plastic strips which hang down in front of the doors of milk bars and fish and chip shops, the artwork builds upon some of the key memories experienced by the artist in her childhood. Through experiencing the artists own take on childhood wonder, the viewer is permitted to reflect upon their own childhood memories.

This not only allows reflection upon the past, but also a reliving of the joy and wonder of childhood by the interactive environment. Through this the artist and curator encourage the viewer to move through the artwork, interact with it and be a part of it.

Kayley Martinez

Melbourne, Australia

Glimpse

2022

Projector and Reflective Surfaces

“I’m fascinated by light as a material; it is the most complex and unique substance in the universe. It reflects, refracts, bends, and stretches into different colours.”

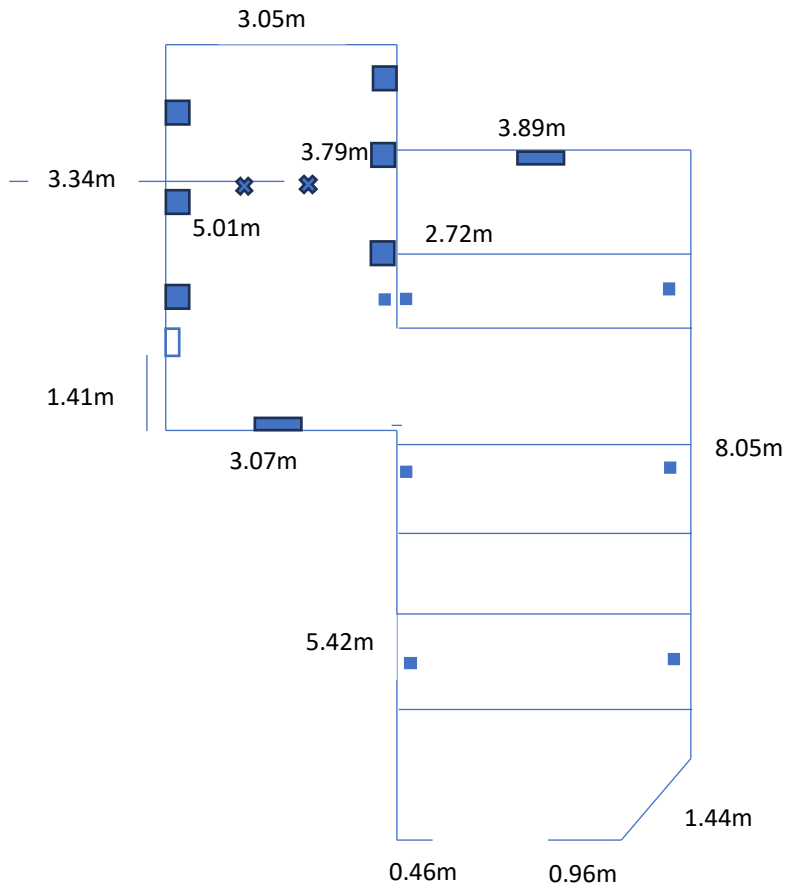
- Kayley Martinez

Through the utilisation of light from a projector, *Glimpse* explores the everchanging quality of light as it is reflected off two hanging discs. With the aid of a spinning disk the rotation of these two reflected surfaces creates an atmosphere within the space that never remains the same.

Within the context of the exhibition, *Glimpse* reflects the constantly evolving state of memory. In addition, this space provides an opportunity for viewers to sit and contemplate the concept of memory and the wonder it can evoke.

Intermission Gallery, Monash University

Floorplan 2023:



Key:

- = PowerPoints
- = Seats
- = Nostalgia Wire
- = Projectors on Shelf

25m of Wire needed.

6-8 crates.

Wire placed about 1m apart leaving room for doorway? More space at the end for projector to effectively work.

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