

MEDIA RELEASE



LAUNCH: NEW NOVELLA 'DANKLANDS' BY HOLLY CHILDS

TUESDAY 16 DECEMBER 2014, 6–8PM

The hottest day of summer. Two swans kissing on a hill. A \$4,000,000 luxury boat on fire. A stolen Maserati. High-high wading through a swamp that's not on maps. An electromagnetic frequency shield worn as a belly-button ring. A two-and-a-half-month-long power nap.

Gertrude Contemporary is pleased to host the Melbourne launch of Holly Childs's second novella, *Danklands*, from 6–8pm on Tuesday 16 December 2014.

Danklands is a work of fiction that enfold art criticism, post-internet discourse, out-of-bounds spaces, and characters that dissolve. Of the book, Sydney-based author Astrid Lorange writes: 'Most books promise a lot, or else apologise for not saying everything. This book is casual — casual in its claims and casual in its brilliance. Childs can offer a critique by simply gesturing towards the uncanny play of capital flow in its avant-garde performance. She can offer a theory (for sex, language, aesthetics, politics) by knitting a loose half-list of unlike entities. For this reason, *Danklands* can be read as a long poem — an affiliative (rather than narrative) inquiry and constellation of propositions.'

At the launch, there will be readings by Aurelia Guo and Spencer Lai, an introduction to *Danklands* by Autumn Royal, and copies of the limited edition publication available for purchase.

Holly Childs is a writer, editor and artist based in Melbourne. She makes work around digital semiotics, transformations of language, fashion, aberration and corruption. Her first novella *No Limit* was released by Hologram in April 2014. Also in 2014, Childs published poetry, fiction and art writing in *Cordite Poetry Review*, *The Lifted Brow*, *Scum*, *Endless Lonely Planet*, *Polar*, *Verge*, *Power Keg*, *Internet Poetry*, and *Magasinet*

(Auckland). Childs's work was also exhibited at Gertrude Contemporary, and printed in the sleeve for Total Control's album *Typical System*. She has recently presented readings at Institute of Contemporary Art's Lunch Bytes (London), Poetry Will Be Made By All! (Zurich), the 'Re-Materialising Feminism' conference at The Showroom and the Institute of Contemporary Arts (London), the Emerging Writers' Festival, Digital Writers Festival, and Next Wave (all Melbourne). In June 2014 she was awarded an Australia Council Early Career Residency to develop *Danklands* at Arcadia Missa gallery and publishers in London.

Author: Holly Childs

Title: *Danklands*

Publisher: Arcadia Missa

Location: London

Date: December 2014

Print run: 100 per European and Australian editions

Image: Marian Tubbs, *angel-worm in halves*, 2014, digital print on silk, courtesy the artist

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