

In August 2015 19 Karen Contemporary Artspace, Australia, will present:

# PAIN

AN INTERNATIONAL GROUP EXHIBITION ABOUT PAIN

# TING

Showcasing a selection of 22 contemporary painters from both Australia and overseas to be launched in Berlin.

This show and its concept is curated by Juan Arata - one of 19 Karen represented artists based in Berlin.

Duration of the exhibition: August 1st – 15th 2015

Opening: Saturday 1st August from 18Hrs.

Address: The exhibition will be held at Open Walls Gallery Berlin, Schröderstr. 11/1 10115 Berlin - S1, S2, S25, M10 (Nordbahnhof), Bus 142, U8, M1, M8, Tram 12 (Rosenthaler Platz). Opening hours: Tuesdays to Saturdays, from 11:00 to 18:00 & by appointments

# About 19 Karen Contemporary Artspace

19 Karen Contemporary Artspace was launched as a commercial contemporary art gallery in August 2008. The Gallery is dedicated to discovering cutting edge emerging Australian and International artists with exceptional and diverse talent to shock and excite you. Our stable of artists consists of emerging, mid-career and established artists.

The gallery showcases solo and group exhibitions 6 times a year. During our solo shows and opening nights, space permitted, our remaining artists are given the opportunity to have their work on display on rotating basis. Adjacent to the gallery is an extensive stockroom for private viewing.

The gallery is located in a converted warehouse tucked away in an industrial precinct by the same name and number as the street – 19 Karen Avenue. It is centrally located with less than 500 meters from Pacific Fair Shopping Centre and just behind Pacific Square in Mermaid Beach.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT THE ORGANIZERS:

We would be very happy to send you more photos in print quality resolution. Just send an E-mail to:

[juanarata@yahoo.com.ar](mailto:juanarata@yahoo.com.ar)

[terri@19karen.com.au](mailto:terri@19karen.com.au)

**FOR A CONCEPT DEFINITION, PLEASE GO TO THE NEXT PAGE.**



# **“Why is that all men who are outstanding in philosophy, poetry or the arts are melancholic?” Aristotle**

PAIN-TING is curated with the idea in mind that art is something that only exists during the process of making it. Either because the artist is too young and lacks of experience, or too experienced and full of questions art making is a painful process and pain is something every artist expresses in a very different way.

To promote this debate, 19 Karen Contemporary Art Gallery has invited 22 artists, both emerging and established, to participate in this visual debate offering a wide range of works and interpretations.

PAIN / TING is curated with the idea that the creative process is directly connected to a suffering state.

