

**Simone Darcy**



**Dark Brew – The Alchemist**  
**2024**

# **Dark Brew – The Alchemist**



*Mother Love 2023, hand-coloured contact print*

***Schoolhouse Gallery – Rosny Arts Centre***  
***8 March to 7 April 2024***

***Dark Brew: The Alchemist*** combines alternative photography processes that include chemigrams, contact prints, photograms and chemical painting made with fibre-based photographic paper.

**‘Simone is an established artist who has a distinct and experienced skillset working with camera-less image-making and darkroom processes’**

During this exhibition Simone has created a working darkroom in the gallery, collaborating with visitors to create unique artworks that respond to the theme of Simone’s exhibition *Dark Brew: The Alchemist*

**‘This installation draws on stories of women from the past and present as healers, mothers, and alchemists. Highlighting connections to the earth and the passage of time’**

Simone's practice involves using experimental photographic processes to create works that directly respond to the physical and psychological body, with a focus on producing spontaneous emissions of the self. The final works are often formed somewhere between direct representation and abstraction. This is often created in collaboration with nature, in the field and within the darkroom often engaging with experimentation in the use of photographic chemicals painted directly onto the paper, prints often left unfixed. Through this process, Simone continues to engage with recurring themes of impermanence and the body in her work.

*Text: Lou Conboy (Rosny Arts Centre, Tasmania) and Simone Darcy*









*Left: The Oldest Fable I, 2022. Silver Gelatin Unique Prints. 50 x 40 cm.*





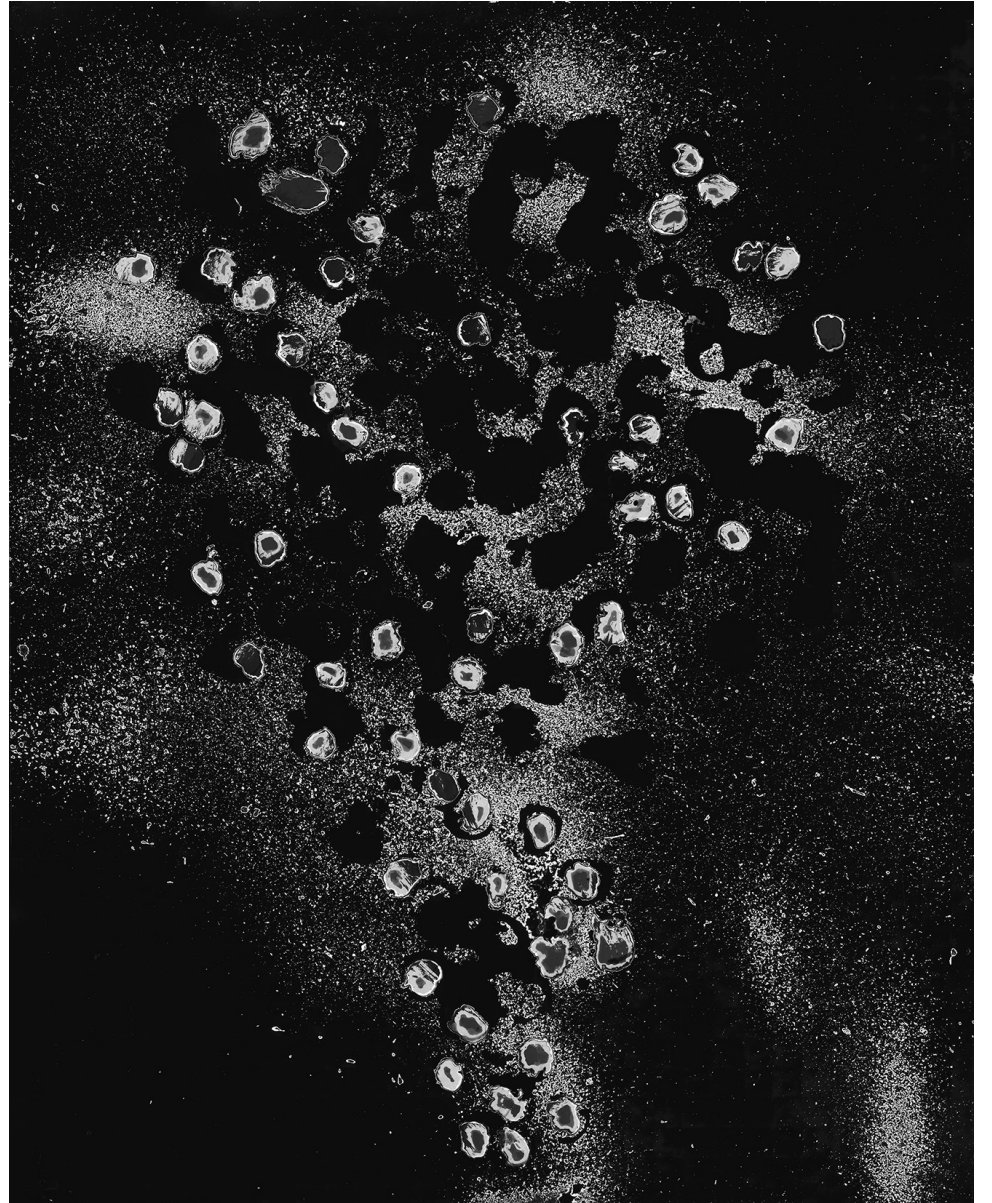
The Oldest Fable II, 2022  
Silver Gelatin Unique Print  
50 x 40 cm



