

Stanley Street gallery

ZORICA PURLIJA

March, 2025

Zorica Purlija (b. Montenegro) is a contemporary visual artist based on Gadigal land. Working predominately in photography, Purlija's work is based on attachment and care for the primary relationships and landscape she finds herself in. Informed by a background in graphic and digital media, her photographic practice draws on abstraction and collage to forge an ethereal reflective visual language.

Recent Exhibitions include, Fade into You, The Fall, So, this is goodbye.

In 2020 Purlija completed a MFA in Photo Media at UNSW Art and Design. She has been a finalist in The Josephine Ulrick and Win Schubert Photography Award (2024/2025), the Gosford Art Prize (2023), the National Photographic Portrait Prize (2010, 2009, 2008), HeadOn Portrait Prize (2022), the Ravenswood Women's Art Prize (2020), the Fisher Ghost Art Award (2017), the MAMA Photography Prize (2016), the Winifred Bowness Award (2014), the Ulrick Award (2011) and the Olive Cotton Award (2009). She has exhibited in New York, Zurich and Venice.

Education

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| 2020 | Postgraduate Masters of Art in Digital Media | UNSW Art & Design, Sydney |
| 2003 | Portrait Summer Course | National Art School |
| 1989 | Associate Diploma of Visual Arts, Major in Photography with Distinction | University of Western Sydney |

Solo exhibitions

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| 2024 | So, This is Goodbye | Stanley Street Gallery, Darlinghurst |
| 2023 | The Fall | Stanley Street Gallery, Darlinghurst |
| 2021 | Fade Into You | Stanley Street Gallery, Darlinghurst |
| | Portraits of Yumi | Home@735 Gallery Redfern |
| 2017 | Berlin #1- #3 | SARA RONEY Gallery Sydney |
| 2016 | Crescent | BAROMETER Gallery Paddington |
| | Smoke and Haze | GALLERY 61 REVISITED, Newcastle |
| 2014 | Landscape-Jackson Hole | SARA RONEY Gallery Sydney |
| 2012 | Nebula | SARA RONEY Gallery Sydney |
| 2011 | Transience | SARA RONEY Gallery Sydney |
| 2010 | Awakenings | SARA RONEY Gallery Sydney |
| 2000 | Shedding Skin | PND Conference, Rex Centre Potts Point |

Group exhibitions

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| 2025 | Minyon Falls | Finalist, The Josephine Ulrick and Win Schubert Photography Award |
| | Self Portrait with plant, Lumen Print | Cista Arts, Self Portrait Exhibition online |
| 2024 | Two Kings | Finalist, 62nd Annual Fisher's Ghost Art Award, Campbelltown Arts Centre |
| | Minyon Falls | Finalist, The Josephine Ulrick and Win Schubert Photography Award |
| | Towards Something | Manipulated, Articulate Project Space, Petersham |
| | Among Trees | Finalist, Northern Beaches Environmental Art & Design Prize, Manly Art Gallery, Sydney |
| | | Finalist, Shutter Hub's (RETURN) TO THE SEA , The Seafront Gallery, Worthing UK |
| | Minyon Falls | Finalist, Canberra Contemporary Photographic Prize, Photo Access, Manuka Arts Centre, ACT |
| | Minyon Falls | Finalist, UniSQ Biennial Art Award, Art Gallery, University of Southern Queensland 487-535 West Street, Toowoomba |
| | Love heart Tree | Sacred Grove in Your Street, Art Space on The Concourse, Chatswood. |
| | Into Silence, Rockhead | Beauty Runs the Gauntlet, Bondi Pavilion Gallery, Bondi Beach |
| 2023 | Yumi with pink Rose at 16 | Paris Photo OFF at Galerie Joseph, Paris |
| | Submerge | Finalist, Canberra Contemporary Photographic Prize Exhibition, Manuka Arts Centre Gardens |
| | The swan Sunbaker | Finalist, PH21 Contemporary Photography Gallery Budapest, Portraits Beyond Faces |
| | In a Trance | Finalist, City of Sydney Art and About Exhibition, Custom's House Circular Quay |
| | For our Children | A Festival of Repair, 107 Projects Redfern |
| | Gushing | Finalist, Gosford Art Prize, Gosford Regional Gallery, East Gosford |
| | Into Silence | A Different Kind of Place, Group Exhibition, Chrissie Cotter Gallery, Camperdown |
| | Submerge | Awagami International Miniature Print Exhibition (AIMPE), Inbe Art Space, Japan |
| | 9 x 5 | Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre, Victoria |

