

# HONEY LONG & PRUE STENT LAND OF MILK AND HONEY 27 APRIL – 4 JUNE



HONEY LONG & PRUE STENT, *Vellum*, 2021, archival pigment print, 106 x 159cm, edition of 3

As part of PHOTO 2022, the International Festival of Photograph, ARC ONE Gallery is delighted to present *Land of Milk and Honey*, a highly anticipated exhibition by one of Australia's leading artist collaborations, HONEY LONG & PRUE STENT.

The 'land of milk and honey' is the biblical place where fantasy meets desire and need, an imagined space of abundant fertility that is satiated in the mouth and on the tongue. In their new exhibition, Long and Stent invoke the promised land of sustenance and sweetness, but whose heaven is it? And how long can the fantasy of consumption last before it becomes a parable of destruction?

Honey Long and Prue Stent construct surreal scenes where the body is employed as both raw material and apparition, becoming a conduit for subconscious feelings and interpretation. Fetishistic materials such as netting, glow-mesh, and latex- as well as more commonplace objects merge with the organic creating a rich network of symbolic association. Working within sites which have been drastically altered in some way by human activity, the beautiful and the disturbing coalesce. From salt lakes and pink clay cliffs to the vibrant soils around copper mines and opal shafts, there is a sensuous materialism in these landscapes which is both deeply unsettling and breathtaking. In capturing performative encounters with these environments, evocative moments become crystallised, conveying feelings of transience, permeability and transmutation. Alongside their images, blown glass forms slump and ooze against frames, plinths, corners and walls, translating ideas within the work into a tangible 3D element that can be felt within the gallery space.

Working across photography, performance, installation and sculpture, Honey Long and Prue Stent's work has been shown across Australia and in various countries internationally, including Switzerland, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States. Recent exhibitions include the international showcase, 'NUDE' at Fotografiska New York (2022); 'Eyes on Main Street' Wilson Outdoor Photo Festival, Wilson, North Carolina (2019); London Photo, *The Female Lens: 9 Contemporary Female Photographers*, Huxley- Parlour Gallery, London (2018); *Future Feminin*, Fahey/ Klein Gallery, Los Angeles (2018); Long and Stent, Nicola Von Senger Gallery, Zurich (2018); and *Players*, curated by Cristina De Middle Puch, Photo España Festival, Madrid (2017).