Mother Armour 2022  
Unique chemigram on silver gelatin paper  
50 x 40 cm



Gun Metal Moon 2022  
UV print on aluminum  
75 x 60 cm



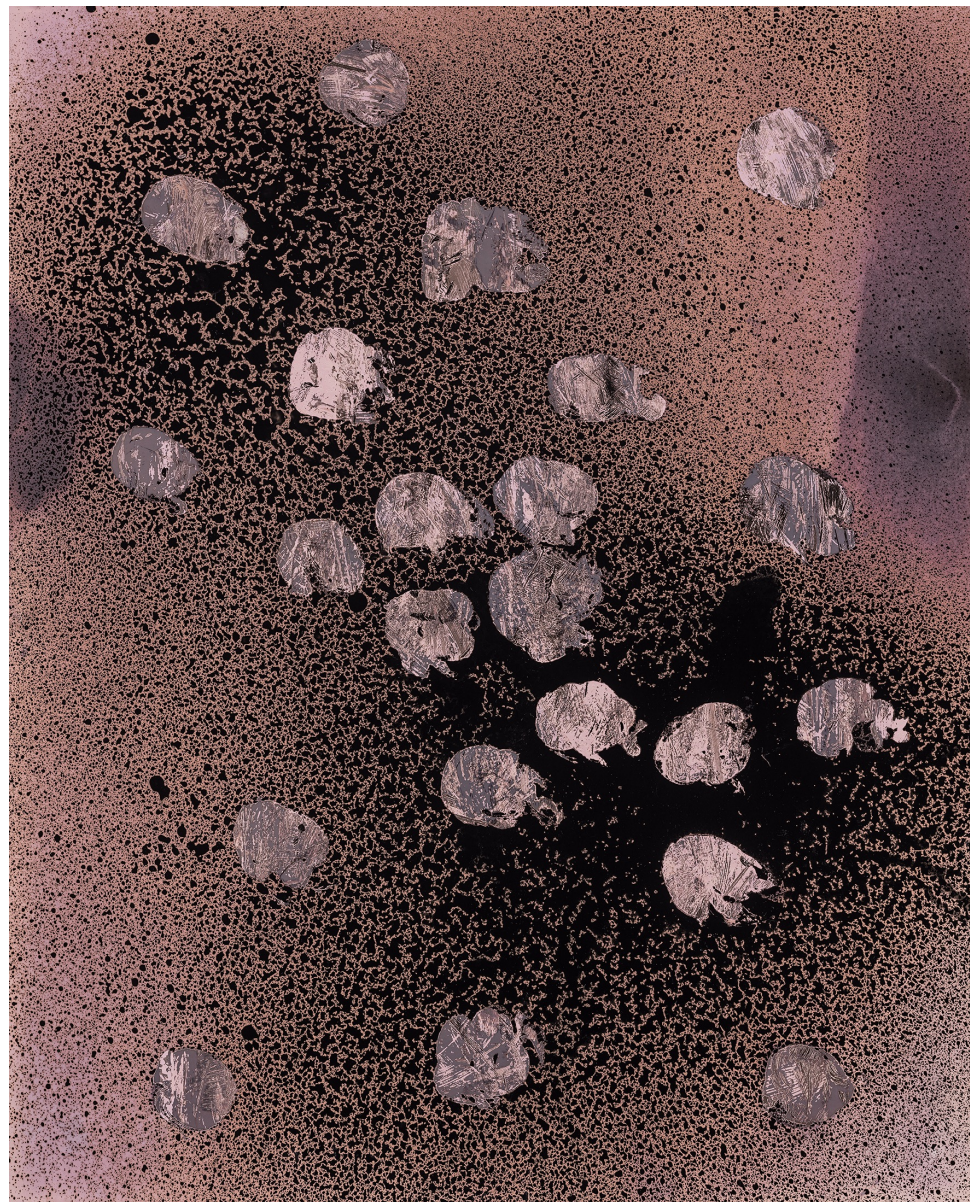
Leather Back Seat Shag, 2022  
Inkjet Archival Print  
165 x 135 cm (framed)



