

The American Dream | 2023

The American Dream | 2023 showcases the creative works of **Jenni SKINNER**

This exhibition documents the condition of the American dream under late capitalism, incorporating the collapse of neoliberalism and the rise of populism in an inclusive contemporary contribution to the burgeoning manifesto of American documentary photography.

Officially opened by Associate Professor **Lyndall ADAMS** & Dr **Nicola KAYE**

Gallery25

Opening: 5-7pm 8 March
Exhibition dates: 9 March to 6 April
Gallery opening hours: Tuesday to Friday 10:00am to 4:00pm and by appointment
Artist floor talk: 15 March 12.30-1.30pm
Building 10, 2 Bradford St, Mount Lawley

ECU Galleries acknowledges the traditional custodians, the Whadjuk Noongar people, and elders past and present. We pay our respects for the great privilege of living, making and researching on these unceded lands.

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Artist's Statement

The American dream documents the condition of the American mythology under late capitalism, incorporating the collapse of neoliberalism and the rise of populism in an inclusive contemporary contribution to the burgeoning manifesto of American documentary photography. Through a reflexive, practice-led and ethnographic praxis this research examines the ways in which capitalism has woven itself into the American mythology and national identity, and critiques the efficacy of finding liberation through the participation in consumer culture. Capitalism has been a seemingly unstoppable force in America, but after several economic collapses and an ever-increasing unequal distribution of wealth, its permanence is now uncertain. This decline is reflected in the condition of the American dream, and in the American consciousness. These photographs provide both a critique of contemporary capitalism and a deeply personal account of America by means of a twenty thousand mile road trip.

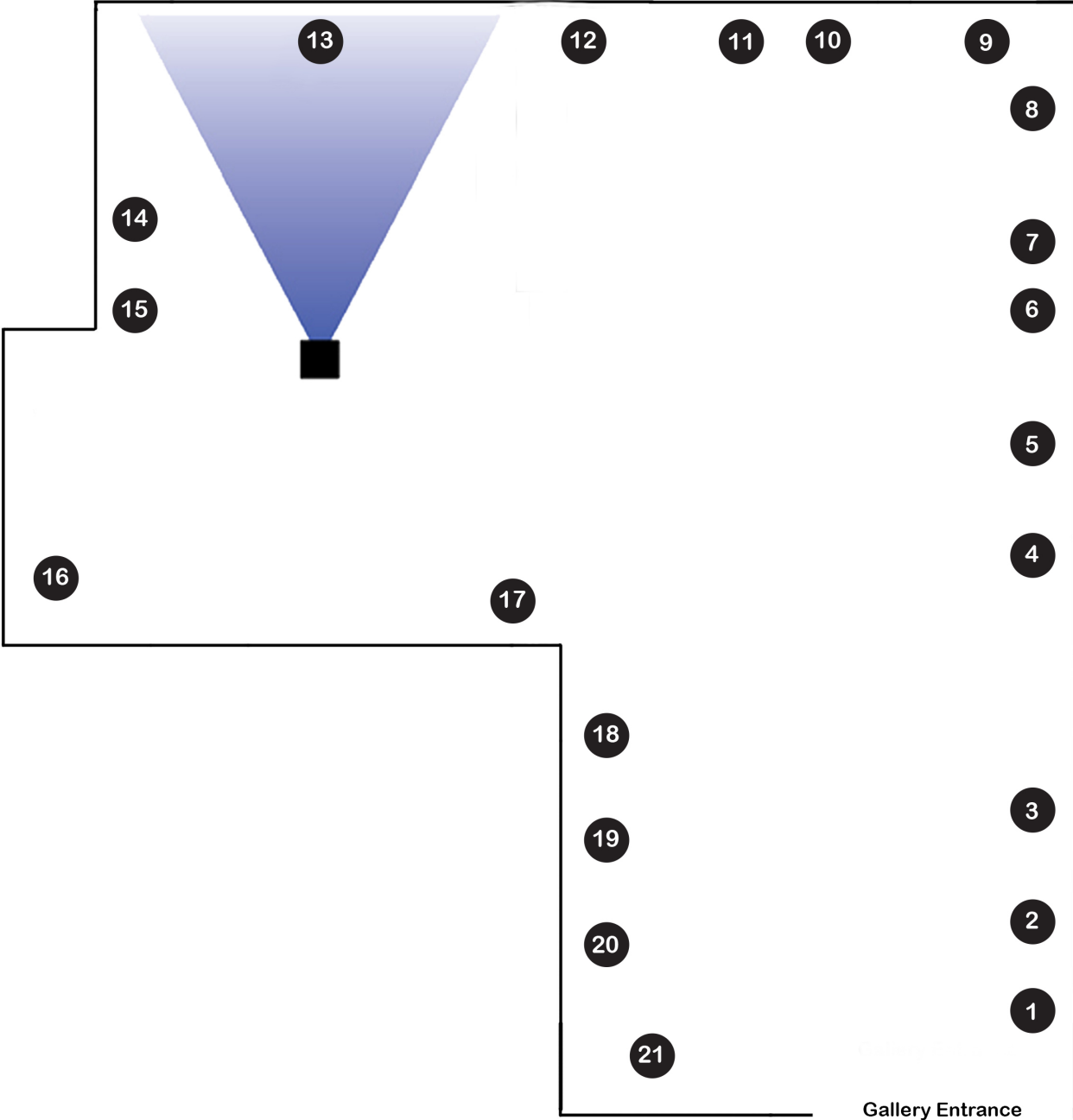
Biography

Jenni Skinner is a Perth based artist and researcher, interested in exploring the intimate and cultural aspects of modern life, in particular class and identity under the conditions of advanced globalisation and more broadly the wealth of the Western world. Her practice incorporates social and personal documentary photography to investigate the visual tropes of capitalism and to create a satirical critique of contemporary consumer behaviour. Skinner has studied film and photography at Edith Cowan University, graduating with Honours and a PhD in Arts and Humanities in 2023.

