



**SOPHIE  
GANNON  
GALLERY**

# AMBER BOARDMAN

## RETRO ENCHANTMENT

MELBOURNE ART FAIR  
22 - 25 FEBRUARY 2024

SOPHIE GANNON GALLERY  
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# AMBER BOARDMAN

## RETRO ENCHANTMENT

This exhibition, *Retro Enchantment*, describes simple moments of wonder that result in the absorption of the present moment. These paintings celebrate the quiet exuberance of screen-free unmediated human experience. While not aiming to tell anyone what to do or how to live, this show attempts to shine a light on simple, yet magical possibilities found in the margins of our memories and experience when tech is so primary. These 16 paintings describe pre-internet activities in the form of play as ritual. Simultaneously, these works imagine a post-internet world we might return to should our screens go dark.

In *The Uses of Enchantment*, Bruno Bettelheim makes the case for the ways in which fairy tales, wonder, and enchantment help children make sense of the non-sensical world, process fears, and prepare for independent lives. At the threshold of a groundbreaking technological era that threatens to accelerate social isolation, the quiet and collective acts of building sand castles, playing board games, catching fireflies in a jar, and telling stories around a campfire, can maybe help, and perhaps even enchant us adults too.





*"...When I create an exhibition I think of each painting as a sentence, each contributing to a narrative that unfolds like a short story or an essay that illuminates something about our time. Working as a kind of visual anthropologist, I analyze crowd behaviour and the evolution of social norms that are influenced by the consensus we see online: what's trending. All of my paintings explore how the internet has changed and is constantly changing our lives.*

*At the dawn of the AI age, I've observed a yearning for simplistic wonder, a longing for the things AI can't manage—the satisfaction that comes from things you can do with your hands. Being an active participant in a present state of wonder stands in contrast to doom scrolling. To oppose this passive consumption would be to build things, make art, play games, tell stories, and experience natural phenomena..."*



*Sand Castle Contest, 2024*  
oil on canvas  
72 x 60 in  
\*Price on request



*At the Eclipse, 2024*  
oil on canvas  
60 x 48 in  
\*Price on request



***Building Blocks, 2024***

oil on canvas

72 x 60 in

\*Price on request



*Snakes and Ladders*, 2024  
oil on canvas  
72 x 60 in  
\*Price on request



*Lost Civilization*, 2023

oil on canvas

60 x 48 in

\*Price on request



*Wall of Mirrors, 2024*  
oil on canvas  
60 x 72 in  
\*Price on request



*Dandelions*, 2023  
oil on canvas  
48 x 60 in  
\*Price on request



*Concert, 2023*  
oil on canvas  
48 x 60 in  
\*Price on request



*Campfire*, 2023  
oil on canvas  
28 x 36 in  
\*Price on request



*Fireflies*, 2023  
oil on canvas  
36 x 28 in  
\*Price on request



*Evolution of the Campfire, 2023*

oil on canvas

28 x 36 in

\*Price on request



*Marshmallow Sculpture*, 2023

oil on canvas  
23 5/8 x 19 3/4 in  
\*Price on request



***Friendship Bracelet, 2023***

oil on canvas  
15 3/4 x 23 5/8 in  
\*Price on request



***Play Dough Sculpture, 2023***

oil on panel  
15 3/4 x 23 5/8 in  
\*Price on request



***Loop Game***, 2023  
oil on panel  
15 3/4 x 23 5/8 in  
\*Price on request



***Impossible Still Life***, 2023  
acrylic on paper  
15 x 22 1/2 in  
\*Price on request



# AMBER BOARDMAN

## EDUCATION

2018	PhD, Fine Art, University of New South Wales, Sydney
2009	MFA, Fine Art, School of Visual Arts, Fine Art, New York, NY
2003	BFA, Fine Art, Georgia State University, Studio Art, Atlanta, GA

## SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2024	Retro enchantment, Sophie gannon Gallery, Melbourne
2023	Dude, Chalk Horse, Sydney
2022	Real Estate Religion, Sophie Gannon Gallery, Melbourne
2021	Decision Fatigue, Chalk Horse, Sydney
2020	Amber Boardman, 333 Projects, Clayton Utz, Sydney Bodywork, Fremantle Arts Centre, Perth (with Kaylene Whiskey and Tarryn Gill)
2019	Crowd Scenes, Chalk Horse, Sydney
2018	@jedefad: a social media feed in paint, Kudos Gallery, Sydney We Are, Postmasters Gallery, Rome (with Jenny Morgan and Monica Cook)
2017	Regrowth, Sandler Hudson Gallery, Atlanta
2016	Titlist, Chalk Horse, Sydney Sitcom Studies, Ivy Brown Gallery, New York, NY Methods For Making Eye Contact, First Draft, Sydney (with Teelah George)
2015	Expansion, Edwina Corlette Gallery, Brisbane Australia Permission, Chalk Horse Gallery, Sydney
2011	FAV (Flute and Video), multiple locations, Atlanta STILL, Marcia Wood Gallery, Atlanta
2010	A Sampling, Millsaps College, Jackson, MS
2004	Painting, Drawing, and Animation, Barbara Archer Gallery, Atlanta

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2023	Grace Cossington Smith Art Award, Sydney Mosman Art Prize, Sydney Hazelhurst Art on Paper Award, Sydney
2022	Fair Play, Manly Art Gallery and Museum, Sydney
2021	Northern Beaches Art Prize, Manly Art Gallery and Museum, Sydney Fisher's Ghost Art Award, Campbelltown Arts Centre, Campbelltown NSW
2020	BODYWORK, Fremantle Arts Centre, Perth (with Kaylene Whiskey and Tarryn Gill) Here I Am: Art by Great Women, amBUSH Gallery, Canberra This is America, UK Art Museum, Lexington, KY Out of Touch, Subliminal Projects, Los Angeles
2019	McGivern Prize, Melbourne Paddington Art Prize, Sydney Willoughby Visual Arts Biennial, Sydney Bayside Acquisitive Prize, Melbourne
2018	We Are, Postmasters Gallery, Rome Italy Personal Best, Verge Gallery, Sydney Beyond Reason, QUT Art Museum, Brisbane Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney Up In Arms, University of Kentucky Art Museum, Lexington, KY Geelong Contemporary Art Prize, Geelong
2016	Julie Spoke Softly Under Her Long Skinny Nose, Curated by Paulina Bebecka, Field Projects, New York, NY Methods for Making Eye Contact, Amber Boardman and Teelah George, First Draft, Sydney 13.04.16, Home@735, Sydney Australia
2015	Porque No 2, Gaffa, Sydney Australia Art Month Sydney, Creative Live Work Space, Sydney Australia
2014	Ingenious Inhabitants, William Street Windows, Sydney Australia Summer Studio Salon, Marcia Wood Gallery, Atlanta, GA Steal This Bike, Mint Gallery, Atlanta GA
2013	The Wagner Experience, Koblenz, Duisburg, Arnhem, Utrecht, Amsterdam, Rotterdam
2012	FLUX 2012, Public Art Festival, Atlanta, GA
2011	Paint it Black, The Shirey, Brooklyn, NY Everyday Charms, O Cinema, Miami, FL

2010 BAM Next Wave Festival, curated by Dan Cameron, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Brooklyn, NY  
 Portrait Concert with Masanori Oishi, Tokyo, Japan  
 On the Outside, with AURA Contemporary Ensemble, San Jacinto College, Houston, TX  
 Concert with Sonic Generator, Georgia Tech University, Atlanta, GA  
 Visual Mischief, The Front, New Orleans, LA  
 The Body Machine, High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA

2009 Losing Yourself in the 21st Century, Maryland Art Place, Baltimore, MD  
 Losing Yourself in the 21st Century, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA  
 A New Currency, curated by Dan Cameron, 55 Delancey St, New York, NY  
 Cardsharper, curated by Lauren Ross, Visual Arts Gallery, New York, NY  
 About Time, Visual Arts Gallery, New York, NY  
 My Eyes, Ad Neseam Lyceum, New York, NY

2008 This Just In, Marcia Wood Gallery, Atlanta, GA

2007 Click/Shift/Enter, Marcia Wood Gallery, Atlanta, GA  
 Atlanta Biennial, curated by Stuart Horodner, Atlanta Contemporary Art Center, Atlanta, GA