River, Mud & Silver Studded Boots, 2022  
Inkjet Archival Print  
165 x 135 cm (framed)



Love Bugs, 2022  
Unique chemigram on silver gelatin paper  
40 x 50 cm



Purple Shadow Mud Party, 2022  
Unique chemigram on silver gelatin paper  
40 x 50 cm



West Wood, 2022  
Unique chemigram on silver gelatin paper  
40 x 50 cm





Paddock Satin Glam, 2022  
Unique chemigram on silver gelatin paper  
40 x 50 cm



Body Spirit 2022  
Unique chemigram on silver gelatin paper  
40 x 50 cm



## *Biography*

Simone Darcy (Born in Bedgerabong, Central West NSW) is an artist currently based in Southern Tasmania.

From a darkroom practice Simone Darcy uses performance strategies within the still image, constructing ideas of abstraction, embodiment and self; along with experimental photographic processes often in collaboration with nature to give visual form to the intangible and the ephemeral

Simone has shown her work in Australia and Internationally, this has included Point North at the Reykjavik Museum of Photography in Iceland; Verge Gallery Sydney; Arts System Wickham and selected as part of the Gaffa Experimental Photo Festival Award Sydney; Other notable exhibitions include Embody at Cement Fondu Sydney; Light Objects – Photography in the Expanded Field at Perth Centre of Photography; The Bus Stop Project at Maitland Regional Art Gallery and Absence at Span 1,2 & 3 Melbourne

Simone has been a shortlisted artist in the Gosford Art Prize; Mullins Conceptual Photo Prize, Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre; The National Photographic Portrait Prize, The Portrait Gallery Canberra; Head On Portrait Prize, Australian Centre of Photography; The Portrait Prize, Queensland Centre of Photography; The New York Photo Prize; The Josephine Ulrick & Win Schubert Photographic Prize; MAMA National Photography Prize; Melbourne Photobook Image Award and was the recipient of the Ilford Salon Portrait Award at the Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne. Simone has undertaken residencies at Rosney Arts Centre, All That We Are and AIRspace Oatlands (Tasmania), Studio Kura (Japan), NES Artists (Iceland). With upcoming residencies at Devfto Printmaking Institute (Bali) and QBank Gallery, Queenstown in 2024



# CV

Born in Bedgerabong, lives and works in Lymington Tasmania

## Education & Teaching

2023 - 2024 Lightwave Festival; Moonah Arts Centre; Rosny Arts Centre  
2021 -2023 Photography & Visual Arts Teacher at TAFE NSW - Newcastle  
2013 -2018 The University of Newcastle, Sessional Lecturer Photomedia  
2001 -2003 University of Newcastle, Photomedia Demonstrator  
2022 – 2024 Master of Business (Arts & Cultural Management) Deakin University  
2004 Bachelor of Fine Arts Honours. University of Newcastle  
2005 Grad Dip of Education) Visual Arts & Design). The University of Newcastle

## Prizes & Awards

2022 Gosford Art Prize, Gosford Regional Gallery  
2022 Mullins Conceptual Photo Prize, Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre Gaffa  
2016 Experimental Photo Festival Award, Gaffa Gallery Sydney  
2016 Photobook Melbourne Image Award  
2014 Muswellbrook Photographic Prize  
The National Portrait Prize, Canberra 2013  
2012 HeadOn Portrait Prize, ACP 2012  
2012 Josephine Ulrick & Win Schubert Photography Award  
2012 Second Prize in the Queensland Portrait Prize, QCP  
2012 Muswellbrook Photographic Prize  
2011 New York Photo Prize, The Powerhouse Arena  
2004 Awarded Best Portrait Prize, Nikon Summer Salon at CCP Melbourne  
2004 HeadOn Portrait Prize, Sydney  
2004 National Photography Prize, Albury Regional Art Gallery

