

# In Deep|2021

In the exhibition **In Deep**, artists **Penny COSS** and **Sylvia GRIFFIN** explore ideas of impermanence, memory and transformation. The works speak to notions of deep time, as suggested in their use of materiality – such as marble, ash, graphite powder and pigments - and the emotional impact of swift destruction.

To be officially opened by **Sandra MURRAY**, Artistic Director/  
Lead Curator, Sculpture at Bathers

## Gallery25

Opening event: 21 October 2021 5pm - 7pm  
Exhibition dates: 22 October - 11 November 2021  
Gallery opening hours: Tuesday to Friday 10am - 4pm  
CREAtec Floor Talk: 27 October 2021 12:30pm - 1:30pm  
Building 10, 2 Bradford St, Mount Lawley

For any sales enquiries for artwork by Penny Coss, please contact  
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For any sales enquiries for artwork by Sylvia Griffin, please contact  
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ECU Galleries



## Artist Bios

**Penny COSS** is best known for her expansive stain paintings that are site responsive and align with a bodily presence most typically within the landscape. She references geology, biology and the gravitational forces of water. Dialectical oppositions dominate Penny Coss' artistic practice: an interest in the impermanence of art as object, where changing colours in nature are stained onto her canvas works with their traces of seepage and flow triggering the unreliability of objects and phenomena that prompt memory. Other themes include time and space, nature and culture, original and derivative; that all dynamically interact with each other. There is an optimism in Coss' practice demonstrating a mutual dependency between our daily lives and works of art, integrating her distinctive approach to her encounters in the landscape that is contingent on an intuitive way of making.

Coss was born in Sydney, and graduated from College of Fine Arts, University of New South Wales and undertook further studies at St. Martins School of Art, London, before moving to Perth in 1994. Coss is represented in multiple public and corporate collections. She has shown her work extensively across Australia and internationally in Japan, Singapore, Ireland and New Zealand. Her work is held in international institutions and collections including the Itami Arts Museum, Osaka, Japan, in Singapore and corporate and public collections in Australia. In 2016 Coss was commissioned by Perth International Airport to produce two 64 metre glazed artworks and an immersive video installation was commissioned in 2019 by Fremantle Biennale. In 2020 Coss exhibited a 13 metre installation and performance work for Perth International Arts Festival.

**Sylvia GRIFFIN** is a multi-discipline artist and writer living in Sydney with a practice ranging across sculpture, installation, textiles, video and photography. Her work addresses trauma, memory, history and memorial culture and is driven by the belief that contemporary art can address issues and feelings that cannot be otherwise adequately represented. This interest stems from her personal experience of being the child of Holocaust survivors and has led her to investigate the complexities of memory, grief and trauma as well as the politics of memorialising. Materiality plays a significant role in this work. She often uses traditional memorial materials such as stone and metal and subverts expectations by creating work at intimate proportions or playing with the idea of permanency by using these materials in a way to represent absence.

