

E L P M A I A N G T D E E S N R C E N A T A P I L E C S

Epigenetic Maternal Landscapes comprises the remaking of iconic historical obstetric and developmental models and illustrations. Using traditional anatomical artmaking skills, but non-traditional materials such as concrete, ballistics gel, silver-plated bronze, pastillage, aluminium, resin and earthenware, each speculative model is installed on a conceptual plinth. Together, these link exterior environmental influences with maternal-foetal body alteration to (re)conceptualise epigenetic entanglements. Epigenetics understands body-environment relations as interdependent and permeable, resulting in transmissible offspring adversity. Increasingly, responsibility is placed on individual mothers to control aetiological environmental influences, with denigrating epigenetic discourse and visual representation appearing within clinical texts and across popular media.

A vestibule displays today's crudely mass-produced, subjugating obstetric and developmental models. Conveying the medical instrumentalisation of women's reproductive bodies and gestation, they are discordant with maternal subjectivity. In contrast, Epigenetic Maternal Landscapes disrupts these outmoded medico-scientific artefacts, to animate the contemporary agential 'mattering' effects of maternal-foetal bodies instead. Suggesting lived maternal experiences, the sculptural series positions female reproductive biology within a space that carefully navigates the epigenetic materialisation of whole-world problems—beyond the control of individual mothers. Epigenetic Maternal Landscapes brings a new anatomical visuality to medical models to critique the biosocial production and reproduction of bodies.

Clare Nicholson

**Opening 25th
February, 6pm**

**26th February -
14th March**

KUDOS GALLERY

6 Napier St Paddington NSW 2021

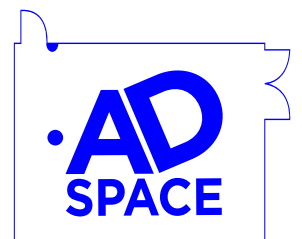
11am-6pm Wed to Fri, 11am-4pm Sat

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Kudos Gallery is run by UNSW A&D students and funded by Arc @ UNSW Limited.



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1. Contemporary medical birthing simulator. (n.d.). Polyvinyl chloride (PVC), dye, metal. Life Size. Purchased from eBay.

Contemporary embryo development set. (n.d.). Injection-moulded plastic, dye, metal. Dimensions variable. Purchased from eBay.

Contemporary medical birthing simulator. (n.d.). Polyvinyl chloride (PVC), dye, metal. H41 x W30 x D20cm. Purchased from eBay.

Contemporary anatomical uterus medical model. (n.d.). Polyvinyl chloride (PVC), dye, metal. H22 x W18 x D14cm Purchased from eBay.
2. Anatomical birthing simulator. (c. late 1800s). Tanned leather, leather dye, stitching, horsehair, perspex, plywood, lacquer. H23 x W55 x D45cm. Kindly loaned by the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, Ultimo, Sydney.
3. Clare Nicholson. *Fertile Garden*. (2017). Earthenware, reclaimed 55-gallon oil drum, paint. H138 x W58 x D58cm. POA.
4. Clare Nicholson. *Toxic Bloom*. (2017). Cement, grey pigment, ballistics gel, orange stain, industrial chute from decommissioned Sydney warehouse, steel pipe, LED, MP3, speaker. H171 x W57 x D52cm. POA
5. Clare Nicholson. *Silver Spoon*. (2017). Bronze, silver-plate, antique oak pedestal, stainless steel. H138 x W58 x D58cm. POA
6. Clare Nicholson. *Normentafel of Contemporary Environmental Anxieties*. (2018). Anatomical wax, human hair, porcelain teeth, dead coral, cement, pigment, polymer clay, wire, aluminium, screws, ball bearings, nails, resin, dye, galvanised metal, perspex, plywood, limewash, lacquer, LED. H165 x W65 x D27cm. POA.
7. Clare Nicholson. *SugarCoated*. (2019). Pastillage (Renaissance sugar-paste), food colouring, perspex, stainless steel, medical/catering trolley, surgical instruments, operating theatre drapes, foam board. H126 x W68 x D39cm. POA.

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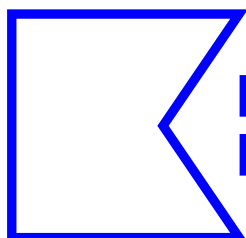
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