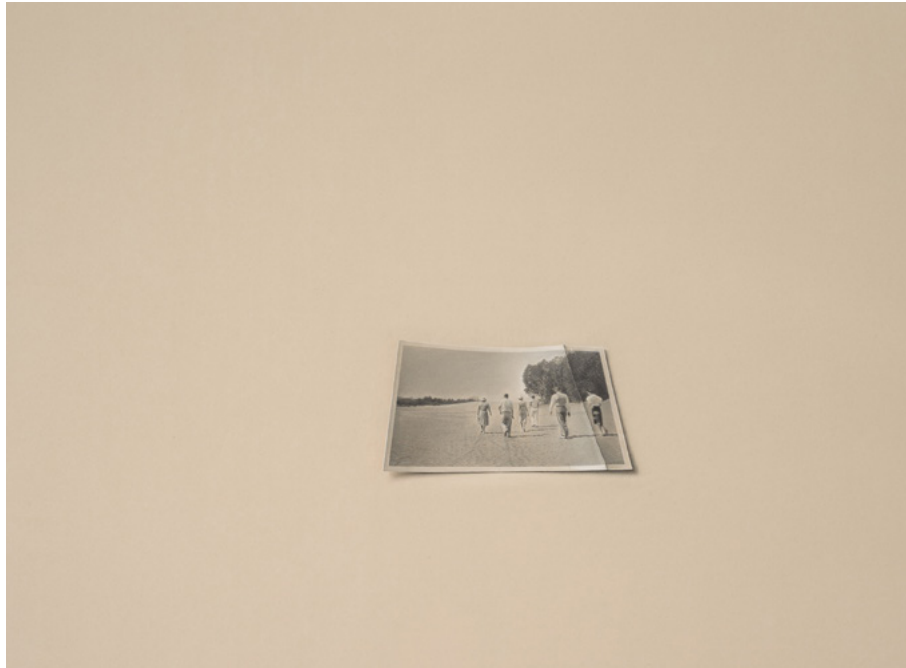


# And I Would Say These Things To No One But You

6 September 2025 – 22 February 2026  
Albert & Barbara Tucker Gallery  
Curator: Melissa Keys



Maria Kontis  
*I think it's better we wait till after the war*  
2025  
pastel on velvet paper  
56 x 76 cm  
Courtesy of the artist and  
Darren Knight Gallery, Warrane/Sydney

Working in pastel on paper, Maria Kontis creates intricate, finely detailed drawings of fragments of miscellanea such as found photographs, discarded crumbled papers and forms of correspondence. At first glance the drawings appear to be faithful, straightforward reproductions, however, upon closer inspection they have been subjected to slight changes and subtractions.

For this exhibition, Kontis has made a new suite of work that subtly redraws modernist artist Albert Tucker's intriguing photographic recordings of the intimacies of his daily life in the 1940s. Exaggerating irregularities such as blurred focus and existing folds in the paper support, her work poignantly registers aspects of the original chemical prints and physical documents that may otherwise remain unnoticed. Kontis has said that her aim is to create works that 'do not stand apart from Albert Tucker's images as commentary but instead operate alongside them, extending their inner workings and drawing them out of themselves'.

In addition to the suite of drawings, the artist has modified furniture referencing pieces we see in the background of Tucker's photographs—sculpting, erasing and reworking chairs and a side table by planing, rasping and un-making the items that were once part of every-day life at Heide. Various indexing and refracting one another, the drawings and the sculpted objects work in concert, creating an immersive environment that moves the viewer into the lived experience of an intensely creative artists' collective. Presented in-situ, Kontis' installation creates a space where visitors can experience the Heide circle anew.

# List of works

This catalogue is arranged chronologically then alphabetically by title. Measurements are height before width before depth. All works courtesy of the artist and Darren Knight Gallery, Gadigal Country/Sydney

## Maria Kontis

Born 1969, Ngambri and Ngunnawal Country/Canberra, Australian National Territory



*Everything right now* 2017  
pastel on velvet paper  
2 panels, each 56 x 76 cm



*21 flying fortresses came over here very low yesterday* 2025  
pastel on velvet paper  
56 x 76.5 cm



*More or less alone in the world* 2024  
pastel on velvet paper  
56 x 76 cm



*At the Tivoli, 1940* 2025  
pastel on velvet paper  
56 x 76.5 cm



*Bert to Grey* 2025  
pastel on velvet paper  
56 x 76.5 cm



*Establishing the Three Little Aussie Painters* 2025  
pastel on velvet paper  
56 x 76.5 cm



*He could feel those things I feel* 2025  
pastel on velvet paper  
56 x 76.5 cm



*Heide dining chair* 2025  
oak  
110 x 57.5 x 54.5 cm



*I feel happy now and love everything* 2025  
pastel on velvet paper  
56 x 76.5 cm



*I think it's better we wait till after the war*  
2025  
pastel on velvet paper  
65 x 76.5 cm

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*Joy's chair* 2025  
maple  
86 x 45 x 45 cm

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*Joy's list* 2025  
pastel on velvet paper  
76.5 x 56 cm

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*Merric's table* 2025  
mahogany  
74 x 108 x 51.5 cm

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*The Spanish Web* 2025  
pastel on velvet paper  
56 x 76.5 cm

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*There is nothing in the world I couldn't do*  
2025  
pastel on velvet paper  
76.5 x 87.5 cm  
Courtesy of the artist and Darren Knight  
Gallery, Gadigal Country/Syd

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