

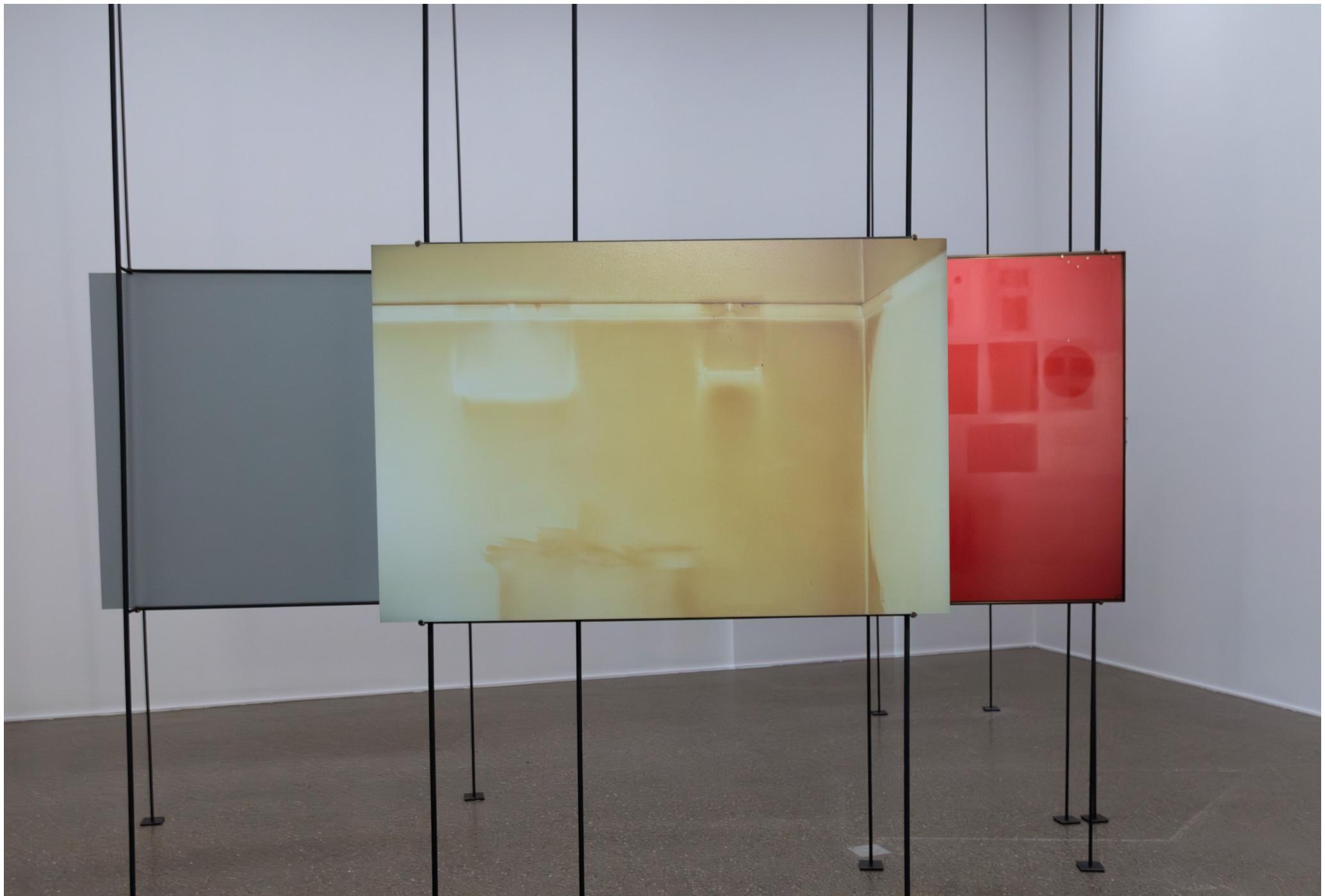
In the air we breathe  
Museum Folkwang  
21 November, 2025 - 4 January, 2026

Rudi Williams  
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Australian artist Rudi Williams presents photographs and photographic artefacts – some of which she has created herself, others she has found. Williams' motifs are quiet spaces full of traces that evoke a wealth of associations. In this exhibition, she focuses on camera-less images and silhouettes that revolve around the tension between presence and absence and address the theme of loss. Her practice reflects both the history and technical processes of photography, experimenting with early techniques such as daguerreotype and contact prints, also known as 'sun printing'.

