

ANNE ZAHALKA

THE WAY THINGS APPEAR

29 JUNE - 24 JULY



ARC
ONE

As one of Australia's most prolific and highly regarded photomedia artists Anne Zahalka has produced some of Australia's most iconic images. Included in every major national collection, Anne has generated thirteen major series of works over the last thirty years. Her latest series, *The Way Things Appear*, examines the rich relationship between art and its repositories and the audience - "(this project) stems from my interest in tourist sites and the way they are seen by tourists".

From the lush and opulent interior of the National Portrait Gallery in London, to patrons gazing at the walls of the Art Gallery of NSW, *The Way Things Appear* investigates the function of the art site as tourist space by encouraging the viewer of her work to consider the place each individual visitor holds in these spaces. The works are a mixture of carefully composed photographs and snapshots that recount the interactivity between the viewer, the space and the artwork. "It is an exchange of gazes between the subjects represented within the artworks and the viewers depicted which is complex and multi-layered. This interplay incorporates the viewer and creates a dialogue between our own engagement with art and that of the audience".

Beginning in the late 1980's, Anne's choices of images serve as single observations of the complexities surrounding our engagement with art. Each figure, often contemplative with their back to the camera, becomes an extension of the pictorial scene they are engaged with - now on a wall for us to contemplate. Conversely, the seemingly empty space of the Prado Museum in Madrid then draws us back into the museum space as a tourist, motivated by the "hope of being transported emotionally or psychologically".

For more information please contact the gallery.

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