

UNLIKELY

Unlikely: Journal for Creative Arts

Issue 6: *National Anthem*

Call for Proposed Contributions

Guest Editors: Ali Gumillya Baker and Kate Just

Unlikely.net.au

The Journal

Unlikely is a transdisciplinary journal, which opens unexpected spaces for artistic exchange and scholarly conversations across mediums, disciplines and continents. *Unlikely* supports the research community of practitioners, makers, and scholars working in the creative arts.

This international, peer-reviewed publication presents the opportunity for artists working in practice-led research to engage in conversation with a range of arts scholars on contemporary concerns. As an experiment in form, *Unlikely* engages its audience and contributors in a two-stage process of live event/exhibition, presenting creative practitioners' works, followed by peer-reviewed electronic publication. Each issue engages with a particular theme.

We are currently seeking scholarly contributions for the late 2019/early 2020 issue, with the theme of *National Anthem*.

Issue 6: National Anthem

This issue documents and responds to themes in the exhibition *National Anthem*, Buxton Contemporary, Melbourne, March 7 – July 7, 2019. Curated by Kate Just, *National Anthem* brings into dialogue twenty-four artists who critically address Australian national identity. This exhibition highlights how continued efforts to establish a singular unified cultural identity in settler colonial nation states both exclude Indigenous peoples' unceded sovereignty and fail to address the multiplicity and intersectionality of histories and narratives of belonging. Through the use of humour, satire, acts of self-determination, ambiguity, play, intervention and confrontation, the artists represented in *National Anthem* hold a mirror up to contemporary Australia, prompting possibilities for new representations of who we are or who we might become.

For this issue we also invite national and international writers to add to the discussion of themes, symbols and representations of national identity and how might we reimagine our collectivity. Contributions from researchers in creative arts, art history, visual arts, sound arts, performance arts, sociology, curating, film studies, media studies, philosophy, cultural studies etc. are encouraged to apply.

Proposals for submission are welcome to engage with the themes of the exhibition. In particular, the following questions could be considered:

- What is national identity and how is it formed and expressed?
- What are the effects of efforts to establish singular unified cultural identities?
- How does national identity inform individual belonging/dispossession?
- How can the privilege/ racialisation/ oppression/ violence/ truth/ lies of colonial histories be acknowledged in the present?
- What do decolonial futures look like?
- How do expressions of Indigenous sovereignty, self-determination and collectivity offer antidotes to colonialism in its current form?

- How does public policy and public dialogue in relation to migration and asylum seekers define national identity?
- What does it mean to be at once contained and dispossessed by the state?
- How can multiple entangled and assembled racialised histories and cultural knowledges be honoured in national narratives?
- How can songs/ creative praxis produce and sustain new visions for personal and national identity?

Submissions may take one or more of the following forms:

- Scholarly contributions 4-6,000 words
- Creative/critical provocation 3,500-5,000 words

Submissions guidelines:

- Abstract: 300-500 words
- 100 word author bio
- Final submission for peer review due October 28, 2019.
- Please send abstracts to kjust@unimelb.edu.au , ali.baker@flinders.edu.au and norie.neumark@unimelb.edu.au
- Abstracts with subject “National Anthem Proposal” due by May 6 2019. Authors will be notified by May 13, 2019 and final versions for peer-review are due by October 28 2019.
- Final submissions should be in English, between 3,500 and 6,000 words depending on format above (including abstract and works cited), in MLA format. All submissions should be sent as a doc(x) file, with a short biographical note (approx. 100 words) to both: kjust@unimelb.edu.au and ali.baker@flinders.edu.au

The guest editors for this issue are Ali Gumillya Baker and Kate Just:

Dr Ali Gumillya Baker is a Mirning woman from the Nullarbor on the West Coast of South Australia, who lives and works on Kurna Yarta. Adelaide, Tarndanyangga. Baker is a widely exhibited visual artist, performer, filmmaker. She has a Bachelor of Visual Arts (Hons) from the University of South Australia. a Master of Arts (Screen Studies) from Flinders University and a PhD (Cultural Studies, Creative Arts) from Flinders University. Baker is currently working as a Senior Lecturer in the Colleges of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences at Flinders University. Her areas of research interest include, colonial archives, memory, intergenerational transmission of knowledge. Her work with the Unbound Collective (Faye Rosas Blanch, Natalie Harkin, Simone Ulalka Tur and Ali Gumillya Baker) engages Aboriginal community members who historically have been contained and excluded to speak back to colonial institutions of power as dominant repositories of knowledge. A recent article published in *Artlink*, June 2018 <https://www.artlink.com.au/articles/4674/camping-in-the-shadow-of-the-racist-text/>

Dr Kate Just is an established American born Australian artist who lives and works in Naarm, Melbourne. Just holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Victorian College of the Arts, a Master of Arts from RMIT, and a PhD in Sculpture from Monash University. She is a Senior Lecturer in Art at the Victorian College of the Arts. Just works with sculpture, installation, neon, textiles and photography to produce contemporary art works that promote feminist representations of the body and experience. In addition to her highly crafted solo artworks, Just often works socially and collaboratively within the community to create large scale, public projects that tackle significant social issues including sexual harassment and violence against women. Just has exhibited her artwork extensively across Australia and internationally and won numerous prizes, fellowships, awards and residencies including the British Council Realise Your Dream Award, the Barcelona Australia Council Studio, The Rupert Bunny Visual Art Fellowship and the KREMs (Air) Vienna Studio. <http://www.katejust.com/>