

Karrabing Film Collective.
Wonderland
27.1.–30.7.23

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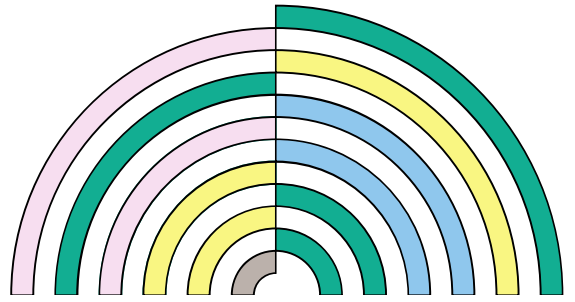
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"Our films are neither fiction nor nonfiction. They come from and return to our ancestral lands. They emerge from and sink back into the lives we are actually living with our *durlg* (dreamings)". – Karrabing

With "Wonderland", Haus der Kunst presents the first solo exhibition in Germany of the Karrabing Film Collective, an Indigenous artist group from Australia. The exhibition includes all of Karrabing's major films, providing an insight into the collective's multi-layered working methods and new forms of collective, indigenous agency. The grassroots film and arts group was founded in 2007 and deploys their collectively produced films and installations as a form of Indigenous resistance and self-organisation. Karrabing comprises approximately thirty members from different generations, most of whom live in the Belyuen Community in Australia's Northern Territory. Often described as "improvisational realism", the films seek to open up a space beyond binaries of the fictional and the documentary, or the past and the present.

Over the past decade, Karrabing have created an inventive, unexpected and deeply ironic cinematic language that has already made a name for itself in the world of film and visual art. Karrabing members communicate to one another in a form of creole unique to the region, often supplementing this with various soundbites and media clips whose linguistic registers encompass everything from Received Pronunciation to Australian colloquialisms. This specific interest in the use and manipulation of sound and language will in turn establish a connection to the ongoing sound and music programme TUNE, as well as to the exhibitions of Katalin Ladik and Meredith Monk that will be on display from March and November 2023.



The exhibition opens outwards into several formats, including a multimedia room that allows for the public to delve deeper into the social, political and cultural backgrounds that shape the Collective's practice. Furthermore, there will be a comprehensive Reader offering a myriad of entry-points to Karrabing's practice. These not only concern the dynamics between First Nations and colonial-settler Australians, but also speak to universal concerns affecting the relationship between human and non-human life forms, as well as the maintenance and care of the land and of the earth's varied eco-systems. Thus, the exhibition also sits in dialogue with Joan Jonas' exhibition and her decades' long commitment to placing the non-human at the centre of her artistic practice.

"Wonderland" takes place in Haus der Kunst's LSK Gallery – which once served as the building's air raid shelter – and builds upon a line that was initiated by the recent exhibition of Tony Cokes, in which the most historically charged spaces within the museum are given over to projects that critically interrogate the making of histories. Enacting a deliberate friction with the history of the building, the exhibition thus critically interrogates the concepts of representation, belonging and cultural memory, introducing audiences to a collaborative, imbricated model of togetherness based upon dynamic interactions and creative exchanges.

Karrabing Film Collective.

Wonderland

27 January – 30 July 23

Curated by Damian Lentini with Anne Pfautsch

Haus der Kunst | LSK-Galerie

Prinzregentenstrasse 1, 80538 Munich

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In spring, Karrabing's latest film *Macassans vs. Berragut: Let the Ancestors Decide* (2023) will have its premiere, which was co-produced by Haus der Kunst.

On the occasion of the exhibition, Haus der Kunst München will be producing a comprehensive "Karrabing Film Collective. Wonderland: A Reader", published by Distanz Verlag.