



HAINES & HINTERDING ETHER

SUMER, TĀMAKI MAKĀURAU
24 JULY – 23 AUGUST 2025

If ever there was a time to listen to the hum of electromagnetism, a momentary station-break on the ceaseless chatter of commercial broadcast, the time is now. Surely, we need to stop and listen to the environment in novel and unusual ways at this moment in time. In our work, we are opening a portal, one that redefines our ideas of the environment as paradoxically, more fluid than solid, with a myriad of vital things occurring beyond the surface.

We need these experiences of contact with the invisible, they are necessary tools in helping to construct alternative ways of being in the world in which accepted systems are subverted, upended and provoked. In our current political reality, there is great scepticism around the existential influence of invisible forces, including the warming climate, and in this context our work offers new and potentially transformative embodied understandings of things we cannot see. By making invisible forces available to our senses, our work provides a way of coming to terms with how the real and the imagination can coexist, moving on a continuum, rather than as unproductive opposing forces.

– David Haines & Joyce Hinterding

Sumer is pleased to present *Ether*, a solo exhibition by Blue Mountains-based artists David Haines and Joyce Hinterding. This is the duo's first exhibition with the gallery and their first presentation in Aotearoa since 2019.

Ether brings together new and recent works that render the unseen forces of the world perceptible—capturing the subtle fields of energy that shape our experience of reality. Spanning photography, sculpture, and speculative electronics, the exhibition features collaborative and solo works that explore the artists' long-standing interest in energy, perception, and environmental attunement.

At the centre of the exhibition is *The Other Light* (2025), a fully functioning Muon detector that registers strikes of cosmic rays. When muon simultaneously passes through two of its three Geiger-Müller arrays this triggers three flash units, producing a sudden burst of light that briefly illuminates the gallery. "The pulses that crack like lightning... have always felt like a sign of a 'sombre precursor', a broadcast transmission from far away that precedes, configures life and also surpasses everything," the artists write.

Lichen and Stars (2021) presents diptychs that pair telescopic images of deep-space phenomena with macro photographs of lichen—compressing vast distances and scales into a single visual field. These juxtapositions invite reflection on the continuum between micro and macro, terrestrial and cosmic, biological and celestial. "In a single vista," writes James Gatt, "we are positioned simultaneously at terrestrial and interstellar levels."

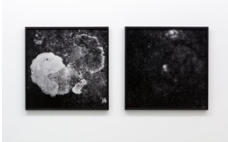
In *LC Lichen Oscillator (Cadmium Yellow)* (2025), a hand-built resonant circuit composed of gold-leaf antenna and silver-leaf capacitor draws low-frequency energy from the surrounding environment. Inspired by the structures of lichen and built to visual as well as functional logic, the work oscillates in the MHz range—its scavenging activity rendered audible via headphones.

David Haines (b. London, 1966) and Joyce Hinterding (b. Melbourne, 1958) live and work in Australia's Blue Mountains, on Darug and Gundengurra country. Exhibiting extensively, both as a collaborative duo and independently, their internationally renowned art practice explores the broader concept of energy, through various media, from large-scale immersive video installations and real-time interactive 3D environments to experimental audio works for performance, discrete objects, images, and aroma compositions. Their work challenges conventional notions of perception and reality.

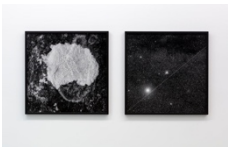
Highlights include the 23rd Biennale of Sydney Rivus (2022), as well as the 2002 and 1992 Sydney Biennales. In 2009, they received the Prix Ars Electronica Award of Distinction, and in 2015, the MCA featured their collaborative work in the survey exhibition *Energies Haines & Hinterding*. In 2016, they produced an extensive monograph exhibition titled *Résonances Magnétiques* at La Panacée in Montpellier, France. Their work is represented in numerous collections in Australia and internationally, including Artbank, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, Australian Centre for the Moving Image, Melbourne, Christchurch Art Gallery, Te Puna O Waiwhetu, New Zealand, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra and Queensland Art Gallery | The Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane.



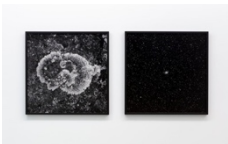
Haines & Hinterding
The Other Light (cosmic ray muon detector), 2025
Custom electronics with Geiger–Müller tubes, steel, polycarbonate, flash units, light
Dimensions variable
(HH-000001)



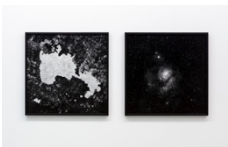
Haines & Hinterding
Lichen and Stars 1 (Glenbrook Gorge / M20 Trifid Nebula), 2021
Pigment print on Ilford Gold Fibre Pearl 290gsm, two parts
93 x 93 cm each
36 1/2 x 36 1/2 in each
Edition of 3 + 2 AP
(HH-000007)



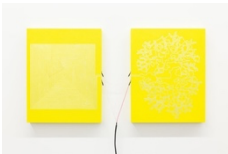
Haines & Hinterding
Lichen and Stars 2 (Faulconbridge / NGC4755 Jewel Box Star Cluster), 2021
Pigment print on Ilford Gold Fibre Pearl 290gsm, two parts
93 x 93 cm each
36 1/2 x 36 1/2 in each
Edition of 3 + 2 AP
(HH-000006)



Haines & Hinterding
Lichen and Stars 4 (Kings Tableland / M8 Lagoon Nebula), 2021
Pigment print on Ilford Gold Fibre Pearl 290gsm, two parts
93 x 93 cm each
36 1/2 x 36 1/2 in each
Edition of 3 + 2 AP
(HH-000005)



Haines & Hinterding
Lichen and Stars 5 (Kings Tableland / NGC4945 Barred Spiral Galaxy), 2021
Pigment print on Ilford Gold Fibre Pearl 290gsm, two parts
93 x 93 cm each
36 1/2 x 36 1/2 in each
Edition of 3 + 2 AP
(HH-000004)



Joyce Hinterding
LC Lichen Oscillator (Cadmium Yellow), 2025
16k green gold leaf lichen antenna, sterling silver leaf capacitor, acrylic on board, metal fittings, mixer with headphones
Dimensions variable (panels: 40.5 x 51 cm each)
(HH-000003)



David Haines
Excerpt from Transmission to the Sun, 2016
Ultrachrome pigment print on Canson Rag, two parts
50 x 35 cm each
19 3/4 x 13 3/4 in each
Edition of 3 + 2 AP
(HH-000002)