

S O F I T E L

MELBOURNE ON COLLINS

Vasantha Yoganathan

Afterlife

Based in Paris, Vasantha Yoganathan (b. 1985) is a photographer working around the genres of portrait, still life and landscape and we are delighted to be able to present *Afterlife* for PHOTO 2022 International Festival of Photography.

Presented exclusively for PHOTO 2022, *Afterlife* is the sixth chapter of Vasantha Yoganathan's long-term project, *A Myth of Two Souls*, inspired by, and offering a modern retelling of the epic tale the Ramayana. Drawing inspiration from the imagery associated with this myth and its pervasiveness in everyday Indian life, Yoganathan has retraced the legendary route from north to south India. For this series Yoganathan travelled to Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu to experience and photograph people attending Dussehra, one of the biggest Hindu festivals celebrating the victory of good over evil.

Afterlife explores death and reincarnation through the epic battle between Prince Rama (an incarnation of Vishnu) and the 10-headed demon king Ravana, with the characters depicted by festival goers Yoganathan encountered in costumes and painted faces. People attending Dussehra seek to reach a trance-like state and Yoganathan has created collages that mix several pictures together to put the viewer in a similar state of disorientation.

In 2015 Yoganathan was the recipient of the IdeasTap/Magnum Photos Award (category international) to help him fund *A Myth of Two Souls*, his 7-book project on the Ramayana in India. He has received several awards, including the Prix Levallois (2016), an ICP Infinity Award as Emerging Photographer of the year (2017) and was a Foam Talent (2017). In 2018 and 2019 he was awarded the Prix Camera Clara and the Rencontres d'Arles Photo-Text Book Award. Yoganathan's work is included in private and public collections, including the V&A Museum London, Musée de l'Élysée, Foam photography museum and the Musée Français de la Photographie.

This exhibition is curated by Photo Australia for Photo 2022 International Festival of Photography presented in partnership with Sofitel Melbourne on Collins and supported by Fini Frames.

@vyoganathan

PHOTO 2022

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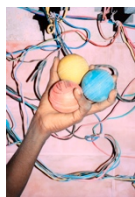
GLOBAL ART PROJECTS.

The exhibition program at Sofitel Melbourne On Collins is curated by Global Art Projects.

Website: www.gap.net.au

Instagram: @globalartprojectsmelbourne

Vasantha Yoganathan *Afterlife*



CMYK, 2018
41 x 60 cm



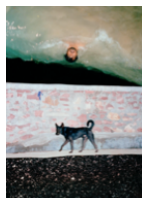
Dragonfly, 2019
41 x 60 cm



Eye Wide Open, 2019
120 x 175 cm



Father And Son, 2019
120 x 175 cm



Ghost Dog, 2019
41 x 60 cm



Gold Earring, 2019
41cm x 60 cm



Green Soldier, 2019
120 x 175 cm



Hanuman Soldier, 2018
41 x 60 cm



Ladders, 2019
120 x 175 cm



Parallel_Universe, 2018
41 x 60 cm



Rama Praying For Victory, 2019
41 x 60 cm



Rewind, 2018
41 x 60 cm



Sita Praying For Victory, 2019
41 x 60 cm



The Dragon, 2019
41 x 60 cm



The Dark Knight, 2019
120 x 175 cm



The Gong, 2019
120 x 175 cm



Watching The Dead Go 3, 2019
41 x 60 cm



Midnight, 2019
120 x 175 cm

All works are Digital C-type on Fujiflex Hi Reflexion paper or Collage on Digital C-type on Fujiflex Hi Reflexion paper
Photographs courtesy of the artist.