The photographs, daguerreotypes and textiles on display are supported by delicate steel structures that refer to forms of presentation in museums and emphasise the distinctiveness of each object. Thus, photography does not appear here as a flood of images, but as a collection of unique, breathing testimonies. The title of the exhibition *In the air we breathe* refers to the perception of signs that emerge in the spirit of the social zeitgeist, such as the mood around 1839 when the invention of photography was already 'in the air' and images were 'fixed' for the first time.

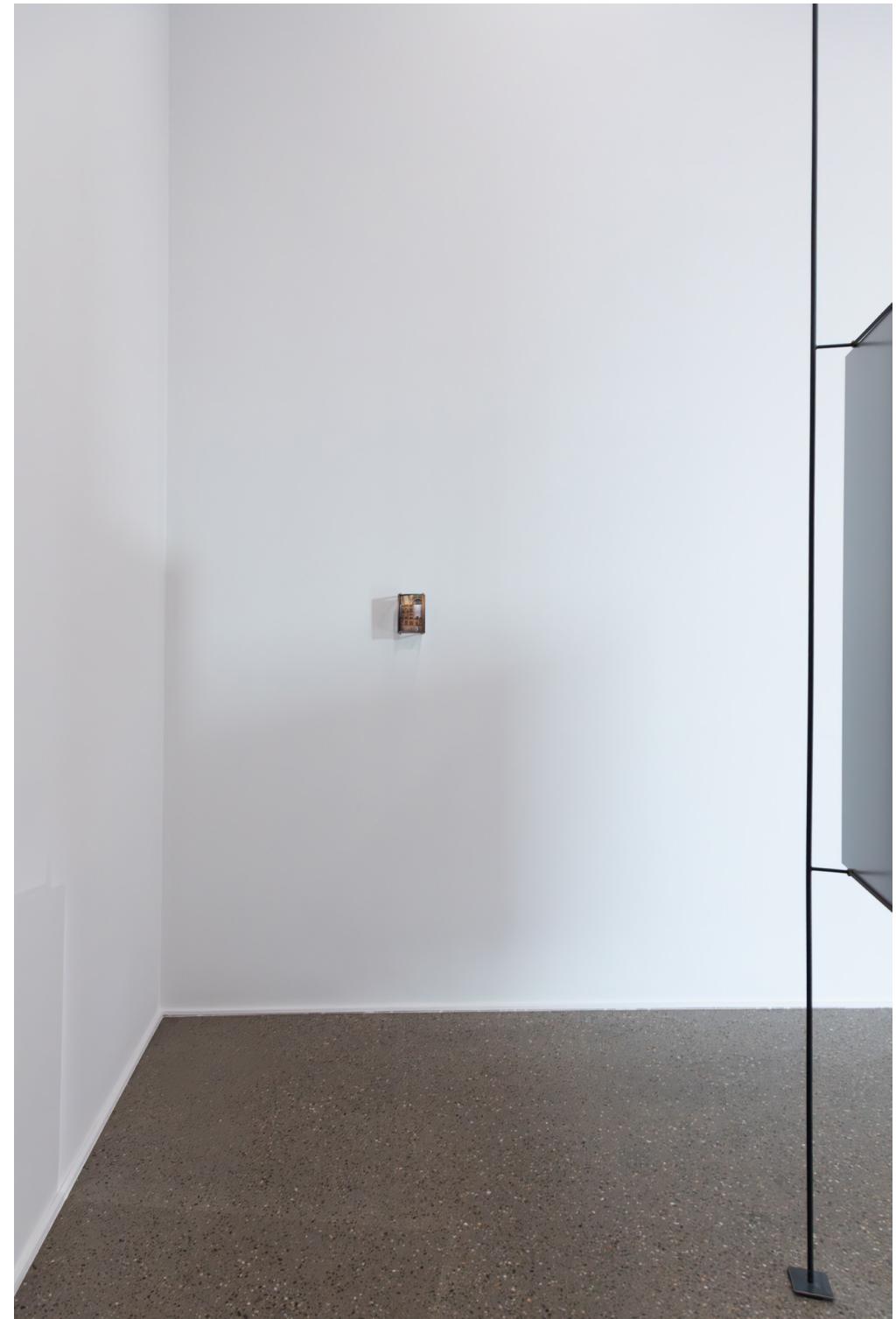
Rudi Williams, born in Italy in 1993 and now based in Melbourne, is this year's scholarship holder at the Neue Folkwang Residence. In her exhibitions, she often combines and contrasts images taken at different times and in different places, using varying photographic forms to reflect her own history in relation to concepts such as memory, temporality and the archive.