2004 Going Up, Sundial, Curated by Fifth Class, Atlanta, GA

2003 Atlanta Film Festival, Rialto Center for the Performing Arts, Atlanta, GA

2002 all small video night: Short Short Shorts, Eyedrum, Atlanta, GA  
 Fresh, Curated by Fifth Class, Atlanta, GA

#### AWARDS AND GRANTS

2023 Mosman Art Prize, Finalist, Sydney  
 Grace Cossington Smith Art Award, Finalist, Sydney  
 Hazelhurst Art on Paper Award, Finalist, Sydney

2022 Grace Cossington Smith Art Award, Finalist

2021 Northern Beaches Art Prize, Manly Art Gallery and Museum, Finalist  
 Fisher's Ghost Art Award, Campbelltown Arts Centre, Finalist

2020 Create NSW Small Projects Grant  
 City of Sydney, Creative Fellowships Fund

2019 Paddington Art Prize, Finalist  
 McGivern Prize, Finalist  
 Australian National University, Artist in Residence  
 Bayside Acquisitive Prize, Finalist

2018 Archibald Prize, Finalist  
 Geelong Contemporary Art Prize, Finalist

2016 Paddington Art Prize, Finalist  
 Fisher's Ghost Art Award, Finalist  
 Noosa Art Award, Finalist  
 John Fries Award, Shortlist

2015 Manning Art Prize, Finalist  
 Warringah Art Prize, Finalist  
 Australian Postgraduate Award, University of New South Wales, Sydney Australia

2014 Visual Arts Grant, Joan Sutherland Fund, Australia America Association, New York NY  
 William Street Creative Live/Work Residency, Sydney

