Thea Anamara Perkins

reverie.

30 Jan - 7 Feb 2026

N.Smith **Gallery**

Thea Anamara Perkins
reverie, 2025-26
acrylic on board
90 x 120 cm

Thea Anamara Perkins
reverie 2, 2025-26
acrylic on board
90 x 120 cm

Thea Anamara Perkins
reverie I, 2026
acrylic on board
120 x 90 cm

Thea Anamara Perkins
reverie 3, 2026
acrylic on board
120 x 90 cm

Bio.

'It's about taking charge of representation – I find that painting is a very simple and direct way of communicating things that I want to say.'

Thea Anamara Perkins is an Arrernte and Kalkadoon artist whose practice incorporates portraiture and landscape to question representations of First Nations peoples and Country. With a delicate hand, Thea answers heavy questions about what it means to be First Nations in contemporary Australia, and interrogates portrayal.

Perkins routinely delves into her family's photographic archive for source material, attracted by the hyper-saturated, almost cinematic, glow of old photos, and the melancholia that comes with seeing a moment in time you can no longer access. She is most drawn to snapshots that evoke feelings of comfort and certainty – smiling faces, happy memories. The glimmer, she calls it. Her compositions hone in on this by removing the background noise, reducing the photo to its very essence – a gesture, a colour, or an evocation of place.

Raised and based in Sydney, Thea has family ties to the Redfern community and has worked in a broad range of community projects. Thea was the recipient of the 2023 La Prairie Art Award, administered by The Art Gallery of NSW, and won the Brett Whiteley Travelling Art Scholarship in 2021, and the Alice Prize & Dreaming Award in 2020.

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Select artist bios and high-res images are available
upon request for use in proposals and presentations.

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