Contact Information

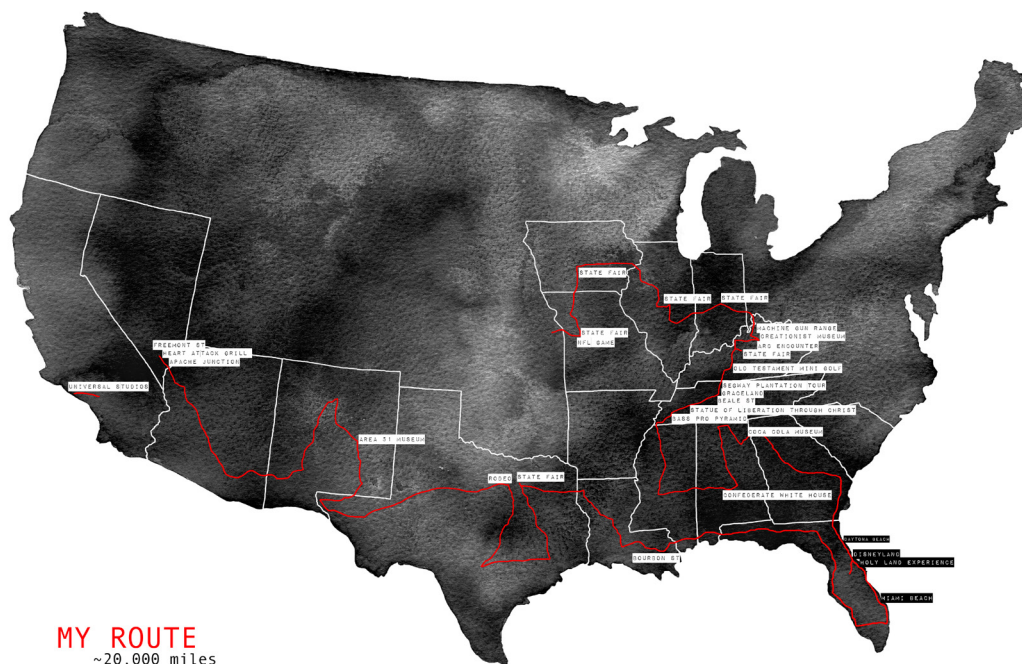
Email: skinnertilt@gmail.com

Instagram: [@jenniskinner](https://www.instagram.com/jenniskinner)



List of Works

- 1 **Midway**, 2019, photograph on Ilford textured cotton rag with Epson ultrachrome pigment, 1189x1189mm, \$600
- 2 **Turkey Legs**, 2019, photograph on Ilford textured cotton rag with Epson ultrachrome pigment, 1189x1189mm, 600
- 3 **State fair**, 2019, photograph on Ilford textured cotton rag with Epson ultrachrome pigment, 1189x841mm, \$600
- 4 **Texas wheelers**, 2019, photograph on Ilford textured cotton rag with Epson ultrachrome pigment, 1189x841mm, \$600
- 5 **Return to Christ**, 2019, photograph on Ilford textured cotton rag with Epson ultrachrome pigment, 1189x841mm, \$600
- 6 **Bucket drummer**, 2019, photograph on Ilford textured cotton rag with Epson ultrachrome pigment, 1189x841mm, \$600
- 7 **Chicken flag**, 2019, photograph on Ilford textured cotton rag with Epson ultrachrome pigment, 1189x841mm, \$600
- 8 **Monster truck**, 2019, photograph on Ilford textured cotton rag with Epson ultrachrome pigment, 841x1189mm, \$600
- 9 **My president**, 2019, photograph on Ilford textured cotton rag with Epson ultrachrome pigment, 841x1189mm, \$600
- 10 **Trump mask**, 2019, photograph on Ilford textured cotton rag with Epson ultrachrome pigment, 841x1189mm, \$600.
- 11 **Bach nap**, 2019, photograph on Ilford textured cotton rag with Epson ultrachrome pigment, 841x1189mm, \$600.
- 12 **Saturn V**, 2019, photograph on Ilford textured cotton rag with Epson ultrachrome pigment, 841x1189mm, \$600.
- 13 **Road trip**, 2023, projection (9mins 26secs)



- 14 **Eat**, 2019, photograph on Ilford textured cotton rag with Epson ultrachrome pigment, 841x1189mm, \$600.
- 15 **Texas disco**, 2019, photograph on Ilford textured cotton rag with Epson ultrachrome pigment, 841x1189mm, \$600.
- 16 **Cowboy**, 2019, photograph on Ilford textured cotton rag with Epson ultrachrome pigment, 841x1189mm, \$600.
- 17 **Guns diptych**, 2019, photograph on Ilford textured cotton rag with Epson ultrachrome pigment, 1189x841mm (2 x 594x841mm), \$600.
- 18 **Holyland diptych**, 2019, photograph on Ilford textured cotton rag with Epson ultrachrome pigment, 1189x841mm (2 x 594x841mm), \$600.
- 19 **Dogs diptych**, 2019, photograph on Ilford textured cotton rag with Epson ultrachrome pigment, 1189x841mm (2 x 594x841mm), \$600.
- 20 **Landscapes diptych**, 2019, photograph on Ilford textured cotton rag with Epson ultrachrome pigment, 1189x841mm (2 x 594x841mm), \$600.
- 21 **Trump shed**, 2019, photograph on Ilford textured cotton rag with Epson ultrachrome pigment, 841x1189mm, \$600.