

STATION

Patrick Pound

The museum of there, not there

25 April – 23 May 2020

STATION | Melbourne | Online

Gallery 1

1. Patrick Pound
The museum of there, not there 2020
found objects
site specific, dimensions variable

9. Patrick Pound
Photography and air files (balloon) 2019
collage
48.0 x 40.5 cm

Gallery 2

2. Patrick Pound
Photography and air 2020
found photographs
dimensions variable, approx 140.0 x 510.0 cm

10. Patrick Pound
Photography and air files (smokers) 2019
collage
48.0 x 40.5 cm

Back wall, left to right:

3. Patrick Pound
Photography and air files (B56) 2019
collage
48.0 x 40.5 cm

11. Patrick Pound
Photography and air files (shuffle) 2019
collage
48.0 x 40.5 cm

4. Patrick Pound
Photography and air files (flute) 2019
collage
48.0 x 40.5 cm

12. Patrick Pound
Photography and air files (reflection) 2019
collage
48.0 x 40.5 cm

5. Patrick Pound
Photography and air files (wish) 2019
collage
48.0 x 40.5 cm

13. Patrick Pound
Photography and air files (bubble) 2019
collage
48.0 x 40.5 cm

6. Patrick Pound
Photography and air files (parachute) 2019
collage
48.0 x 40.5 cm

7. Patrick Pound
Photography and air files (heat) 2019
collage
48.0 x 40.5 cm

8. Patrick Pound
Photography and air files (hang glider) 2019
collage
48.0 x 40.5 cm

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Patrick Pound is interested in representations of things you can't really see. For his exhibition at STATION, he decided to respond directly to the current situation and the specific peculiarity of presenting an exhibition that no one can attend.

While the world is locked down (and locked out of the gallery), *The museum of there, not there* will stand alone, unvisited but not unseen. The silent and empty gallery spaces will be filled with a vast scatter-piece spread across the floor and walls.

'The museum of there, not there' is perhaps Pound's largest museum of things. In 2002 he began collecting photographs and other objects, each of which expressed an idea of presence or absence.

"It occurred to me that a lot of art is essentially about representing something that isn't actually there. 'The museum of there not there', takes this as its starting point, its challenge and its limit. Rather than making things that capture the world, I set out to find things that speak of the possibilities of capture."

The museum contains a constellation of objects: a portrait of a family whose heads have been cropped out, a commemorative jug for a Royal occasion that never took place, a scale model of a missing plane, coins from a cancelled currency, a VHS of the TV show *Lost*, a ghost image, an ejector seat, a snow dome of a long ago destroyed stadium, a mourning brooch, a rubbed out drawing, a cancelled library book, and an envelope stamped 'Return To Sender'.

The objects are an assembly of cast offs, found in the street, the opportunity shop or sourced through eBay. The photographs are from discarded family photographs or defunct newspaper and cinema archives.

"'The Museum of there, not there' is full of things that make the absent present and the present absent. It is full of apparitions and disappearing acts. Every representation is, after all, something of a conjurer's trick."

Included in the exhibition will be an installation compiled from Pound's vast collection 'The museum of air', which contains photographs and objects that capture an 'idea' of air. It is, of course, another collection of something you can't see: air.

"The world is a puzzle. My work seems to say: if only we could find all the pieces, we might solve the puzzle. (It's a folly I know). The collection is my medium. Putting things together is an art of sorts."

About the artist:

Patrick Pound is a New Zealand born, Melbourne based artist and academic.

Pound's artistic practice is founded upon his personal archive, which has been amassed from years of obsessive and meticulous searching, and includes found photographs, everyday objects and cuttings from newspapers and magazines. Pound reorders these fragments into telling juxtapositions to create a greater, albeit imagined, logic. Through this process, banal and quite disconnected moments are elevated to become humorous, poetic and insightful reflections on the human condition.

As he says, *"to collect is to gather your thoughts through things"*.

Pound has exhibited extensively in Australia and internationally. Recent exhibitions include: Photo Espana, El Museo Lazaro Galdiano, Madrid, ES (2019); Water, Queensland Art Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane (2019); City Gallery Wellington, NZ (2018); 2018 Biennial of Australian Art: Divided Worlds, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide (2018); TarraWarra International 2017: All that is solid..., TarraWarra Museum of Art, Vic (2017); The Photograph and Australia, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney (2015); 1Episodes: 3th Dong Gang International Photo Festival, Dong Gang Museum of Photography, Korea (2014); Melbourne Now, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne (2013).

In 2017 Patrick Pound had a major survey exhibition at the National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne. Recently, he was a finalist in the Shpilman International Prize for Photography, Israel Museum, Jerusalem (2018), the Infinity Awards, International Centre for Photography, New York, USA (2018), and the Asia Pacific Signature Art Prize, Singapore (2017). His work is held in numerous public and private collections including National Gallery of Australia, National Gallery of Victoria, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Museum of New Zealand, Auckland Art Gallery, and the Dunedin Art Gallery.