

NICK SANTORO  
MELBOURNE ART FAIR  
VIEWING ROOMS



*Egg*  
&  
**DART**

EXHIBITION CATALOGUE 1 - 7 JUNE 2020

# NICK SANTORO

## MELBOURNE ART FAIR VIEWING ROOMS 2020

Nick Santoro's absurdist genre paintings bring together an uneasy alliance of characters. The illusory depth has expanded in these latest works with an overlapping of bodies, settings and timeframes. Santoro is reasoning with a proto perspectival space of shifting vanishing points. These wonky structural techniques are intended, offering undulating surfaces on which figures are precariously wedged, swallowed up, catapulted and cropped. Santoro talks of the selections he makes as a kind of distillation, an editing and recombining of forms, both architectural and figural, which reposition the global within the local.

The artist's perspectives are skewed like a tableau of early Renaissance imagery. Figures are often positioned at the apex of his compositions, other activity in the picture plane descending into fragmented cultural and historical references. Santoro's painted frames draw on other disparate references. The frames another form of containment for these stray figures. The artist is intrigued by different cultural worlds and their coding. His paintings let those separated worlds cohabit.

His work gives a big nod to the history of genre painting but Santoro does not speak in weighted historical detail. The flattening of art and cultural hierarchies in his works is a reassuring anchor for the viewer. The young artist might mention his interest in the Dutch Golden Age in the same conversation as contemporary artists like Dan Arps or Jonathan Meese, various art blogs, or the composer Mort Garson.

Santoro is getting recognition. Born in 1994, his work was shown in the 2018 Sulman Prize at the Art Gallery of New South Wales. He was a finalist in the Kilgour Art Prize and Hazelhurst Art on Paper Award 2019, and has recently shown at the Wollongong Regional Gallery and Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre.

-Melody Willis



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*AQIUM*,  
2020, acrylic on board with handpainted timber  
frame, 52 x 52 cm

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*Slacky Flat,*  
2020, acrylic on board with handpainted timber  
frame, 52 x 52 cm  
SOLD

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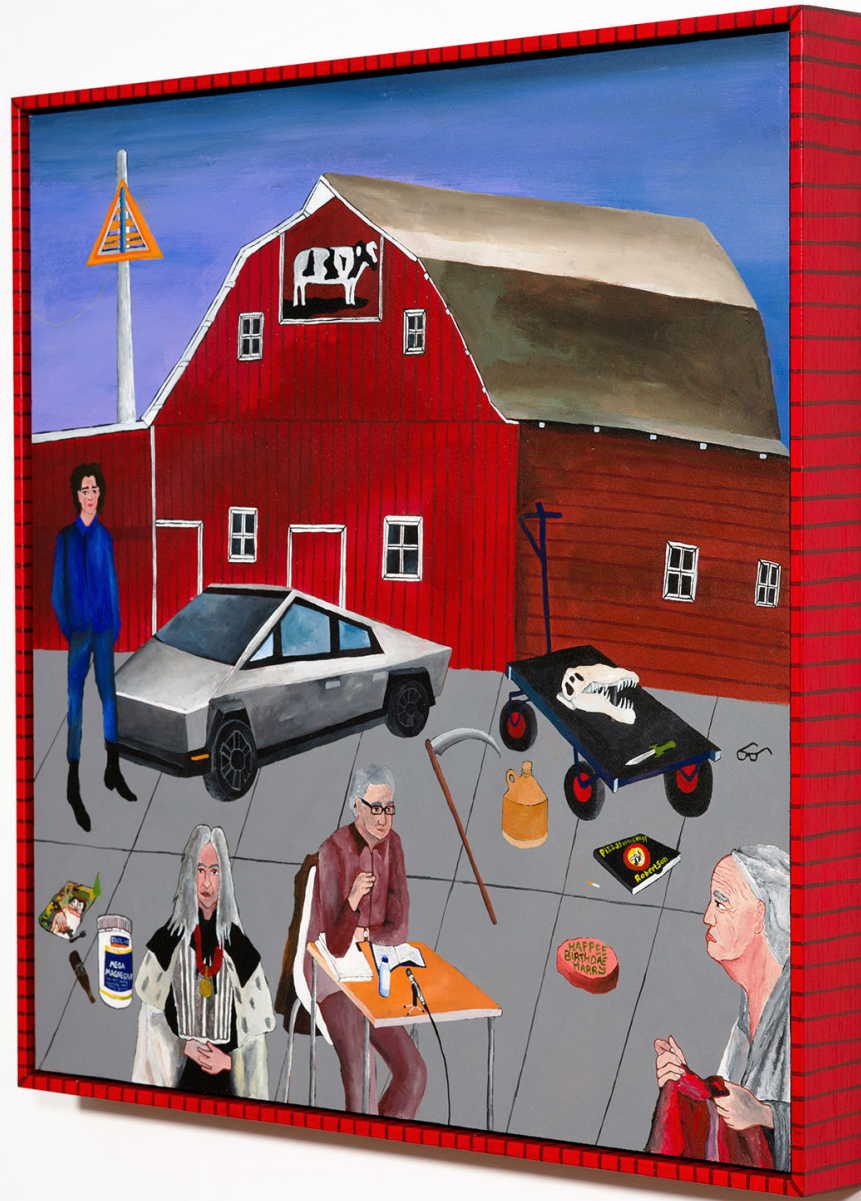


