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M. 33 **YOUNG HENRYS**

EXHIBITION PARTNERS



PIXEL PERFECT

THIS PROJECT HAS BEEN ASSISTED BY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT THROUGH THE AUSTRALIA COUNCIL, ITS ARTS FUNDING AND ADVISORY BODY.

GOVERNMENT PARTNERS



PROJECT SPACE GALLERY

72 Oxford Street, Darlinghurst NSW 2010
Tues to Fri 10 am - 6 pm, Sat 10 am - 4 pm
Closed public holidays. Free entry

ACP WORKSHOP

National Art School, Cnr Forbes & Burton Sts,
Darlinghurst NSW 2010



Cherine Fahd A Portrait is a Puzzle

6 April - 26 May 2018



AUSTRALIAN
CENTRE
FOR PHOTOGRAPHY

ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

Each work in this exhibition is a unique piece in the puzzle of Cherine Fahd's ongoing self-portrait. Merging her own identity with those of others, Fahd reveals, disguises, universalises, and empathises. Separated into four series, Fahd's artists, hipsters and glamorous celebrities elicit our adaptive unconscious. They question the veracity of first impressions and the norms that produce social stereotypes. In *Shadowing portraits*, the artist playfully asserts her position amongst noted Australian photographers and art critics, promoting their identity while retaining her anonymity.

For 'You look like a ...', Fahd initially persuaded her brothers Kristan and Matthew to be her initial subjects. Terrorists or urban hipsters? All the men in this series sport beards as a lifestyle choice, not as a religious, cultural or political comment. Our response to this current trend for facial grooming is influenced by the disquiet of current global events, while also reflecting our national fascination with the outlaw Ned Kelly.

Interestingly, if you live in the Arab world as one of my brothers does, dark skin, thick eyebrows, dark eyes and a beard constitute the desirable norm. However, in Australia it's far from typical. While being Australian guarantees all the subjects in my portraits the rights of Australian citizenship, they cannot escape the heritage of their appearance.

Cherine Fahd, 2018

In the series *I was half French, half Australian* it is the blink of the artist's eye that disrupts our ability to 'thin slice'. For these unsettling and humorous portraits, Fahd has merged her features with Australian celebrities and French intellectuals to create dream-portraits. Here the artist's Lebanese background coalesces with vestiges of past, as well as continuing, colonial agendas. These animations oscillate between self and other, familiar and unknown, in effect creating a collection of 'un-portraits'.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Cherine Fahd (b.1974) lives and works in Sydney, Australia.

Since 1999, she has produced an extensive range of photographic work presenting a contemporary approach to the genre of portraiture. Her work is typically created in series, creating typologies of people, actions and themes that explore the body, concealment, and the performance of identity.

Fahd's extensive exhibition history includes major public institutions in Australia, such as the National Gallery of Victoria, the Art Gallery of New South Wales and the Australian National Gallery. Globally the artist's work has been displayed at Recontres Internationales de la Photographie, Arles, Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography, Tokyo and Haifa Museum of Art, Israel.

Her work is represented in national and international public, private and corporate collections. She has been the recipient of numerous New Work Grants from the Australia Council for the Arts, with some of these works included in this exhibition. The art awards and residencies Fahd has secured include the NSW Women & Arts Fellowship from Arts NSW (2005), Josephine Ulrick and Win Schubert Foundation for the Arts Photography Award (2004), National Photography Prize (2010) and the Moya Dyring Studio from the Art Gallery of New South Wales (2003).

ASSOCIATED PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Cherine Fahd in Residence: New work development

Friday 13 & Thursday 19 April 1pm - 5pm

Saturday 5 & Friday 11 May, 1pm - 5pm

The artist has initiated a new project, *Two eyes, a nose and a mouth*, especially for the ACP Project Space Gallery. This project continues Fahd's interest in photographic portraiture, the human face and appearance, and the ways in which we 'make' and 'mask' ourselves for the camera.

On select days, Fahd will collect the 'faces' of willing participants, which will inform her invention of 'hybrid faces'. Your eyes, nose and mouth will be mixed and matched into a series of photographic animations.

When the artist is not in residence, you are welcome to create your own portrait and contribute to *Two eyes, a nose and a mouth* by uploading your photos to Instagram **#FahdWorkInProgress** and **@cherinefahd**

Photo Insight for Teachers

Monday 23 April 2018 from 10am - 4pm

Over morning tea, teachers will have the opportunity to meet Fahd and discuss her approach to photography. A lecturer at University of Technology, Sydney the artist offers practical ways to engage with students of photomedia. Led by ACP Curator Allison Holland, this Professional Development event will also consider the significance of the digital image in a society fixated on social media.