

Contemporary Fine Art

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#### HAYLEY MILLAR-BAKER – ARTIST STATEMENT

Hayley Millar-Baker is of Gunditjmara, Brazilian, Anglo-Indian, and European (Scottish and English) descent from Victoria, Australia. Her practice is influenced and informed by her Koorie heritage and her own experience, existing in a contemporary urban culture. Her connection to culture is inherent to her contemporary practice that explores themes of displacement, alienation, suppression, and social confinement representations of Indigenous presence in aim of opening-up digital visual gateways for new and fantasised narratives and to take form.

Through the constructive process of collage, Hayley deconstructs photographic imagery and accounts of visual reality to highlight the complexity of story-telling to explore positions concerning Australian Aboriginals before and after Australia's White 'settlement'.

Hayley can often be found on the road with a camera in hand, exploring landscapes and capturing moments on Country. As a Gunditjmara artist raised on Wathaurong land, she is well versed in the complexities of identity that stem from growing up Aboriginal in a contemporary urban culture. This experience fuels Hayley's contemporary practice. Drawing inspiration from her embodied connection to the land of her ancestors and her birth Country, Hayley directs her lens in a way that reveals introspective re-imaginings of her story, her culture.