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MEGA MAGNESIUM,  
2020, acrylic on board with handpainted timber  
frame, 52 x 52 cm  
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*Culburra 626,*  
2020, acrylic on board with handpainted timber  
frame, 52 x 52 cm  
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*Come Back To Me My Sweet Punk,*  
2020, acrylic on board with handpainted timber  
frame, 52 x 52 cm  
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*Cornersmith Montage,*  
2020, acrylic on board with handpainted timber  
frame, 52 x 52 cm  
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*At the Backyard Gig When the Post Punk was Sad,*  
2020, acrylic on board with handpainted timber  
frame, 52 x 52 cm  
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*Bezos,*  
2020, acrylic on board with handpainted timber  
frame, 52 x 52 cm

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*It's Summer,*  
2020, acrylic on board with handpainted timber  
frame, 52 x 52 cm  
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*Our House if/when We're Art Collectors,*  
2020, acrylic on board with handpainted timber  
frame, headphones, SIM card, Aesop perfume  
sample, plastic goblin, photograph, Endone packet  
and dried acrylic paint, 52 x 52 cm  
SOLD

# NICK SANTORO

## CV

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Born 1994 Wollongong, NSW, Australia

Based in Robertson, NSW, Australia

### EDUCATION

2017 Bachelor of Fine Arts (Drawing and Printmaking), UNSW ART & DESIGN, Sydney, NSW

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2018 *3MOTION1*, THE EGG & DART, Thirroul, NSW  
*Pizza Pie Party Town*, AIRSPACE PROJECTS, Sydney, NSW

2017 *The Chronicles of Corey Worthington & Other Misadventures*, EDWINA CORLETTE GALLERY, Brisbane, QLD  
*6-8*, WELLINGTON ST. PROJECTS, Sydney, NSW  
*Serving Suggestion*, THE EGG & DART, Thirroul, NSW

### GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2019 *Sydney Contemporary 2019*, CARIRIAGEWORKS, Sydney, NSW  
*The Paper Salon*, AMBUSH GALLERY, Sydney, NSW

2018 *Here + Now*, WOLLONGONG REGIONAL GALLERY, Wollongong, NSW

2017 *Salon de Sydney*, AMBUSH GALLERY, Sydney, NSW  
*The Egg & Dart Family & Friends Exhibition* THE EGG & DART, Thirroul, NSW

2016 *The Egg & Dart on Excursion*, THE CASULA POWERHOUSE ARTS CENTRE, Sydney, NSW  
*Locals Lonely*, THE EGG & DART, Thirroul, NSW  
*Inhabiting Place, Inhabiting Space*, GAFFA, Sydney, NSW

2015 *Drawing the Line*, CLIFTON SCHOOL OF ART, Clifton, NSW  
*He's Tru Blue*, KUDOS GALLERY, Sydney, NSW  
*Hard in the Paint*, SPACE 101, Sydney, NSW  
*Apathetic Issue 2 "Floored" Magazine Launch*, GOOD-SPACE, Sydney, NSW  
*Identify*, MONSTER MOUSE STUDIOS, Sydney, NSW  
*Reflector Lad*, THREE FOOT SQUARE UNSW ART & DESIGN, Sydney, NSW

2015 - 2018 *The Annual Egg & Dart Christmas Show*, THE EGG & DART, Thirroul, NSW

2014 *1200k West*, AD SPACE, Sydney, NSW  
*Object and Image*, AD SPACE, Sydney, NSW  
*Zephyr Magazine Launch*, PROJECT CONTEMPORARY ART SPACE, Wollongong, NSW

### GRANTS, AWARDS, PUBLICATIONS & INTERVIEWS

2019 Hazelhurst Art on Paper (finalist), HAZELHURST REGIONAL GALLERY, Gymea, NSW  
Kilgour Prize, NEWCASTLE ART GALLERY, Newcastle, NSW  
Sulman Prize (finalist), ART GALLERY NSW, Sydney, NSW

2018 Brett Whiteley Travelling Art Scholarship (finalist), BRETT WHITELEY STUDIO, Sydney, NSW  
The Churchie National Emerging Art Prize (finalist), QUT ART MUSEUM, Brisbane, QLD  
Salon des Refusés (finalist), S. H. ERVIN GALLERY, Sydney, NSW

2017 Brett Whiteley Travelling Art Scholarship (finalist), BRETT WHITELEY STUDIO, Sydney, NSW  
Runway Magazine video interview by Eilish Fitzpatrick, runway.org.au

2016 The Mankind Diary (interview), themankinddiary.com

2015 Kudos Award (finalist), UNSW ART & DESIGN, Sydney, NSW  
*Apathetic* (Issue 2)  
*Split* (Issue 2)

2014 *Zephyr Magazine* (Issue 1)  
*Hammered Brink* (Issue 1)