

## MEDIA RELEASE

29 April 2010

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19KAREN  
CONTEMPORARY ARTSPACE

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19 Karen Avenue, Mermaid Beach Q 4218  
[www.19KAREN.com.au](http://www.19KAREN.com.au)

### GOLD COAST GALLERY TRANSFORMS INTO STUDIO AS PART OF 8-WEEK ART PROGRAM



19 KAREN Project Space

THIS WEEK sees ten artists move into 19 KAREN Contemporary Artspace's newly transformed Project Space to take part in a professional development program aimed at encouraging cultural and creative exchanges between local and international artists, and the Gold Coast community.

For the program 19 KAREN has invited internationally-renowned Berlin artist **Mymo** to be guest mentor to 9 emerging Australian artists **Susan Simonini, Vitor Dos Santos, Georg Whelan, Hannah Smith, Will Duncan, Abigael Whittaker, Michael Candy, Fiona Kennedy Altoft** and **Jesse Dolman**. A first of its kind by a Gold Coast gallery, LIGHTMARES involves an open-studio residency, workshops, talks and live painting, culminating in a special showcase featuring over 50 artworks created during the residency. The double-exhibition, which also marks Mymo's first Solo show in Australia, launches to the public **22 May Saturday, and continues until 19 June**.

The Gallery Directors launched LIGHTMARES as a response towards the lack of studio and exhibition resource on the Gold Coast. To encourage creative exchanges they selected nine local artists with various skills and educational backgrounds, and whose practices range from mixed media, kinetic sensors, textiles acrylics, illustration and street art.

Co- Director Mariam Arcilla says, "We wanted to give the local artists a fresh platform to make art both as individuals and as a creative group, allowing for these artists to develop and share ideas, produce exciting works, and engage with one another's arts practice in a peer-driven environment."

Local artist Vitor Dos Santos agrees, "Working alone in a studio can be isolating sometimes, so it's great that I'm able to use this residency to challenge myself in the early stage of my career. I'm pretty excited to see what ideas and collaborations come from surrounding myself with like-minded artists."

Mymo was chosen to participate because of her unique arts-making technique, and eclectic use of materials, from aerosol cans, to cloth, to cardboard and Play-Doh. Her use of Egyptian, Spanish and Arabic iconography, combined with graffiti-styles, is translated into emotionally playful and vibrant creatures. As part of the program Mymo will be joined on Sat May 29 by New York-based Australian artist Anthony Lister and Brisbane curator Randal Breen to discuss issues surrounding street art as a recognized and respected arts practice.



Mymo

Part of the gallery remains open to the public during the residency. Visitors are welcome to view works on display, and to meet the artists behind the upcoming show. **LIGHTMARES Solo + Group exhibition opens May 22 and continues until 19 June. 19 KAREN, 19 Karen Avenue, Mermaid Beach Gold Coast, Open Tues to Sat 10am-5pm. Admission is free.**

**To view LIGHTMARES events program, updates and images please visit [www.19KAREN.com.au](http://www.19KAREN.com.au)**  
**Media Kit, Enquiries/Info or HR images please contact Mariam Arcilla on [mariamarcilla@gmail.com](mailto:mariamarcilla@gmail.com) or 0412 940 257.**

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# LIGHTMARES FACT SHEET



## EXHIBITIONS INFO

*Exhibition title:* **LIGHTMARES**

*Exhibition Period:* **22 May – 19 June, 2010**

*Opening Night:* **Sat 22 May, 6-9pm**

*Solo show by:* **Mymo** | *Group show by:* **Susan Simonini, Vitor Dos Santos, Georg Whelan, Hannah Smith, Will Duncan, Abigael Whittaker, Michael Candy, Fiona Kennedy Altoft + Jesse Dolman.**

## BLURB

**LIGHTMARES** is an art program held at 19 KAREN on the Gold Coast, and features Berlin artist Mymo and emerging local artists Susan Simonini, Vitor Dos Santos, Georg Whelan, Hannah Smith, Will Duncan, Abigael Whittaker, Michael Candy, Fiona Kennedy Altoft and Jesse Dolman. Events include solo + group show, on-site studio residency, workshops, talks, live painting and side-events. This professional development program is the first of its kind by a Gold Coast gallery, and aims to encourage cultural and creative exchanges between local/international artists and the Gold Coast community. Opening Night 22 May, 6-9pm | Artist talks + Workshop 29 May, 1-5.15pm | Show ends 19 June. **19 KAREN Contemporary Artspace. 19 Karen Avenue, Mermaid Beach Gold Coast. Open Tues to Sat 10am-5pm. Free.** [www.19KAREN.com.au](http://www.19KAREN.com.au) | [info@19karen.com.au](mailto:info@19karen.com.au) | 07 55545019

## THEMES

Sources of light, to shine, apertures, dream-like, shadows, creatures of the daytime/night-time, nocturnal, hybrids.

## LIST OF EVENTS

*Events are held at 19 KAREN, Open to the Public, and admission is free (unless otherwise stated).*

**27 APRIL - 17 MAY**

**Intensive Project Residency on-site**

*Part of 19 KAREN remains open for business during gallery hours. Visitors welcome to view works on display.*

**4 MAY, TUES | 10am-5pm**

**LIGHTMARES Masterclass** | *For LIGHTMARES artists only - see 29 May for Public workshop*

**22 MAY, SAT | 5pm**

**Pre-show Q&A with the Artists**

*Arts appreciators and collectors welcome | RSVP to Pre-show by 20 May by [email](mailto:info@19karen.com.au).*

**22 MAY, SAT | 6-9pm** *(following Pre-show Q&A)*

**LIGHTMARES Opening Night Launch with the Artists**

*RSVP by 20 May by [email](mailto:info@19karen.com.au)*

**22 MAY - 19 JUNE | TUES to SAT 10am-5pm**

**LIGHTMARES Exhibition Period**

**29 MAY, SAT | 1-2pm**

**Street Art in a Contemporary Gallery Context - Artist talks by Anthony Lister, Mymo + Randal Breen**

*RSVP by 25 May [email](mailto:info@19karen.com.au).*

**29 MAY, SAT | 2.15 - 5.15pm** *(following Street Art talk)*

**Workshop with Mymo: 'How to Make Your Friend Monster'**

*Cost: \$20 (includes catering/basic materials) | Booking essential. RSVP by 25 May [email](mailto:info@19karen.com.au)*

**4 JUNE, FRI | All day (Side event)**

**Guest Speaker: Mymo @ Semi-Permanent Festival**, Brisbane Convention + Exhibition Centre, Southbank

*Check website for cost/tix: [www.semipermanent.com](http://www.semipermanent.com)*

**5 JUNE, SAT | 3-8pm (Side event)**

**Oneway Project - Street Art live painting with Mymo, Vitor Dos Santos, Georg Whelan + Kitty Horton.**

*Allison + Appel St. Surfers Paradise. Brought to you by [Surfers Paradise Festival](http://www.surfersparadisefestival.com.au) + 19 KAREN.*

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