



*Can we fixate? Yes we can!*

**21 SEP - 16 NOV 2018**

## MEDIA RELEASE

# REMEMBERING TOMORROW | STUDIO PAYOKA

MIDLAND JUNCTION ARTS CENTRE | WEST GALLERY &  
THE STORE

## OPENING CELEBRATION

Sunday 7 October 11am – 3pm

## VIEWING TIMES

7 October – 16 November | Wed – Fri 10am – 5pm

Artists Rory Dax Paton, Adam Ismail and William Leggett share insights into the industrial, multidisciplinary arts undertaken at Studio Payoka. *Remembering Tomorrow* is a culmination of intimate interactions between the artists, based in an aesthetic and a personal rapport where disciplines, approaches and shared visual intentions are explored and realised.

Nestled in the rolling hills of Mt Helena, Studio Payoka offers a variety of workshops and one-on-one classes, as well as providing a workspace for the artists involved. Studio Payoka doesn't just house the creative practices of the artists, but is also a result of it; the building, and much of the equipment constructed by hand by the three artists. Studio Payoka is a culmination of the artists' shared skills, knowledge and experiences of working both industrially and creatively.

Despite vastly different aesthetic outcomes, each of the artist's practices are strongly informed by the mediums, materials and tools they use. Ismail's assemblages of intensively rendered debris and remnants mix traditional storytelling with urban contemporary landscapes, where ideas are abstracted and dreams are personified, whilst Paton's gestural ink works explore the fluid medium whilst abstractly referencing the Pilbara; a place where Paton has spent a great deal of time. Paton's paintings pay homage to the beauty of the harsh, scorched landscape of the region; with delicate wildflowers, amongst the flames, smoke and mines.

William Leggett's multi-disciplinary practice draws heavily on the push-pull relationships that exist between society, technology and their environments. His work takes inspiration from the materials of the construction industry and his time spent working in it. Whilst each artist comes to the studio with these differences in mediums, experiences and learnings, working alongside each other allows a sharing of ideas and the challenge to each push their work in a myriad of new directions.

The dichotomy of the title *Remembering Tomorrow* reflects the way in which the exhibition looks back on what Studio Payoka have already created together, and also forward to the future as the artists continue to build the legacy of the studio and strengthen its engagement with the wider community. It's fitting that these visual outcomes are displayed at Midland Junction Arts Centre, a location steeped in a history of industry, education, creativity and community, reflecting the values that the artists strive for at the studio.

On display at Midland Junction Arts Centre from 7 October – 16 November *Remembering Tomorrow*, is not only an insight into the practices of Ismail, Leggett and Paton individually, but the creative community they have developed at Studio Payoka.

**Midland Junction Arts Centre**

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William Leggett, *Transitory Form 2*, 2018, Plywood, Studio Payoka