

onespace



reveal

Renata Buziak

20 September - 21 October 2017

Renata Buziak

Self-Portraiture from the Solitary Performance

Renata Buziak's artistic interests are vested in the cyclical nature of life, its microscopic processes writ large like landscapes, with her personal history and insights melding with the sensual depth of the natural forest environment. Most of her work in recent years has focused on the biochrome, a photographic process that recasts garden and forest environments—leaves and organic materials—through a process of decomposition that is tactile, painterly, and driven by nature's colours and forms that are literally embedded in the local landscape. In contrast, the self-portraits that are being shown for the first time in this exhibition aptly titled *reveal* record her physical presence in this place.

These enigmatic images capture Buziak's physicality, movement patterns, and silhouette, without the possibility of recognition. They are dynamic vignettes showing arrested movement that appear like flashes from a frenetic dance floor, their psychedelic colours evoking acid pop or action painting. In their colour, style and presentation, these multilayered images are a dramatic departure from her other studio practice. Yet in their record of her body, they also note the transience of humanity in a global milieu characterised by movement of people and populations. In these works Buziak posits humanity within a similar process to the natural detritus and its cyclic nature of her biochromes.

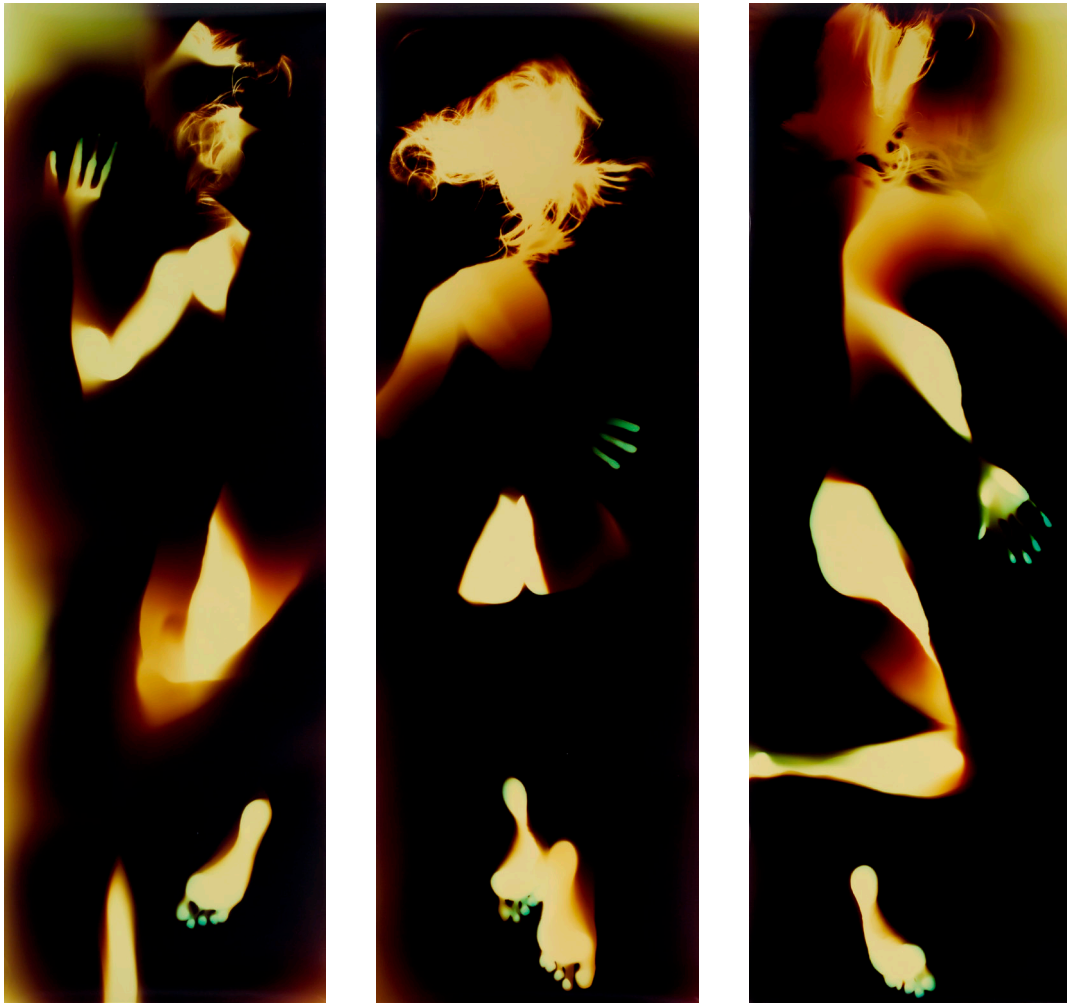
The photograms in this exhibition were created during multiple versions of a solitary performance, born of days alone in the dark room. The images exhibit a painterly use of photography, using light, albeit with the rapid-fire aesthetic of the photogram. While Buziak has regularly made self-portraits, these recent works are her first created in series.

