

Ben Quilty

KIAF Seoul

Booth A 49

04 September – 08 September 2024

Jan Murphy Gallery is excited to present new paintings by Ben Quilty at Kiaf, SEOUL 2024.

Ben Quilty's painting is not polite. Smearred, smudged, caked and slapped onto the picture plane with bold virtuosity, his rich impasto works challenge assumptions. Using bold and unsettling subjects, Quilty explores the problematic relationship between the personal and the cultural.

"When I was a little boy, my parents went to great lengths to encourage our belief in gnomes. Their three little boys believed that gnomes lived outside in the bush, that they crept up to our house in the night-time, to protect us, and when we were really lucky, to climb in through our windows to turn all Mum and Dad's elegant dining room furniture upside down. Amongst the sculptural shapes of upside-down chairs, we'd find tiny jam sandwiches, resplendent in cling wrap. It was impossible for my 8-year-old self not to believe.

Since then, the world has become darker. If the gnomes are real, they'd be staring at us in disbelief, anxious and concerned. Many of the gnomes in this show are named after different species of Seal, a group of Pinnipeds being decimated by the gruelling affects of climate change."

— Ben Quilty, 2024

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Ben Quilty (Born 1973) has exhibited in a number of significant national and international exhibitions including 'Dark Heart' Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art, Art Gallery of South Australia (2014); 'Painting. More Painting' Australian Centre for Contemporary Art (2016); 'Mad Love' (A3), Berlin (2017), 'NGV Triennial' (2017) and the Bangkok Art Biennale (2022–23).

In 2019 the Art Gallery of South Australia presented the first major survey exhibition of Quilty's work with the exhibition touring to the Art Gallery of New South Wales and Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art (QAGOMA). Quilty won the Archibald Prize in 2011 and the Doug Moran National Portrait Prize in 2009. In 2011 Quilty travelled to Afghanistan as an official war artist with The Australian War Memorial.

His work is represented in numerous major public collections including the National Gallery of Australia, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Art Gallery of South Australia, National Gallery of Victoria and QAGOMA.