

# ANNA LOUISE RICHARDSON

## GIFT HORSE

BAYSIDE ARTS & CULTURAL CENTRE

1 APRIL - 23 APRIL 2017

Western Australian artist Anna Louise Richardson explores ideas of rural identity in contemporary Australia. Her work delves into rural mythology, rendering animal archetypes as tropes of national and personal identity and revealing how our relation to place (and nature more broadly) is filtered and shaped through layers of history, storytelling and imagination.

Gift Horse depicts the hide, skeleton and heart of Phar Lap, Australia's most iconic racehorse. While these physical remains can be unsettling, they reveal a complex relationship between the celebration of a cultural icon and the distribution of Phar Lap's body around Australia and New Zealand. The considerable cultural investment in the legend of Phar Lap since his mysterious death in 1932 stands as a pragmatic reflection of our own anthropomorphic ideals, our need to rationalise this animal as a symbol of national identity.

Richardson holds a Bachelor of Art from Curtin University, Perth. Since 2013, she has exhibited in several group and solo exhibitions across Australia and has been a finalist in a number of art prizes including the Paul Guest Prize, Bendigo Art Gallery. Her work is held in the collection of the City of Busselton, Western Australia, and she is represented by MARS Gallery, Melbourne.

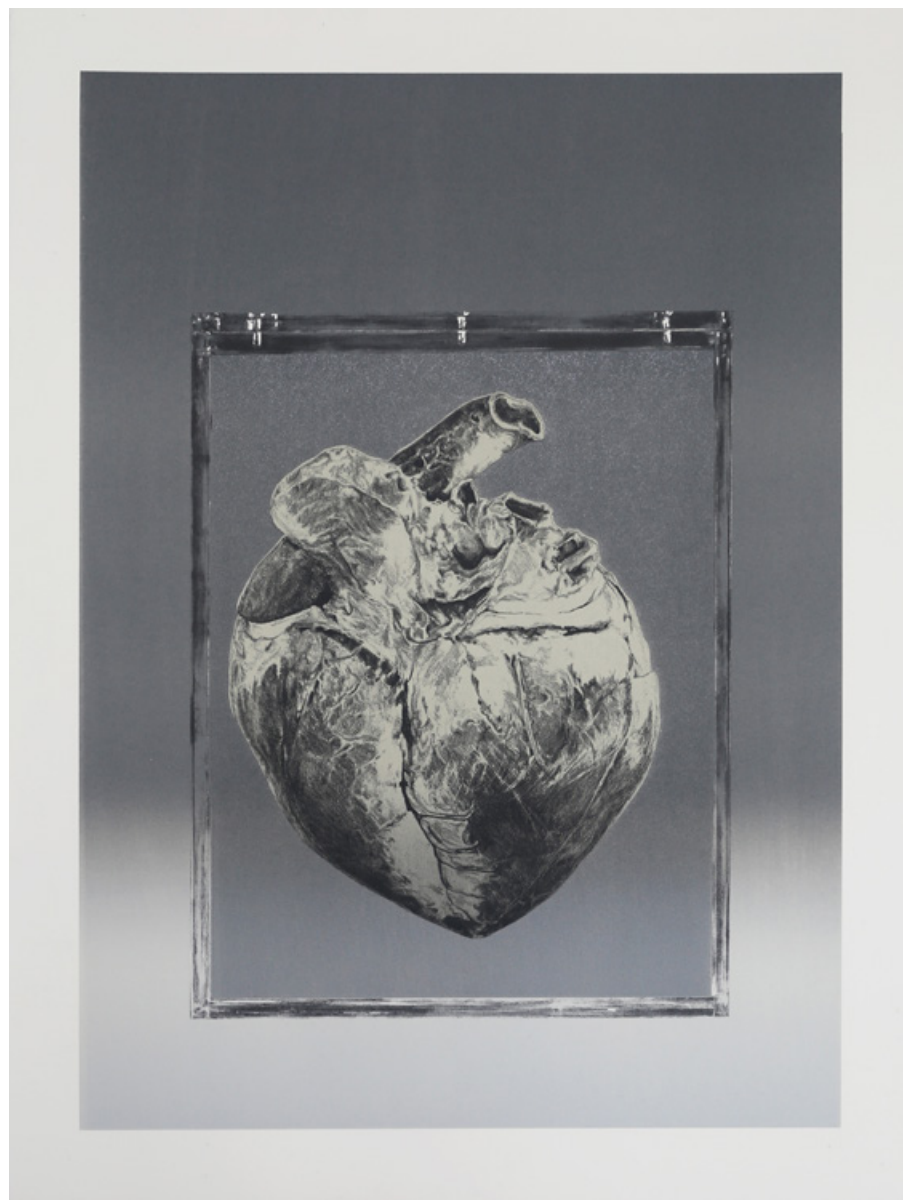
Gift Horse is supported by the Government of Western Australia Department of Culture and the Arts.



'Phar Lap: Skin'  
2017  
Charcoal on cement fibreboard  
300 x 322 cm  
\$4500



'Phar Lap: Bone'  
2017  
Charcoal on cement fibreboard  
300 x 322 cm  
\$4500



'Gift Horse'  
2016  
Lithograph on cotton rag paper  
70 x 50 cm  
Edition of 10 + 3 AP  
\$950 framed \$650 unframed





'Wonder Horse'  
2017  
Bronze, laminate, vinyl  
140 x 100 x 45 cm with plinth  
Edition of 3 + 1 AP  
\$6000 Bronze  
\$8000 Bronze with plinth

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[MARS]

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