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| | Golden Moments | Earth Group Exhibition, Articulate Project Space, Marrickville |
| | Online | Humans and the Environment, Cista Arts, International Call Out |
| 2022 | Mum dying Rajka's hair, Featured artist Purple Dreams | The Luupe's Visions of Motherhood Finalist, The Little things Art Prize, Saint Cloche Gallery, Sydney |
| 2021 | Lethbridge Landscape Prize Contemporary Portrait Exhibition at The SE Center for Photography GOT THE SHOT, NOW GET CREATIVE | Finalist, Salon des Refuses, Queensland Greenville, SC, US Finalist, New York Center for Photographic Art, Curator Ellen Denuto |
| 2020 | Flora Exhibition Into Silence Biomorphic | City of Greater Dandenong, Victoria Summer Group Show Aro Gallery Darlinghurst UNSW MFA Graduate's Exhibition, UNSW Galleries, Paddington |
| 2019 | Smoke and Haze #3 Berlin #2 | Goodnight, GAFFA Gallery, Sydney The Corner Store Gallery, Orange NSW |
| 2016 | Let the Love Shine Through Persimmon, Pear | Ilford CCP Salon, CCP Gallery Fitzroy, Victoria The Gaze, Gallery 61 Revisited, Newcastle |
| 2015 | Agent Fetish Ode to el Greco & Tam | Portraits, Stanley Street Gallery, Darlinghurst Passion Fruits Group Show Exhibition, GAFFA Gallery, Sydney |
| 2013 | Australian Identity and Beyond Nebula | MUSE Gallery, Ultimo SARA RONEY Annex Gallery, Sydney |

Awards and achievements

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| 2024 | Lake House Artist Residency | Lake Macquarie NSW. |
| 2024 | Long Listed | Aesthetica Art Prize, The Future Now Symposium, York Art Gallery, UK |
| 2023 | Winner | Charring Cross Photos 'Streets' call out |
| 2017 | Early Curator Award | ARC and UNSW School of Art and Design Paddington |
| 2015 | First Prize | Value Your Mind, Mental Health Month Art Exhibition, UNSW Art & Design, Sydney |
| | Portrait Category 3rd prize, Yumi in her Bedroom | MIFA 2014 Winners Exhibition, Rooftop Gallery Bangkok |

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| | 3rd prize, Yumi in her Bedroom | Portrait Finalists Exhibition NYC4PA New Century Artists, Chelsea, NY |
| 2014 | 3rd Place Fine Art Portrait Category, Yumi in her Bedroom | Moscow International Foto Awards |
| 2009 | Winner, Food for Thought | Wesley Mission Photography Competition - Our Community |

Residencies & Workshops

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| 2024 | Lake House Artist Residency | Cyanotype Workshop, MAC Yapang, Lake Macquarie NSW. |
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Collections

NYC4PA New Century Artists, Chelsea, New York US
 Malamegi Lab, Udine Italy
 Tweed River Art Gallery, NSW
 Sara Roney Gallery, NSW

Commissions

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| 2020 | Art in the Time of COVID-19 | Nillumbik Shire Council, Victoria |
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Grants

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| 2016 | Student Community and Development Grant for Exhibition 'The Mother' | ARC and UNSW Kensington |
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