

Machar (left and right view), 2021, Shea Kirk **Audio Description transcript**

You are listening to the audio description of Shea Kirk's work called *Machar (left and right view) 2021*, as part of *Interfacial Intimacies* an exhibition of photography, film, painting, installation, textile, and performance by artists who hold and express tenderly the multiple aspects of their selves through a series of portraits and anti-portraits. The exhibition has been curated by Caine Chennatt, developed by the Plimsoll Gallery and toured by Contemporary Art Tasmania.

Machar is an Archival pigment print on Canson Platine Fibre Rag 310gsm.

It is 63.5 wide x 51 cm high and is part of an edition of 5 + 1 Artist Proof.

Machar is a black and white dual-portrait of a seated young and shirtless dark-skinned man with muscular build. The image of the man appears twice, one next to the other in horizontal arrangement. The man's hair is braided very closely to the scalp.

They are looking directly at the camera with a serious expression.

They wear dark jeans with a leather belt.

The background of the subject is plain and light.

They have facial hair on their chin and above their lip. Their chest is bare.

The veins on their gently resting arms are protruding and visible.

Their skin creases in three straight lines across their otherwise flat abdomen.

Shea Kirk uses a dual large-format camera set-up, to simultaneously capture two images from slightly different perspectives to make a stereoscopic pair – emulating the natural vision of the left and right eyes.

Kirk says: "For me, they are complete together as a pair, as separate side-by-side images, as a single view, or combined as a three-dimensional experience."

They go on to say:

"Within photography there's this idea of getting the one 'right angle' to display or reproduce as a document," and "A lot of the time, a portrait is reduced to face and hands, but the body is the record of our being. There's a strength and power in being photographed as you are – markers of wealth, class, time and era disappear when you remove those external layers of cloth."

Shea Kirk, born in 1985 is a Melbourne-based visual artist working with traditional photographic methods and techniques. They have been a finalist in the Olive Cotton Award (2019); National Photographic Portrait Prize (2019) and the Head On Portrait Prize (2018), and has participated in a number of group exhibitions across Victoria.

Machar (left and right view) is Courtesy of the artist.