

# KATE MACGARRY

Renee So

Born in Hong Kong in 1974. Lives and works in London.

## Solo Exhibitions

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- 2025 *Commodities: Sculpture and Ceramics by Renee So*, Compton Verney, UK
- 2024 *The Essence*, The Lowry, Salford, UK  
*Renee So*, Kate MacGarry, London, UK
- 2023 *Provenance*, Monash University Museum of Art, Melbourne, Australia; UNSW Galleries, Sydney, Australia
- 2022 *Effigies and Elginisms*, Cample Line, Scotland, UK
- 2020 *Figurines*, Mossman Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand
- 2019 *Ancient and Modern*, De La Warr Pavilion, Sussex, UK  
*Bellarmines and Bootlegs*, Henry Moore Institute, Leeds, UK
- 2016 *Vessel Man*, Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Sydney, Australia  
*Renee So*, Kate MacGarry, London, UK
- 2012 *Renee So*, Kate MacGarry, London, UK  
*Renee So*, Marc Jancou Contemporary, Geneva, Switzerland
- 2011 *Barbuto*, Hopkinson Cundy, Auckland, New Zealand
- 2010 *Renee So*, Uplands Gallery, Melbourne, Australia
- 2009 *Renee So*, Kate MacGarry, London, UK
- 2008 *Renee So*, Uplands Gallery, Melbourne, Australia
- 2003 *Close Knit II*, Studio 12, Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces, Melbourne, Australia  
*Close Knit*, Craft Victoria, Melbourne, Australia
- 2002 *Simple Pleasures*, Gallery 4A, Sydney, Australia  
*Flock Culture*, Studio 12, Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces, Melbourne, Australia
- 2000 *Inspirational Contents of Living*, Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces, Melbourne, Australia  
*Insects (in collaboration with Nathan Gray)*, TCB art inc., Melbourne, Australia  
*Blink*, Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Melbourne, Australia
- 1999 *Craftyknitwit*, TCB art inc., Melbourne, Australia  
*Momenta*, Geelong Art Gallery, Geelong, Australia  
*Bill Posters Will NOT Be Prosecuted!*, Federation Square Hoardings Project, Melbourne, Australia
- 1998 *Fifty Record Players*, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane, Australia

## Group Exhibitions

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- 2024 *Self-Made: Reshaping Identities*, Foundling Museum, London, UK  
*Excavation: Macro to the Micro*, Vortic Art, online
- 2023 *10 Year Anniversary Show*, Lychee One, London, UK  
*Little big, Big little*, Shepparton Art Museum, Victoria, Australia
- 2022 *TWENTY*, Kate MacGarry at No. 9 Cork Street, London, UK  
*Human Conditions of Clay*, John Hansard Gallery, Southampton, UK  
*Tales from Terracottapolis*, Tŷ Pawb, Wales, UK  
*Personal Mythologies*, La Trobe Art Institute, Melbourne, Australia
- 2021 *London Making Now*, Museum of London, UK  
*Human Conditions of Clay*, Chapter Gallery, Cardiff, Wales, UK