# PARTICIPATING ARTISTS



Richard Denny



Blo



Dan Withey



Danny Figueroa



Esther Erlich



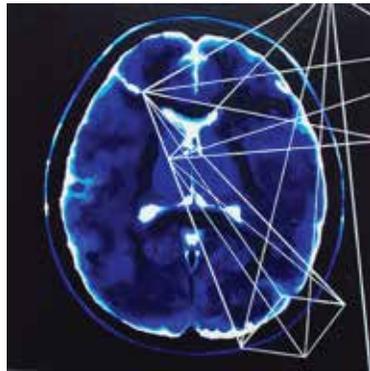
Jaybo Monk



Johnny Romeo



Kate McCarthy



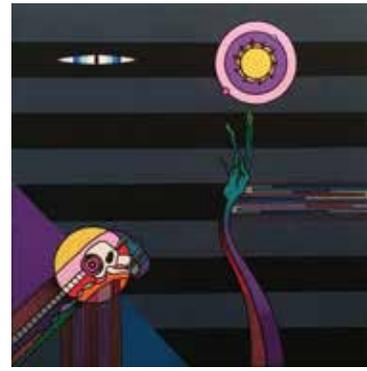
Ben Sheers



Clare Toms



Filthy the Bear



Go Suga



James Bullough



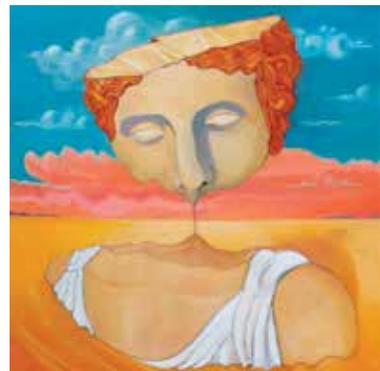
Guim Tió



Twoone



Jennifer Mondfrans



Juan Arata



Skount



James Reka



Jason Bryant



Melissa Hartley



Yosi Messiah

**Includes:**

Jaybo Monk, who showed works in Scope Miami, Boston Museum of Fine Arts (MFA), Kallenbach Gallery (Amsterdam), Gallery Benoni (Copenhagen) or the Kunsthaus Wiesbaden

James Reka, who showed his works at the Royal West of England Academy (RWA), Gallery Wolfsen (Denmark) or The National Gallery of Australia

Hiroyasu Tsuru (Twoone), who's works are part of the Permanent collection National Gallery of Australia

Ben Sheers, who won the 2010 People's Choice Award at the Melbourne Metro Art gallery

**Complete list:**

Blo (France- based in Berlin) / Jason Bryant (USA) / James Bullough (USA - based in Berlin) / Richard Denny (Australia) / Esther Erlich (Australia) / Danny Figueroa (Peru - based in Berlin) / Filthy the Bear (Australia) / Melissa Hartley (Australia) / Kate McCarthy (Australia) / Yosi Messiah (Australia) / Jennifer Mondfrans (USA) / Jaybo Monk (France – based in Berlin) / James Reka (Australia - based in Berlin) / Johnny Romeo (Australia) / Been Sheers (Australia) / Skount (Spain – based in the Netherlands) / Go Suga (Australia) / Clare Toms (Australia) / Hiroyasu Tsuru (Twoone) (Japan - based in Berlin) / Dan Withey (Australia) / Guim Tio Zarraluki (Spain) / Juan Arata (Argentina - based in Berlin)

Some of these artists have established their career internationally, some are mid-career artists and some are emerging artists.

## **CONCEPT DEFINITION:**

One could say that pain is the result of an imperfect world and that artists search for this missing perfection through their art and critic. But, would art exist in such a perfect world?

If the answer is yes, then we are forced to accept that art is rather a human code, which is understandable by every single human being, and that it is nothing more than one of the languages we choose to express our feelings and experiences. In this context every single human being is an artist in will. Art makes us humans.

If the answer is no, then we have to accept that the code must be unlock by each of us in order to understand its meaning, and the experience should be almost totally emotional.

One could say that the best key to understand art is the artist himself. Knowing the artist, his macro-mental-state, is essential to understand the artist deepness. Conflict defines, therefore, our everyday action and forces the artist to express himself/herself in a semi-self-created language that we, as humans, call art. Art is inevitable because suffering is also inevitable. It is what you do with that suffering what really matters.

Pain, as art, is always subjective. According to the Stanford Encyclopaedia of Philosophy “each individual learns the application of the word through experiences related to injury in early life experiences. Like other experiences as conscious episodes, pains are thought to be private, subjective, self-intimating, and the source of incorrigible knowledge. Interestingly, however, when we talk about pains as experiences, we also, in the same breath, talk about feeling them as if these experiences were also the object of some sort of inner perception, which suggests introspection. One is naturally tempted to say that if a pain is not being felt by its owner then it does not exist. Necessarily, if I sincerely believe that I am in pain, then I am in pain. Conversely, if I feel pain, then I know that I am in pain. Again this conditional seems necessarily true. This is the self- intimating aspect of pain experiences.”

Pain is a brain-designed system, which protects us from the surrounding world. One cannot feel it, but perceive it. It is an illusion that motivates us in an emotional experience, and therefore we can hardly describe it. As in arts, it is generated by external stimuli, what artists call inspiration. Do paint strokes show feelings? Do characters in a painting express emotions? Do we feel the painter’s suffering when we see a masterpiece? Art is always moving, experiencing. It is all about the process, not the purpose.