The shapes of the paper echo Buziak's physicality; long narrow vignettes, they are slivers of action that record her body contacting the paper, using time lapse and light. She has said, "They are experimental, serendipitous. This is a change for me, to work within a one-to-one scale. They are exactly the size of my body; the image captures the movement [of my body] on the paper."

While she has put herself in the frame, Buziak becomes disembodied in the process, distanced through the abstracted nature of the photogram. Her interests are also informed by the performative body, a solitary act randomly selected by the light and colour of the process. The works parallel theatrical performances where the light directs the eye, and her poem *Solitary Performance* evokes a dance, tracing the arc of memory vested in the body and its motion-driven changes.

Slices of this action are displayed in tight groups that denote each 'performance', positioned in the space like slots in the wall, corralled corners of discrete activity. Recognisable are the archetypal silhouettes of hands and feet (which remind me of the stencilled images you may see in age-old rock paintings), hair, and limbs. These images are dynamic in their capture of regular and constant movement, offering Buziak's embrace of "the rhythm and colour of my heart beat", the exhilarating physical act of being human in this place and time.

Louise Martin-Chew



Left to right:

Renata Buziak, *Following the light turning, Following the light bouncing, Following the light twisting*, 2017, C-type print on aluminium, unique, 146 x 47cm each.

Silence

Darkness

I step, I reach and fall

I touch, I turn and roll

Light, dark, light, dark, light, dark

Reveal and trace

As I struggle to twist and press

Confined

Just to gently release with a lift and a stretch

Free the movement, unlock energy

Transcend gesture

Embrace the rhythm and colour

Of my heart beat

Renata Buziak, *Solitary Performance*, 2017

onespace



Renata Buziak is a Polish born, Brisbane based photo-media artist, and a recent PhD graduate of the Queensland College of Art (QCA) Griffith University Brisbane. Renata is a sessional academic; she is passionate about nature, art, collaborations and education.

Renata's experimental biochrome work has been exhibited in solo and group exhibitions, nationally and internationally, including the Perth Institute for Contemporary Art (PICA), Red Gallery in Melbourne, the Queensland Centre for Photography (QCP), Gaffa Gallery in Sydney, Photo LA, Temple University Philadelphia, Academy of Fine Art in Warsaw and more.

Renata is a recipient of several grants and scholarships, and a number of art awards. She completed several artist residencies including: Brisbane Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha, TreeLine at the Caloundra Regional Gallery, Lines in the Sand Arts Festival, Flickering Overtones at Wilson's Downfall; and Bilpin International Grounds for Creative Initiatives.

Renata's work is held in private and public collections including The Macquarie Group, University of Queensland, Redlands Art Gallery, Mater Hospital, Gadens Lawyers and The National Museum in Wrocław Poland.

Her monograph *Renata Buziak: Afterimage* was launched in 2010 by the QCP, and her research papers published in the Studio Research Journal and in Brisbane Diseased publication. In 2014 Renata was invited to exhibit at the 4th Biennale Ars Polonia at the Opole Contemporary Art Gallery in Poland and her first international solo exhibition is currently on at WM Gallery in Amsterdam.

Acknowledgements and thanks to:

Renata Buziak, Louise Martin-Chew, Dr William Platz, Scott Campbell, 3E Innovative, Simon Brigden, Alicia Hollier, Benjamin Werner, Evie's Editing Services and Matt Rees Signs.

Gallery Directors: John Stafford & Jodie Cox

john@onespacegallery.com.au & jodie@onespacegallery.com.au

Gallery Officer: Jamie Mercer

info@onespacegallery.com.au

onespacegallery.com.au

13a Gladstone Road
Highgate Hill QLD 4101
+61 7 3846 0642

Wed to Fri: 10am – 5pm

Sat: 9am – 3pm



Sponsor

THE FOX

