

Carolyn McKay, 'The APOD Solution' (2024) 7 neon flex signs, dimensions variable, with looped video of Ai promptographs, 8:54 mins, exhibited in 'Boundaries: Transcended', WattSpace Gallery, University of Newcastle



WattSpace Gallery  
University of Newcastle  
Instagram post  
31 October 2024

**Posts**  
wattspace

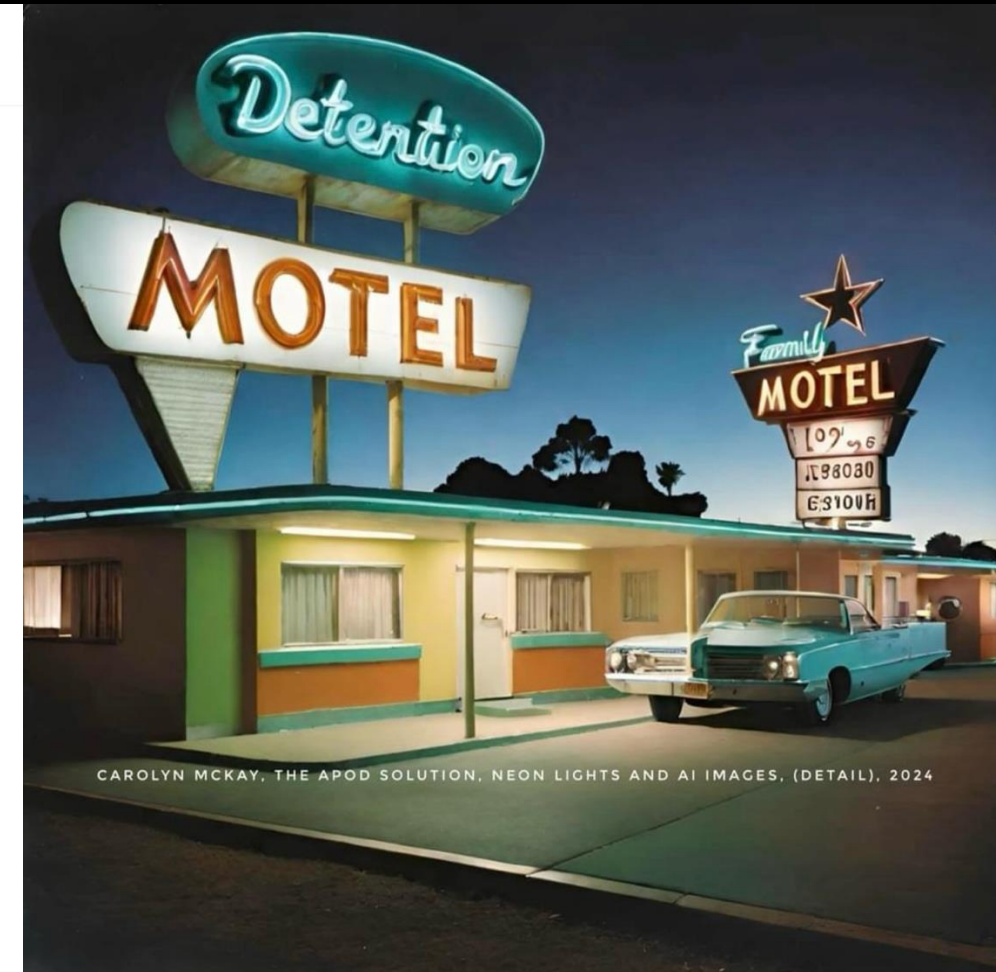
Liked by mountainmistartstudio and others  
wattspace It's all the neon lights, it's all about the destination. View 'The APOD Solution' by artist Carolyn McKay (@carolyn.mckay.studio) responding to the "weirdness of APOD hotels / motels as destinations for fun family holidays and, simultaneously, prolonged and traumatic detention. My installations reference Australian immigration case law and related reports regarding the use of hotels/motels as 'alternative places of detention' or the acronym, APODs."

The BOUNDARIES and BELONGINGS Exhibition is coming to an end on Saturday 02 November.

@wattspace OPEN Wed-Fri 10-5 Sat 12-4

IMAGE The APOD Solution, 2024  
Single image from series of AI promptographs in looped video 8:54mins

#wattspacegallery @uongallery  
@citynewcastle.au #australianartist  
#visitnewcastle #whatsonnewcastle



CAROLYN MCKAY, THE APOD SOLUTION, NEON LIGHTS AND AI IMAGES, (DETAIL), 2024

TODAY AT 14:00  
**BOUNDARIES: TRANSCENDED opening**  
Cnr King & Auckland St, Newcastle, NSW, Austr...

'The APOD Solution', reproduced, full page in  
UoN Arts and Culture Strategy 2025-2030.