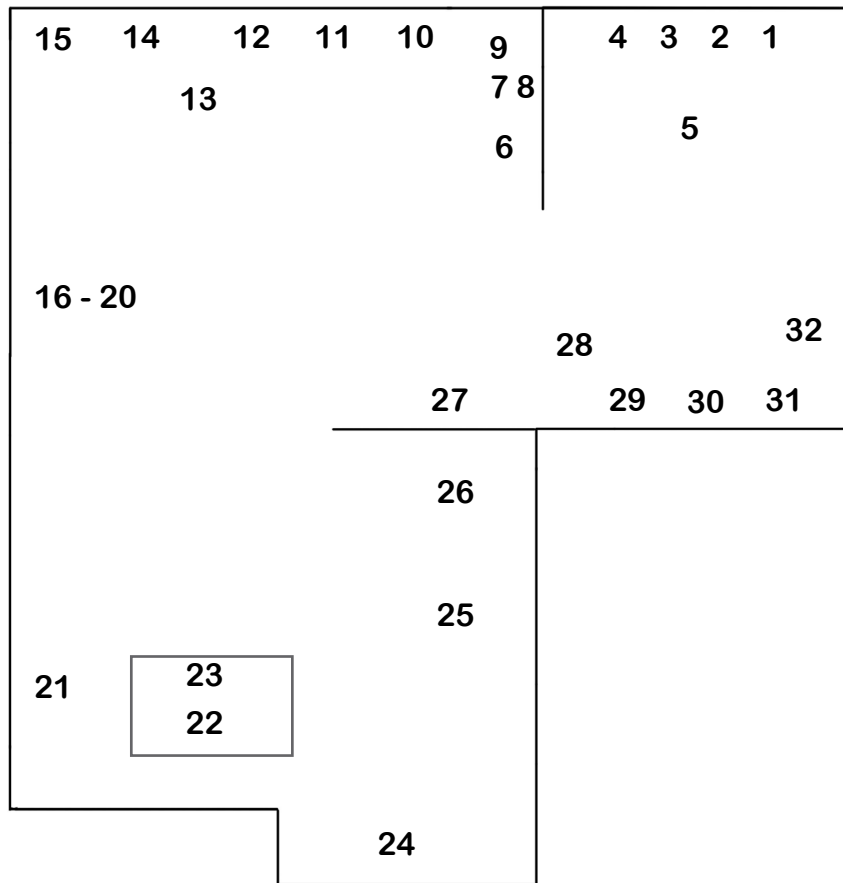
Griffin holds a PhD from Sydney College of the Arts, University of Sydney and has contributed regularly to peer-reviewed journals, books and conferences. She has exhibited in many exhibitions both nationally and internationally, including an ongoing association with the B#Side War Project in Treviso, Italy; the 2018 Biennale of Australian Art and the major exhibition 'The Fate of Things: Memory Objects and Art' at the Sydney Jewish Museum. She has received various prizes, grants and scholarships, was the winner of the 2013 Willoughby Sculpture Prize, and was the recipient of a 2019 Create NSW grant. This grant enabled her to present her work and conduct artist talks in Treviso, Italy and to train at a specialist marble carving workshop in Carrara.

## Statement

*In Deep* explores ideas of impermanence, memory and loss with works speaking to notions of deep time, as suggested in the materiality of marble, ash, graphite, textiles and pigments, and the emotional impact of swift destruction. This work has been an ongoing collaboration between Griffin and Coss, initially considered as an east/west exchange and conceived as both highlighting the artists' individual works as well as interactive pieces. Performative works planned to take place within the gallery space were reluctantly abandoned - the fate of the exhibition uncertain due to Covid lockdowns, with Griffin stranded in Sydney. These performative works have now been reimagined as a true east/west collaboration mediated through screens rather than in person, with instructional, sonic and performative elements based on intuition and trust. Coss and Griffin each explore concepts of deep time referencing landscape and/or place through their use of materials, and evoking aspects of impermanence and transformation. While Griffin challenges concepts of permanence and heroism often associated with memorial culture, Coss elicits aspects of impermanence through her encounters with landscapes on the precipice of transformation.

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- 1 Penny **COSS**, Charred Remnant 1, 2021, 75 X 56 cm, Charcoal and acrylic on 300gsm Arches. \$850
- 2 Penny **COSS**, Charred Remnant 2, 2021, 75 X 56 cm, Charcoal and acrylic on 300gsm Arches. \$850
- 3 Penny **COSS**, Charred Remnant 3, 2021, 75 X 56 cm, Charcoal and acrylic on 300gsm Saunders. \$850
- 4 Penny **COSS**, Charred Remnant 4, 2021, 75 X 56 cm, Charcoal and acrylic on 300gsm Saunders. \$850
- 5 Penny **COSS**, Re-Member, 2021, 2019, Dimensions Variable, Welded Steel, Found wood NFS.
- 6 Penny **COSS**, Matter Fall, 2019, Stained cloth 300 x 150cm, NFS
- 7 - 9 Penny **COSS**, 12 Springs Series, 2019, Pigment and Graphite powder on wood, 20 x 20 cm, \$450 each