- Hapticity: A Theory of Touch and Identity*, Lychee One, London, UK  
*Clay Dynasty: 50 Years of Australian Studio Ceramics*, Powerhouse Museum, Sydney, Australia  
*Connecting the world through Sculpture, The Sculptural Body*, Monash University of Modern Art (MUMA), Melbourne, Australia
- 2020 *Transparent Things*, Goldsmiths CCA, London, UK
- 2019 *Idols, Ramesh Mario Nithiyendran and Renee So*, Fremantle Arts Centre, Fremantle, Australia  
*A distant relative*, Hopkinson Mossmna, Wellington, Australia  
*Viva Ultra*, Mackintosh Lane, London, UK  
*MODEL*, Murray White Gallery, Melbourne, Australia  
*Group Show, Arts Project*, Melbourne, Australia
- 2018 *The London Open 2018*, Whitechapel Gallery, London, UK  
*MIESENFLOO*, Norma Mangione Gallery, Turin, Italy
- 2017 *Iconoclasts: Art Out of The Mainstream*, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK  
*FIFTEEN*, Kate MacGarry, London, UK  
*In Search of Miss Ruthless*, ParaSite, Hong Kong
- 2016 *One Day, Something Happens: Paintings of People*, curated by Jennifer Higgie from the Arts Council Collection, Leeds Art Gallery, Leeds, UK; Nottingham, UK
- 2015 *Busts: David Noonan, Renee So, Runa Islam*, Hopkinson Mossman, Auckland, New Zealand
- 2014 *Curated By Michael Marriott and Jesse Wine*, Limoncello, London, UK
- 2013 *A Conspiracy of Detail*, Mackintosh Museum, Glasgow School of Art, Glasgow, UK  
*Renee So*, Kate MacGarry, Frieze New York, USA
- 2012 *Dawn Chorus*, Leeds Art Gallery, Leeds, UK
- 2011 *Keno Twins 5*, Barriera, Turin, Italy  
*First Show*, Kalimanrawlins, Melbourne, Australia
- 2010 *Keno Twins 4*, Villa Merkel, Esslingen, Germany  
*Newspeak: British Art Now pt.2*, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK  
*Keno Twins 3*, Galerie Susanne Zander, Cologne, Germany  
*The State Hermitage Museum*, St Petersburg, Russia
- 2009 *Jean-Luc Blanc: Opera Rock*, CAPC, Musee d'art Contemporain, Bordeaux, France
- 2008 *Swans Reflecting Elephants (Renee So, Varda Caivano, Rose Wylie)*, Kate MacGarry, London, UK  
*Revolving Doors: an exhibition in memory of Blair Trethowan*, Uplands Gallery, Melbourne, Australia  
*3am Eternal*, Alexandre Pollazon, London, UK
- 2007 *SV07* (selected by Polly Staple, Christabel Stewart, Stuart Comer), Studio Voltaire, London, UK  
*Neointegrity*, Derek Eller Gallery, New York, USA
- 2006 *The Small Painting Show*, Ulrich Museum of Art, Wichita State University, Kansas, USA  
*Satellite* (curated by Richard Thomas), Shanghai, China  
*Family Resemblance*, Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne, Australia  
*The Schanck Show*, Cape Schanck, Melbourne, Australia  
*Meeting Place, Keeping Place*, The Arts Centre, Melbourne, Australia
- 2005 *A Group Show*, Kaliman Gallery, Sydney, Australia  
*A Re-Constructed World* (curated by Jan Duffy), Linden – St Kilda Centre for Contemporary Arts, Melbourne, Australia  
*A Short Ride in a Fast Machine 1985–2005*, Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces, Melbourne, Australia  
*Echoes of Home* (curated by Christine Clarke), Museum of Brisbane, Brisbane, Australia; Cairns Regional Gallery, Queensland, Australia; Orange Regional Gallery, NSW, Australia; Fremantle Arts Centre, WA, Australia; Geraldton Regional Art Gallery, WA, Australia; Ivan Dougherty Gallery, College of Fine Art, NSW, Australia;

- Goulburn Regional Art Gallery, NSW, Australia; RMIT Gallery, Melbourne, Australia
- 2004 *The Infinite Fill Show*, (curated by Cory Arcangel), Foxy Productions, New York, USA  
*Xin Nian*, Response Gallery, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia  
*Asian Traffic*, Gallery 4A, Sydney (official Biennale of Sydney event), Esplanade, Singapore; Today Art Museum, Beijing, China; Duolun Art Museum, Shanghai, China; OCTA Contemporary Art Museum, Shenzhen, China; Hong Kong Arts Centre, Hong Kong
- 2003 *Contemporary Collectors Benefit Auction*, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney, Australia  
*The Freedman Foundation Exhibition*, Sir Hermann Black Gallery, University of Sydney, Australia  
 Calibre Art Project, Sydney, Australia  
*We Don't Charge For Looking*, Block Gallery, Sydney, Australia
- 2002 Gertrude Studio Artists, Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces, Melbourne, Australia  
*Departures*, BUS, Melbourne, Australia
- 2001 Gertrude Studio Artists, Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces, Melbourne, Australia  
*Yarns*, Jewish Museum of Australia, Melbourne, Australia  
*Tougher than Art*, First Floor, Melbourne, Australia  
*Sample*, Kinki Gerlinki / Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne, Australia

