



Flinders University Museum of Art presents ***Some Like it Hot***, an exhibition that intersects sweat, sex, desire and discord in Darwin, Australia's hottest and most remote capital city.

Curated by art historian Wendy Garden with works by Therese Ritchie and Franck Gohier, ***Some Like it Hot*** commenced its national tour at the Araluen Art Centre in Alice Springs in November 2022. This exciting body of work arrived at the Flinders University Museum of Art in South Australia on February 20, with an opening night set to take place on Thursday 9 March, from 4-7pm.

The seed of Garden's curiosity to curate ***Some Like it Hot*** stems from 19th century newspaper articles claiming certain degeneracy of white men sent to the tropics. These assertions, likely penned by authors comfortable in positions of patriarchal power, played on Garden's mind while thinking of her own place within the Top End landscape.

If you are familiar with the work of prominent Northern Territory artists Therese Ritchie and Franck Gohier, it will come as no surprise that Wendy Garden has chosen these two master storytellers to explore ideas of gender.

Both Gohier and Ritchie have spent much of their impressive careers in Darwin, putting human behaviour under a philosophical microscope, and their works contest gender myths, body politics, hyper-masculinity, and accountability.

Ritchie's digital delight, *'Simply Did Not Happen'* depicts lush tropical flowers exploding with fertility dripping over a man's naked torso; another of her works takes a more sober approach. Titled, *"Impale Ale"* the digital print frames a group of men engaged in a physical altercation outside a Darwin drive through bottle shop, the city with the highest rates of alcohol consumption per capita in Australia.

"There is nothing more satisfying than being able to make a picture about a complicated issue", Ritchie says of her quest to hold society accountable. With a background in journalism and a sharp eye for design, Therese Ritchie is well known and respected for her astute social commentary.

Meanwhile with acrylic on boards, Gohier's femme fatales wrestle crocodiles (*Nature vs Nurture*) and drape a drowning Narzissus over their strong shoulders while donning tiny bikinis over their aspirational hourglass figures. (*The Rescue*)

Alluding to gender stereotypes popularised in mid-20th century comic books, romance narratives and action films, Franck Gohier creates paintings and prints that deploy a pop art aesthetic to question sexualised binaries. Drawing upon narratives popularised in romance comics, he humorously probes gendered expressions of love and strife in the sweltering heat of the Top End. *"A sense of humour"*, Gohier says, *"helps the medicine go down, and goes a long way to survive in an often harsh, outpost, frontier*

**Quote from Artback NT Chief Executive Officer, Shay Vigona-Goudge**

"Reflecting its Top End genesis, this exhibition about heat, place and gendered behaviour is challenging, amusing, irreverent and impressive. But most of all, Some Like it Hot is very cool."

Some Like it Hot is being proudly toured by Artback NT with support from the Northern Territory Government, Australia Council for the Arts, and Visions Australia.

EXHIBITION DATES**[Some Like it Hot](#)**

20 February – 16 June 2023

Flinders University Museum of Art | Bedford Park, SA

OPENING EVENT

Thursday 9 March 2023

[RSVP HERE](#)

4pm | Floortalk

Join Dr Wendy Garden in conversation with Therese Ritchie

5–7pm | Exhibition launch

To be officially opened by Associate Professor Barbara Baird
College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences | Flinders University

Flinders University Museum of Art

Flinders University | Sturt Road | Bedford Park SA 5042

FUMA is located on the ground floor of the Social Sciences North building – off Humanities Road and adjacent car park 5. [Public transport](#) | [Parking](#) | [Map](#)

For interviews and media enquiries please contact:

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Image: Therese Ritchie, *Simply did not happen*, 2021, pigment print, 80 x 110cm, courtesy of the artist