

SAMSTAG / SPRING SEASON

A photograph of a sunlit greenhouse interior. A paved path leads towards a large, arched glass entrance. The space is filled with lush green plants, including large ferns and palms. Sunlight filters through the glass, creating a warm, golden glow and casting shadows on the path.

Pilar Mata Dupont / The Ague

**THE AGUE /
GILLIAN BROWN**

Samstag's 2021 Spring Season brings together three major moving image installations that rest on the tension between fact and fiction.

For over a decade, the Adelaide Film Festival and Samstag Museum have pioneered an important, fruitful collaboration in the presentation of art and the moving image. Curated expressly with this longstanding shared interest mind, the programming of these three discrete exhibitions by Australian and international artists and collectives is linked by their embrace of play and experimentation in the construction of film, and their probing of what it means to exhibit film in a gallery context. What truths are emphasized by an artists' fiction and how, as viewers in a gallery rather than a cinema, do we respond?

The selected works represent a particular nexus of film and art, where documentary, genre, storytelling and concepts of space come into focus. In Samstag's ground floor gallery, Pilar Mata Dupont's *The Ague* draws upon the scientific world of London's Kew Gardens to tease out the irrationality, truths and misinformation that permeate our colonial history and ecological future. Upstairs, the Karrabing Collective's *Night Time Go*, begins hewing closely to the historical details of the disenfranchisement of Indigenous peoples before slowly morphing into an alternative history in which drama, humour and satire turn the tables on the powerful. Shot on country and in community, it is a work that represents truly innovative, collaborative film making. Lastly, Israeli-born, Berlin based Omer Fast's *Continuity* tells a disturbing tale of a middle-class couple who engage a succession of actors to play the part of their son, a young soldier supposedly returned from Afghanistan. A fiction with the air of authenticity, Fast's work is a reminder that the work of a filmmaker can deceive as effectively as it can reveal.

PILAR MATA DUPONT /
THE AGUE



**PILAR MATA DUPONT /
THE AGUE**

Director/Cinematographer/Producer

Pilar Mata Dupont

Written by

Jessica Bunch

Composer

Tom Hogan

Voice Actor

Emma Clarke

Editor

Alexis McCrimmon

Colourists

Alexis McCrimmon and Pilar Mata Dupont

Sound Designer/Recordist

Jacco Prantl

First Assistant Director/Camera Assistant

Jammie Nicholas

References

Khadija von Zinnenburg Carroll (Ed.), *Botanical Drift: Protagonists of the Invasive Herbarium*, Sternberg Press, Berlin, 2017

Mr 'Whiskey' Sisodia on the English in: Salman Rushdie, *The Satanic Verses*, New York: Viking, 1989, page 343

Virginia Woolf, *Kew Gardens*, Hogarth Press, London, 1927

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**PILAR MATA DUPONT /
THE AGUE**

22 October — 3 December 2021
Samstag Museum of Art, Gallery 1

Curator: Gillian Brown
Catalogue author: Gillian Brown

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SAMSTAG

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