#### Awards, Commissions & Residencies

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- 2020 Monash University public art commission, Melbourne, Australia  
 Willoughby Bequest 2020, Powerhouse Museum, Sydney, Australia
- 2019 West Dean College of Art and Conservation, West Sussex, UK
- 2016 The Sidney Nolan Trust Residency – Rodd Farm, Wales
- 2004 Australia Council – London Studio Residency
- 2003 The Freedman Foundation Travelling Scholarship for Emerging Artists  
 Craft Victoria Artists' Grant
- 2001 Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces – Studio Residency, Melbourne
- 2000 Australia Council Grant – New Work  
 Pat Corrigan Artists' Grant

#### Bibliography

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##### Selected Publications

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- 2023 *Renee So: Provenance*, Monash University and MUMA (exhibition catalogue)
- 2021 *Vitamin T: Textiles and Thread in Contemporary Art*, Phaidon
- 2020 *100 Sculptors of Tomorrow*, Thames & Hudson
- 2017 George, Adrian, *Vitamin C: Clay + Ceramic in Contemporary Art*, Phaidon  
*Iconoclasts: Art out of the Mainstream*, Saatchi Gallery (exhibition catalogue)
- 2005 Besley, Joanne, *Echoes of Home*, (exhibition catalogue)  
 Bell, Anonda, *Xin Nian* (exhibition catalogue)

##### Selected Press

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- 2024 Barry, Salena, 'Renee So's Curious Perfume Bottles Evoke Stories of Imperialism', *Frieze*, 9 July  
 Chow, Vivienne and Fan, Cathy, 'Talentspotter: 7 Asian Artists Who Work Beyond the Canvas', *artnet*, 15 August
- 2023 Coates, Rebecca, 'Renee So: Elqinisms and a New World', *Ocula*, 15 August

- Shiels, Julie, 'How the sculpture and 'knitted paintings' of Renee So explore colonial legacies, male authority and women's bodies', *The Conversation*, 4 May
- Tandon, Avishka, 'Who Is Renee So? Artist Breaking Gender Stereotypes Through Sculptures', *shethepeople*, 4 May
- Lei, Celina, 'Exhibition review: Renee So: Provenance, MUMA', *Arts Hub*, 14 May
- 2022 Higgle, Jennifer, 'Effigies and Elginsims', *Cample Line*, 2 April
- 2020 O'Sullivan, Jane, 'Curators Radar: Renee So', *Art Collector*, Issue 91, Jan-Mar
- 2019 Mutambu, Tendai John, 'Renee So in Conversation', *Ocula*, 6 April
- 'Thinking Allowed: 2019 Booker Prize', *The Power of Ancient Artefacts*, BBC Radio 3, 15 October
- 2016 Gallo, Rebecca, 'Renee So: Object Lessons', *Vault Magazine*, 1 October
- 2012 Williams, Gilda, 'Renee So', *Artforum*, April
- O'Reilly, Sally, 'Renee So', *Frieze*, Issue 146, April
- Sherwin, Skye, 'Artist of the week 175: Renee So', *The Guardian*, 2 February
- 2011 Pys, Pavel S., 'On the World Stage: Renee So', *Australian Art Collector*, Issue 55, Jan-March
- Sumpter, Helen, 'Charles Saatchi unveils a new Britart generation', *Time Out London*, November
- 2010 Clare, Claudia, 'Material Return', *Ceramic Review*, Jan/Feb
- Higgle, Jennifer, 'Nine heads and the difference in eyes', *Uplands Catalogue*
- 2008 Rainforth, Dylan, 'Renee So, Uplands Gallery', *The Age*, 20 April
- Backhouse, Megan, 'Renee So, Uplands Gallery', *The Age*, 19 April
- 2007 Cotter, Holland, 'When the Curator Is Also an Artist, Go Ahead, Expect Surprises', *The New York Times*, 9 August
- 2006 Davenport, Rhana, 'Beauty, Shadow-Play and Silhouettes', *Art and Australia*
- 2005 Seeto, Aaron, 'Knitted Masks: Renee So', *Object Magazine*, #47, August

#### Education

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- 1997 BA Fine Art, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, Melbourne, Australia