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Indifferent attitude: The readymade, the tableau, and the photographic medium

A exegesis presented in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Fine Arts at Massey University Wellington, New Zealand.

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Abstract

This thesis considers the notion of the ‘pictorial’. This sits in opposition to conceptual art’s more deliberate, rationalised, and theoretical working methods. My aim is to explore a balance through the combination of both ‘pictorial’ and ‘conceptual’ strategies.

The studio submission Indifferent Attitude uses subtle shifts in production techniques to present a fractured suite of photographic works. In so doing, it plays with the convention of photographic practice and resists any requirement to provide a clear sense of limits.