

Queens and Conquests|2023

Queens and Conquests|2023 showcases the creative works of **Eva FERNANDEZ**

A powerful synergy spans an impressive suite of artworks in Eva Fernandez', *Queens and Conquests*, a majestic conclave of both current and historic works showing in ECU's Gallery25. Highlighting pivotal points of her exceptional career, this gathering of photographic, audio visual and installation works demonstrate the prodigious talent of an enduring artist held in the highest regard. Simultaneously arcane, breathtakingly profound and brimming with metaphoric alchemy, *Queens and Conquests* is a powerful cipher for our times and our history.

Curated and officially opened by **Sue STARCKEN**

Gallery25

Opening: 5–7pm, 12 April

Exhibition dates: 13 April to 11 May

Gallery opening hours: Tuesday to Friday 10am to 4pm and by appointment

Curatorial floor talk: 12:30pm to 1:30pm, 26 April

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.

ECU Galleries



Curatorial Statement

Sue STARCKEN

Through a consequential and enduring arts practice, Eva Fernandez has long created artworks of power and distinction. Haunting, arcane and deeply considered, the body of work identified for Queens and Conquests frames the impetus of a practice that is informed by a gracious sensibility. Eva's prodigious repertoire of applied and conceptual skills allows her to hone her aptitude for incisive narrative keenly informing a discursive dialogue with a proclivity for feminism and cultural theory. The works in this exhibition channel powerful truths and historical moments with a visionary twist, all through the fierce eye of an astute observer. They represent points of pause in an ongoing dialogue between the artist and the world.

Artist's Statement

Eva **FERNANDEZ**

Queens and Conquests presents the artwork of Eva Fernández from several series, spanning the years of her continued exploration of her complex pluralistic cultural identity to the negotiation of the space which she inhabits, its history and cultural legacy.

Coming from a diasporic post-Spanish Civil war immigrant family, starting often from her biography and family history, Fernandez explores how culture shapes individuals, specifically in relation to womanhood. Fernandez's art is deeply informed by her dislocation from her parental culture as a consequence of the Spanish Civil War.

The works from her recent residency at Parliament House of Western Australia, *Edith Cowan: An Extraordinary Woman*, are tied together with the more autobiographical works as they are informed by feminist cultural studies theory, exploring the notion of womanhood in their differing contexts from the Spanish Civil War period to the event of the first female parliamentarian to be elected in Australia, Edith Cowan.

Biography

Eva Fernandez (b. 1967) in Toronto, Canada and lives and works in Perth, Western Australia. Fernandez has a Masters (Creative Arts) and has been a practicing artist for over three decades, working across photography and various other mediums.

As an immigrant, Fernandez's practice is deeply informed by dislocation from her original culture as well as the negotiation of the space which she inhabits in context to its complex history and cultural legacy of colonialism. Her research examines her pluralistic identity in context to contemporary issues of global displacement.

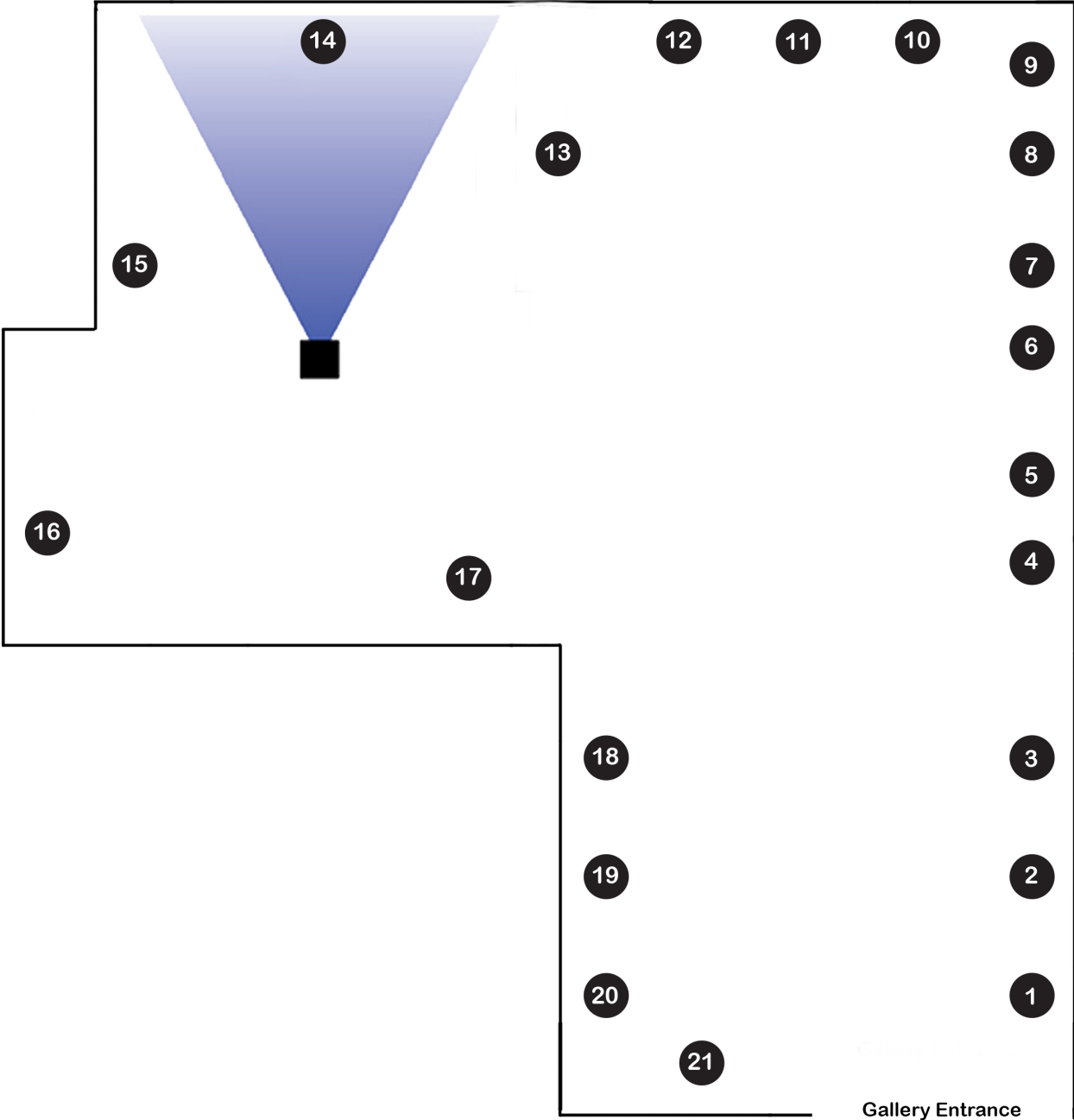
Fernandez's practice includes complex installations of symbolically laden objects, creating contemporary still life and portraits to create interventions which critique ideologies of the past and present. Drawing on fragmented histories, her works embodies the traces and voices from the past that are blended and embedded in art and history to unearth narratives which evoke a shattered, emotional, and forgotten past.