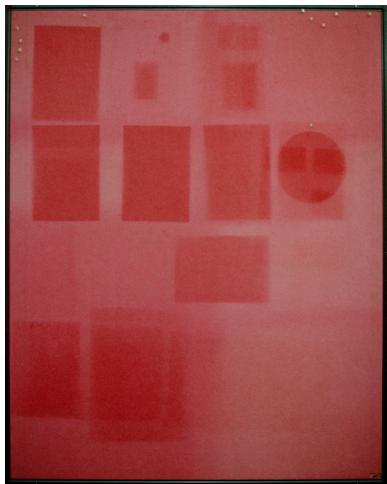




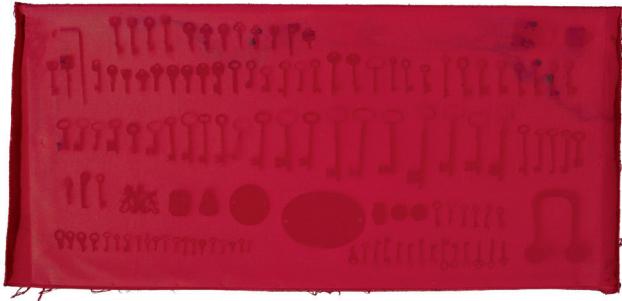
2022, *Cigarette smoke*, Parkville, Victoria, Australia.  
Hand printed chromogenic print on Dibond, water based ink, mild steel, 2025.  
118 x 77.5cm, with site specific steel supports.



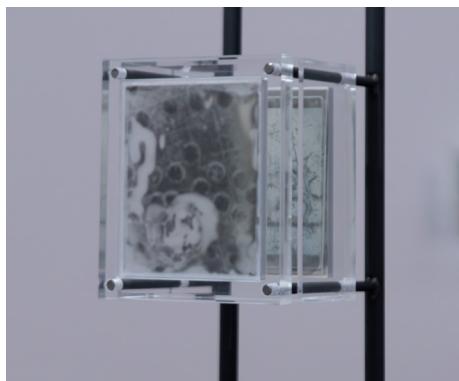
2022, *Cigarette smoke II*, Parkville, Victoria, Australia.  
Hand printed chromogenic print on Dibond, water based ink, mild steel, 2025.  
118 x 77.5cm, with site specific steel supports.



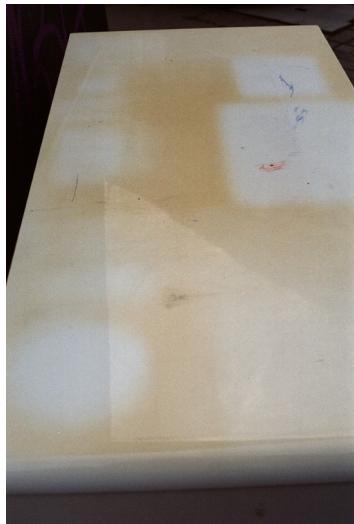
2024, *Pinboard* [Agatha Gothe-Snape, Crisis Meeting, 2023], Haydens Gallery, Brunswick, Victoria, Australia.  
Hand printed chromogenic print on Dibond, water based ink, mild steel, 2025.  
115 x 92cm, with site specific steel supports.



*Sunprint* purchased from Margaret Prendergast in 2019, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.  
Found textile, acrylic, mild steel, 2025.  
55cm x 118cm, with site specific steel supports.



*Contact print*,  
Glass, silver gelatine emulsion, Daguerrotype, acrylic,  
mild steel, silicone, 2025.  
13.6 x 11.6 x 8.6 cm, with site specific steel supports.



2025, Essen, Germany.  
Hand printed chromogenic print on Dibond, water  
based ink, mild steel, 2025.  
118 x 78.5cm, with site specific steel supports.



*2012, Sunprint photographed in the Vatican Museum,  
Vatican City. Chromogenic print on Dibond, mild  
steel, 2025.  
10 x 15cm*



*2012, Vatican Museum,  
Becquerel daguerreotype (triptych I), acrylic, mild  
steel, 2016.*



*2012, Vatican Museum,  
Becquerel daguerreotype (triptych II), acrylic, mild  
steel, 2016.*



*2012, Vatican Museum,  
Becquerel daguerreotype (triptych III), acrylic, mild  
steel, 2016.*