



studio a

Art Bites series for ABC iview

30 MAY 2019

Six neurodiverse artists tackle important creative and professional milestones in a heartwarming new web series coming to ABC iview on 22 JUNE 2019.

Screen Australia, ABC and Create NSW present a Plum Soda production *Studio A* - a 6x8-minute series for iview.

VIEW TRAILER HERE: <https://vimeo.com/337104969>

Studio A is a Sydney-based studio that creates professional pathways for neurodiverse artists. In this 6x8-minute series, we meet six of these artists – Greg Sindel, Emily Crockford, Daniel Kim, Meagan Pelham, Lisa Scott and Thom Roberts.

Using their language of choice – paint, pencil, performance and textile – these artists communicate their experience of the world while simultaneously overcoming traditional expectations of people with intellectual disabilities.

Each episode follows the ups and downs of a unique career achievement – from painting a 39m mural in a bank to live drawing musicians backstage at the hip Spilt Milk music festival. We are offered an intimate reflection on key challenges that affect any artists life, including self-determination, economic independence, romance, imagination, reputation and belonging.

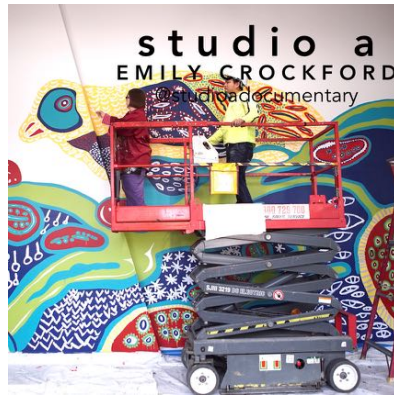
CEO & Artistic Director, Studio A, Gabrielle Mordy said *“One of the greatest challenges for Studio A artists forging professional careers is the common assumption that a person with intellectual disability cannot make great art. The Studio A Art Bites series boldly and importantly captures Studio A artists professional achievements and high artistic outcomes. The series plays a vital role in transforming limiting stereotypes and painting new progressive perceptions for and about artists with disability.”*

Studio A was commissioned for Art Bites, a joint initiative from ABC iview and Screen Australia and supported by Create NSW to encourage new art content from early career filmmakers.

The series is directed and produced by **Georgia Quinn**, co-produced by **Jessica Giacco** and executive produced by **Yaara Bou Melhem** and **Lyn Norfor**. The series features appearances with **Skeggs, Kwame**, and music from Sydney electronic trio **GAUCI**.

“Sometimes if people enjoy your stories and they say how much they love you and your talents then your self doubts have gone away. Sometimes fear is a great motivator.” – Artist Greg Sindel





Episode 1 - Greg Sindel, 31, is a highly articulate comic artist with autism. By embodying his alter-ego Emperor Greg, he overcomes his fear of crowds and strangers and travels interstate to do live art at hip music festival, Spilt Milk.

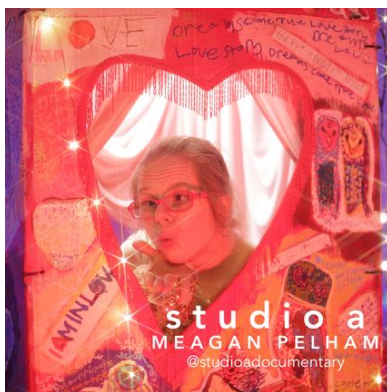
Episode 2 - Emily Crockford, 33, a bright, punchy, pattern-based artist undertakes her largest and most physically demanding work to date: a 39x5 metre mural commissioned by a large Australian bank.

Episode 3 - Daniel Kim, 31, a mostly non-verbal Korean-Australian artist with autism and OCD is able to connect with his community while building a career as a commission-based portrait artist for elite corporate and government clients. In this episode, he paints Hornsby MP Matt Kean.

Episode 4 - Meagan Pelham, 33, a romance-obsessed performance artist uses her multidisciplinary skills to inhabit her newest character, the Love Poet Sorceress, to share feelings of love with her audience at the North Sydney Children's Festival.

Episode 5 - Lisa Scott, 47, who has kept a daily journal for nearly a decade, turns her personal story about discrimination and family relationships into a deeply personal textile work to display at the Australian Design Centre.

Episode 6 - Thom Roberts, 43, sees people as trains and trains as people. In this episode, Thom shares his deep, personal fascination with the transport system while elevating his reputation in the elite Australian modern art world with his work for The National: New Australian Art at Carriageworks.



MEDIA ENQUIRIES

To arrange interviews with artists, Studio A representatives, or any members of the creative team, please **contact producer Georgia Quinn** M: +61 406 969 851 E: georgia.pq@gmail.com

Series socials: @studioadocumentary

Artists socials: @_studio_a_