Contact Information

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List of Works

- 1 **Edith Cowan—An Extraordinary Woman** | *Child protection*, 2021, Giclée FineArt Print Hahnemühle photo rag , 80cmH x 80cmW, Edition of 6.
- 2 **Edith Cowan—An Extraordinary Woman** | *Tough nut to crack—leaves*, 2021, Giclée FineArt Print Hahnemühle photo rag , 80cmH x 80cmW, Edition of 6.
- 3 **Edith Cowan—An Extraordinary Woman** | *A room of one's own—Colonade*, 2021, Giclée FineArt Print Hahnemühle photo rag , 80cmH x 80cmW, Edition of 6.
- 4 **Las dos Españas** | *Queen Isabella of Castile* , 2020, Giclée FineArt Archival Print Ilford Galerie Pearl, 120cmH x 80cmW, Edition of 8.
- 5 **Las dos Españas** | *Niña robada*, 2020, Giclée FineArt Archival Print Ilford Galerie Pearl, 120cmH x 80cmW, Edition of 8.
- 6 **Las dos Españas** | *A la izquierda*, 2020, Giclée FineArt Archival Print Ilford Galerie Pearl, 120cmH x 80cmW, Edition of 8.
- 7 **Las dos Españas** | *A la derecha*, 2020, Giclée FineArt Archival Print Ilford Galerie Pearl, 120cmH x 80cmW, Edition of 8.
- 8 **Las dos Españas** | *Asta su Abuela (Even her Grandmother) after Goya's Los Caprichos No.39*, 2020, Giclée FineArt Archival Print Ilford Galerie Pearl, 120cmH x 80cmW, Edition of 8.
- 9 **Las dos Españas** | *Teresa de Avila*, 2020, Giclée FineArt Archival Print Ilford Galerie Pearl, 120cmH x 80cmW, Edition of 8.
- 10 **Heresy to Heredity** | *Still life with Pomegranates*, 2016, Giclée FineArt Print Hahnemühle photo rag, 150cmH x 100cmW, Edition of 8.
- 11 **Heresy to Heredity** | *Still life with Potatoes*, 2016, Giclée FineArt Print Hahnemühle photo rag, 150cmH x 100cmW, Edition of 8.
- 12 **Heresy to Heredity** | *Still life with Lentils*, 2016, Giclée FineArt Print Hahnemühle photo rag, 150cmH x 100cmW, Edition of 8.
- 13 *975 Days*, 2023, Installation, Wooden table, silver coffee and tea set, lentils, Dimensions variable.
- 14 *Lentejas viudas (Widow lentils)*, 2023, Video, 44 minutes 30 seconds.
- 15 *Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown*, 2022, Giclée FineArt Print Hahnemühle photo rag, 80H x 80W cm, Edition of 8.

- 16 **Las dos Españas** | *Niña robados*, 2020, Giclée FineArt Archival Print Ilford Galerie Pearl, 120cmH x 80cmW, Edition of 8.
- 17 *Unos Cuantos Piquetitos*, 1-10, Giclée FineArt Print Hahnemühle photo rag, with red sewing thread, 16cmHx10cmW.
- 18 **Edith Cowan—An Extraordinary Woman** | *A room of one's own—Staircase*, 2021, Giclée FineArt Print Hahnemühle photo rag, 80cmH x 80cmW, Edition of 6.
- 19 **Edith Cowan—An Extraordinary Woman** | *Tough nut to crack—no leaves*, Giclée FineArt Print Hahnemühle photo rag, 80cmH x 80cmW, Edition of 6.
- 20 **Edith Cowan—An Extraordinary Woman** | *Engaged*, 2021, Giclée FineArt Print Hahnemühle photo rag, 80cmH x 80cmW, Edition of 6.
- 21 **Edith Cowan—An Extraordinary Woman** | *Speak*, 2021, Giclée FineArt Print Hahnemühle photo rag, 80cmH x 80cmW, Edition of 6.