- 10 Penny **COSS**, **A Minute Before.....A minute after**, 2021, 200 X 100 cm, Acrylic Sheeting, Charcoal, Plastic, \$3400
- 11 Penny **COSS**, **Upside Down and Inside Out**, 2021, Dimensions Variable, Wood, Ceramic Tiles, Pigment, Mica, \$4500
- 12 Penny **COSS**, **Blue Ash**, 2020, 240 x 50 cm , Wood, Canvas, Lapus Lazuli Pigment. NFS
- 13 Penny **COSS**, **Respite Drag**, 2019, Dimensions variable, Canvas, wood. NFS
- 14 Penny **COSS**, **Meteorite ( Soft Fall )**, 2019, 180 x 80 cm Graphite on Aluminium \$4500
- 15 Penny **COSS**, **No Fixed Address**, 2021, 100 x 10 x 10 cm, Wood, Aluminium , \$1200
- 16 Sylvia **GRIFFIN**, **Pigment Painting I**, 2021, pigment sticks, dry natural pigments, ash, marble dust, marble grit on unstretched linen, 1460 x 960mm, \$3,500
- 17 Sylvia **GRIFFIN**, **Pigment Painting II**, 2021, pigment sticks, dry natural pigments, ash, marble dust, marble grit on unstretched linen, 1460 x 960mm, \$3,500
- 18 Sylvia **GRIFFIN**, **Pigment Painting III**, 2021, pigment sticks, dry natural pigments, ash, marble dust, marble grit on unstretched linen, 1460 x 960mm, \$3,500
- 19 Sylvia **GRIFFIN**, **Pigment Painting IV**, 2021, pigment sticks, dry natural pigments, ash, marble dust, marble grit on unstretched linen, 1460 x 960mm, \$3,500
- 20 Sylvia **GRIFFIN**, **Pigment Painting V**, 2021, pigment sticks, dry natural pigments, ash, marble dust, marble grit on unstretched linen, 1460 x 960mm, \$3,500
- 21 Penny **COSS**, **Ants Redux**, 2021, Video, Acrylic Sheets x 2, Dur 1 minute 39 secs. NFS.
- 22 Sylvia **GRIFFIN**, **Thin Skin**, 2021, Carrara marble, gypsum, \$1,500.
- 23 Sylvia **GRIFFIN**, **Wedge**, 2021, Carrara marble, \$1,500
- 24 Sylvia **GRIFFIN**, **Soot**, 2017-2021, marble, soot, each 100 x 100 x 20mm, \$300 each; pair \$500; per trio \$700; set of five \$1,100; set of 10 \$2,000.

- 25 Penny **COSS** & Sylvia **GRIFFIN**, **Instruction Plaster and Thorns Collaboration**, 2021, Video and Plaster, Thorns, Dimensions Variable, NFS
- 26 Sylvia **GRIFFIN**, **Shards**, 2021, marble, gypsum, dimensions variable, NFS.
- 27 Penny **COSS**, **Pressure Points**, 2021, 180 X 150 cm, Graphite on Plastic, Paper Mold, NFS.
- 28 Sylvia **GRIFFIN**, **Boxed Thorns I**, 2021, timber painted box, rose thorns, gypsum, box size 145 x 170 x 50mm, \$600.
- 29 Sylvia **GRIFFIN**, **Boxed Thorns II**, 2021, timber painted box, rose thorns, gypsum box size 145 x 170 x 50mm, \$600
- 30 Sylvia **GRIFFIN**, **Enfold**, 2020, Carrara marble (on black velvet), 70 x 210 x 160mm, \$3,500 (For entire installation POA).
- 31 Sylvia **GRIFFIN**, **Boxed fragments**, 2021, timber painted box, gypsum, gypsum shards, box size 145 x 170 x 50mm, \$600.
- 32 Sylvia **GRIFFIN**, **Boxed Pink Marble**, 2021, timber painted box, pink marble, gypsum, box size 145 x 170 x 50mm, \$600.

For any sales enquiries for artwork by Penny Coss, please contact  
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