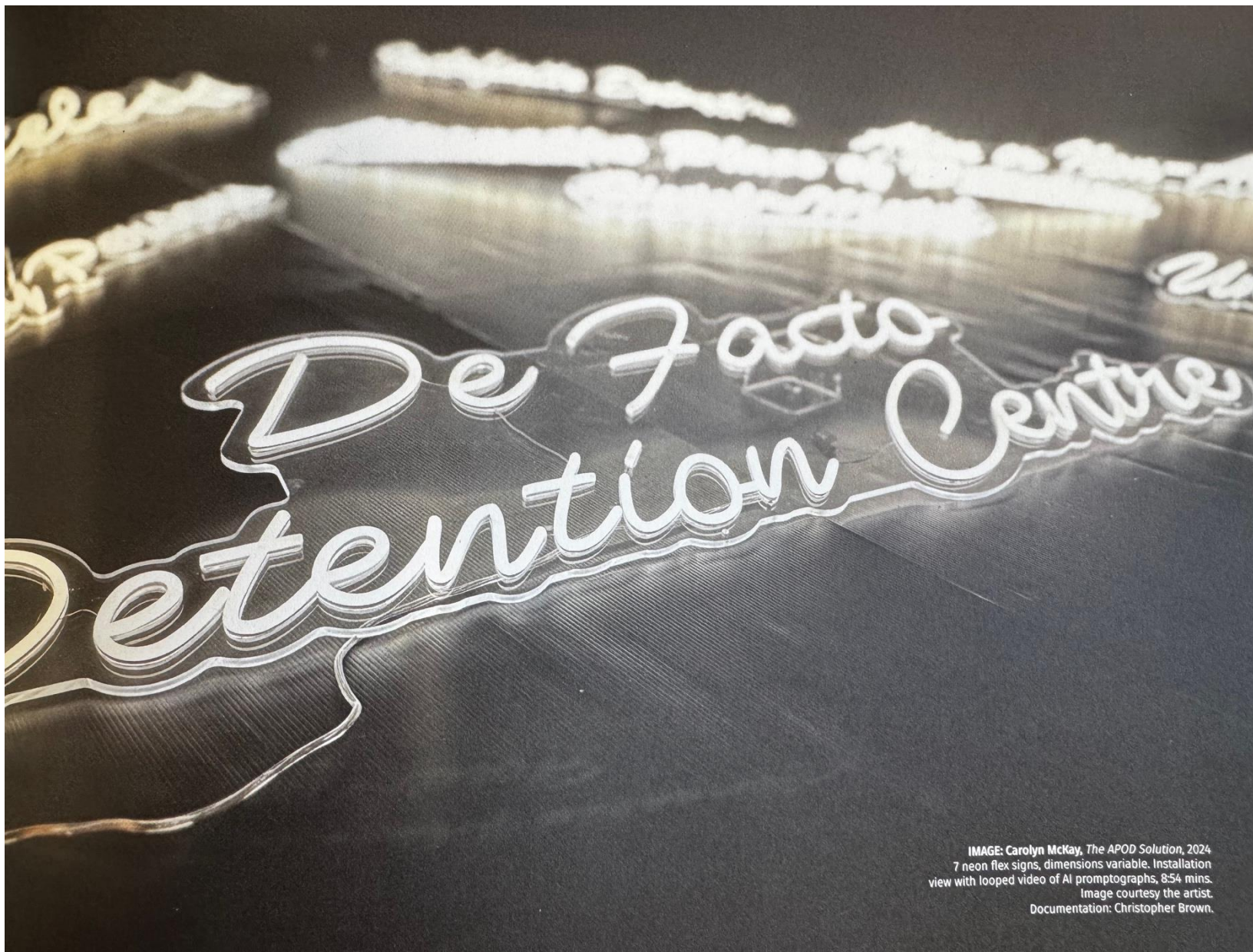


IMAGE: Carolyn McKay, *The APOD Solution*, 2024  
7 neon flex signs, dimensions variable. Installation  
view with looped video of AI promptographs, 8:54 mins.  
Image courtesy the artist.  
Documentation: Christopher Brown.

Carolyn McKay 'In the Palm of our Hands' (2024) Looped video, 2:18 mins with audio, exhibited in 'Boundaries: Transcended', WattSpace Gallery, University of Newcastle





## BOUNDARIES : TRANSCENDED

6 September to 2 November, 2024

Please join the artists; The Unity Project, Carolyn McKay, Alice Neikirk, Mojgan Habibi and Emma Stanistreet for the launch event at **Watt Space Gallery** 2pm Saturday, 7 September, for an afternoon of dance, music, song and food.

Coming together under the name Boundaries : Transcended is a project initiated by Alice Neikirk, a lecturer in our School of Law working with ceramicist Mojgan Habibi. Called The Unity Project, participants\* have created over 700 tiny houses to acknowledge the resettlement of refugees in the Hunter Valley. Exhibiting alongside this project is artist and legal academic Carolyn McKay, who has explored the legal documentation and the punitive measures taken in Australia in the management of refugees into 'detention Hotels'. Through use of AI software, Carolyn extends this antithetical relationship through text, video and neon sign installation.

Alice and Mojgan have worked together on another project that uses sound to highlight the experiences of migration and diaspora that are echoed through the ceramic forms of traditional Iranian water urns. Emma Stanistreet creates clay vessels and weaves in objects of memory. Emma will also weave forms directly into the gallery space where guests are invited to continue the weavings over the course of the exhibition, further exploring ideas of connectivity and community as lives and memories become intertwined.

\* Hunter Community Languages, Mosaic Multicultural Youth, the Multicultural Action Group, Newcastle Library, Open Foundation students, Children's University, Hunter School of the Performing Arts, Refugee Hub, and the Moree Community Art Centre



### IMAGES

TOP: Boundaries : Transcended 2024  
The Unity Project  
Handform of ceramic houses, various sizes  
Image courtesy Alice Neikirk and  
The Unity Project

RIGHT: Carolyn McKay  
In the Palm of our Hands  
still from video with audio installation



UNIVERSITY  
GALLERIES



### WATT SPACE GALLERY

OPENING HOURS Wed - Fri 10am - 5pm Sat 12 - 4pm

or by appointment

CONTACT US email [wattspacegallery@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:wattspacegallery@newcastle.edu.au)

website [www.newcastle.edu.au/wattspacegallery](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/wattspacegallery)



Carolyn McKay

'The APOD Solution' (2024)

University of Sydney Herbert  
Smith Freehills Law Library

February – October 2025