## Solo Exhibitions

2024 Dark Brew. Rosny Farm Schoolhouse. Hobart  
2024 Other Worlds. Muswellbrook Regional Art Gallery (upcoming)  
2022 Embody, Cement Fondu Sydney  
2022 Push Pull 33 Scott Street Gallery Newcastle  
2022 Holding Time. Sheffer Gallery Sydney (upcoming)  
2020 Mud Temple. AIRspace Projects Inc. Sydney  
2017 Point North, Reykjavík Museum of Photography, Iceland  
2016 Point North. Arts System Wickham  
2015 The Bus Stop Project. Maitland Regional Art Gallery  
2012 The Bus Stop Project Public Installation, Newcastle  
2004 Phantasm-hood, The University of Newcastle Gallery  
2004 Absence, Span 1, 2 & 3 Galleries Melbourne  
2003 'Stills', Newcastle Art Space, Newcastle

## Group Exhibitions

2023 Viewless. Sorse Gallery Melbourne (upcoming)  
2024 Fort Earth, 45downstairs Melbourne (upcoming)  
2024 Contemporary, Muswellbrook Regional Art Gallery (upcoming)  
2023 NOWstalgic, Bickerstaff Blizzard. Hobart, Tasmania  
2022 Ilford Salon, CCP Melbourne  
2020 Friends & Family, Daine Singer Melbourne  
2019 Only the Knowing, Studio Kura. Itoshima Japan  
2018 Light Objects, Photography in the Expanded Field, Perth Centre of Photography  
2017 The Cutting Room, The Bearded Tit Redfern  
2016 Makers Matter, Gaffa Gallery Sydney

## **Group Exhibitions**

2016 Ilford Salon, CCP Melbourne  
2016 Der Greif Process 2.0 Krakow Photomonth Poland 2016  
2016 Traces, Verge Gallery Sydney  
2015 Directors Cut, Gallery 139 Hamilton  
2014 December Show, 10x8 Gallery Sydney  
2014 Place & Space, The Grove. The Entrance Gallery  
2014 National Photographic Portrait Prize Touring Show,  
2014 The Acquisitive Prize Finalists, The University of Newcastle Gallery  
2013 'Eternity' Damien Minton Gallery Sydney  
2013 Working: Newcastle. Curated by Damien Minton  
2014 The University of Newcastle Gallery  
2013 The Loop Creatives, MTV Sydney  
2004 The University of Newcastle Photomedia Staff Show, Lovett Gallery  
2004 Presence Suspended, Photo Technica, Sydney  
2004 Lomo Australia Exhibition, Photo Technica, Sydney  
2003 Plastic Photo Show, Obscurity Gallery, Nth Fitzroy  
2003 Newdigit, Field Gallery, Newcastle

## **Artist-in-Residence**

2024 Rosny Farm Schoolhouse Tasmania (upcoming)  
2024 Devfto Printmaking Institute. Ubud Bali (upcoming)  
2024 QBank, Queenstown Tasmania (upcoming)  
2022 AIRspace Oatlands, Southern Midlands Artist in Residence. Tasmania  
2022 All That We Are Residency, Tasmania  
2019 Studio Kura Residency, Japan  
2015 Neslit Artist Residency. Iceland  
2014 The Grove, Central Coast Council

## **Photovoice Projects & Exhibition - Curator & Project Manager**

2017 ArtVolt, Arthouse Wyong. Project Sponsored by Central Coast Council  
2017 Newcastle Regional Art Gallery. Sponsored by Newcastle City Council  
2016 The Arthouse, Central Coast. Sponsored by Central Coast Council  
2015 Gallery 139 Hamilton. Project Sponsored by Newcastle City Council  
2014 MAC Museum of Art & Culture. sponsored by Newcastle City Council  
2012 Newcastle Regional Library. Project sponsored by Maitland Council

## **Collections**

The University of Newcastle, Muswellbrook Regional Art Gallery. Private collections in the US, Iceland and Australia



*Galaxy 2022. Photograms on Silver Gelatin Paper*

*All enquiries can be sent to*  
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**www.simonedarcy.net**