

# Presence

## Margaret Lawrence Gallery 2 -31 March 2017

Rick Amor, Clarice Beckett, Louise Hearman, Frederick McCubbin,  
Michael Riley, Fred Williams, Eugene Von Guérard  
Curated by Dr David Sequeira

Presence invites viewers to consider at the big picture of Art at the Victorian College of the Arts. A suite of 6 small works by some of the VCA's most significant and celebrated alumni is presented in the context of *Empire*, a ground breaking work by Indigenous film maker Michael Riley. Collectively the group of paintings speaks of change and transition, an evolving visual language, a multiplicity of viewpoints and an abundance of ideas around place, identity, nature. The inclusion of Michael Riley's emotionally charged film and its sweeping soundtrack is a potent reminder of Indigenous understandings of art and landscape existing for centuries before the VCA's 150-year history.

### List of works (clockwise)

Clarice Beckett (1887-1935)

*Half Moon Bay* Undated, oil on board 28.5 x 38cm  
Courtesy Rosalind Hollinrake and Niagara Galleries

Eugene Von Guérard (1811-1901)

*From below the Lighthouse, Cape Shanck, Victoria* 1873, oil on paper on board 24.5 x 31.5 cm  
Courtesy Wilbow Collection

Michael Riley (1960-2004)

*Empire* 1997 Commissioned by Rhoda Roberts for the Festival of the Dreaming 1997, Video  
Courtesy Australian Broadcasting Corporation

Fred Williams (1927-1982)

*Hillside III* 1968, oil on canvas 61 x 66 cm  
Courtesy Heidi Victoria Collection

Rick Amor (b. 1948)

*Summer Morning Lucerne Crescent Alphington* 2012, oil on canvas 51 x 40.5 cm  
Courtesy the artist and Niagara Galleries

Louise Hearman (b. 1963)

*Untitled #480* 1997, oil on composition board 68.5 x 53.5cm  
Courtesy Wilbow Collection

Frederick McCubbin (1855-1917)

*At Macedon* 1913, oil on canvas 51.8 x 61.2  
Courtesy Wilbow Collection

The Margaret Lawrence Gallery thanks Charles Nodrum Gallery their generous assistance with this exhibition