2013 Creative Capital – On Our Radar, New York, NY  
 Artspace Residency, Sydney

2012 Creative Capital Grant Semi-Finalist, New York, NY  
 Flux Projects grant, Atlanta, GA

2011 Creative Capital Grant Semi-Finalist, New York, NY  
 Flux Projects grant, Atlanta, GA

2010 Flux Projects grant, Atlanta, GA

2009 Rema Hort Mann Foundation Grant Nominee. New York, NY

2007 Most Provocative, Atlanta Biennial, Atlanta Contemporary Art Center, Atlanta, GA

2002 The Utrecht Fine Art Award, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA

## PRESS

- 2023 Ross, Toni, Amber Boardman, ARTFORUM, Oct  
2023 Webb, Toyah, Amber Boardman: Dude, MEMO REVIEW, 1 Jul
- 2021 Hill, Wes, Decisions, Decisions, Decisions: Amber Boardman's Cartoon Worlds, ART MONTHLY AUSTRALASIA, Autumn  
Ross, Toni, Be Well, Or Else!, ART MONTHLY AUSTRALASIA, Autumn  
Russel, Stephen A, Decision Fatigue, TIMEOUT SYDNEY, 7 Jan  
Miekus, Tiarney, Painting Decision Fatigue, ART GUIDE AUSTRALIA, 21 Jan
- 2020 Weston, Gemma, Bodywork, ARTLINK, 5 Nov  
Johnson, Miranda, Fremantle Double Feature Delights, SEE SAW, 14 Oct  
Wilson, Emma-Kate, Q&A with Northern Beaches' artist, Amber Boardman, ART ALMANAC, 28 Aug  
Archive 00, Saintmason.world
- 2019 Amber Boardman, ART MAZE MAG, Spring Edition, Issue 12, Curated by Tristian Koenig  
Martin-Chew, Louise, Beyond Reason: Exploring the Logic of the Imagination, ART GUIDE, 11 Jan
- 2018 Amber Boardman, ART MAZE MAG, Autumn Edition, Issue 9  
Zeichner Eleanor, Amber Boardman, ART ALMANAC, September  
Fortescue, Elizabeth, Off the Wall Stories, THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, 14 Jul  
Brandy, Daniella, 10 of the Best Finalists in the Archibald Prize, BUSINESS INSIDER, 4 May
- 2017 Cullum, Jerry, Boardman's 'Regrowth': Contemplation on Contemporary Painting, ARTS ATL, 16 Oct  
Flamming, E.C., Looking Good: Amber Boardman at Sandler Hudson, BURNAWAY, 13 Oct  
Relyea, Laura, A conversation with Amber Boardman about beauty regimens, ARTS ATL, 28 Aug  
Cash, Stephanie, Hey Atlanta Artists, Amber Boardman Want to Talk to You, BURNAWAY, 16 Aug  
Farr, Kristin, Amber Boardman, A Portrait of the Armpit as a Young Man, JUXTAPOZ, January
- 2016 Melville, Alessandra, Collaboration in the Digital Age, HAPPY MAGAZINE, 26 Oct
- 2015 McCarthy, Carrie Amber Boardman's Oddities, CULTURAL FLANERIE, 9 Sep  
Frost, Andrew, Amber Boardman, ART COLLECTOR, Issue 73, Jul-Sep  
Levine, Brett, Amber Boardman in Sydney Australia, BURNAWAY, 3, Jun  
Zhang, James, Amber Boardman: Permission to Have Fun, CITY WEEKLY, 18 Apr  
Frost, Andrew, Permission, THE ART LIFE, 30 Mar
- 2014 Mattera, Joanne, Summer Studio Salon, JOANNE MATTERA ART BLOG, 8 Sep
- 2013 Russell, Stephen A, Making the Most of an Arts Residency, ARTS HUB, 23 Dec
- 2012 Michaud, Debbie, Was this Flux's Best Year Yet?, CREATIVE LOAFING, 11 Oct  
Fox, Catherine, Flux Night 2012 Finds Risks and Rewards on The Cutting Edge, ARTSATL, 11 Oct
- 2011 Kusnecov, Saskia, Eye on Amber Boardman, DAILY TARGUM, 7 Dec  
Tracy, Liz, Everyday Charms Shows the Magical Lives of Female Artists NEW TIMES MIAMI. 01 Dec  
Ruhe, Pierre, Painting on video, ARTSCRITICATL, 6 Jul
- 2010 Ruhe, Pierre, Exciting new music from Sonic Generator, ARTSCRITICATL, 10 Oct  
Momberg, Felipe Barral, Flux 2010, Interview on THE G CHANNEL, 7, Oct  
Fox, Catherine, FLUX 2010, a one-night triumph of art, spectacle, ARTSCRITICATL, 2 Oct  
Arbes, Max, Amber Boardman – Flux 2010, Interview on AM 1690, 1 Oct  
McLaughlin, Lacey, Person of the Day: Amber Boardman, JACKSON FREE PRESS, 2, Sep  
Ruhe, Pierre, Fall classical season covers the metro terrain, ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION, 12, Aug  
Ruhe, Pierre, Sonic Generator and JacobTV get an enchanting new video by Amber Boardman ARTSCRITICATL 1 Apr  
Fox, Catherine, Art in 60 seconds: A conversation with Amber Boardman, ARTSCRITICATL, 17 Feb  
Momberg, Felipe Barral, The Body Machine by Sonic Generator, THE G CHANNEL, 8 Apr  
Potter, Rebekah, Interview with Amber Boardman, 10MIN4WALLS, 28 Feb  
Hall, Tom, Art and The Self in the Age of Digital Reproduction, WYPR MARYLAND RADIO, 2 Feb
- 2007 Johnson, Garth, Trapped in Amber, EXTREME CRAFT, 5 Jul
- 2004 Cullum, Jerry, Cartoonish Take on the Renaissance, ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION, 18 Apr

## COLLECTIONS

High Museum of Art, Atlanta  
University of Kentucky Art Museum, Lexington  
Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia, Atlanta  
Artbank Australia  
City of Sydney  
Private collections in USA and Australia

## FAIRS

- 2018 Sydney Contemporary, Chalk Horse, Carriageworks, Sydney
- 2015 Sydney Contemporary, Edwina Corlette Gallery, Carriageworks, Sydney
- 2011 Prettier Than Everything, Fountain Art Fair, Miami, FL
- 2007 Year 07, Marcia Wood Gallery, London  
ArtNow, Miami  
Flow, Marcia Wood Gallery, Miami



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