

Jay Sykes – CV

Jay Sykes is a 29 year old creative and ex-academic from Blackmans Bay, just south of nipaluna/Hobart. They are an emerging artist working in a wide range of mediums, but focusing on abstract painting. Drawing on their experience in bioinformatics (a scientific discipline at the intersection of biochemistry and mathematics), they work to bring art and science together. Their Sidespace Gallery exhibition in August 2024, which included ‘Terrain’ and ‘Peaks and Valleys’, involved direct and indirect representations of the figures from their thesis ‘Protein Structure and Evolution’. They explore the relationship between scientific communication and aesthetic design, striving for the perfect balance of accuracy and beauty.

When they’re not painting, Jay performs Stand Up Comedy and Drag (under the stage name Jay/Gem). They also write short fiction and poetry, and have had a number of pieces published in literary journals.

Education

2015 **K4L Bachelor of Biotechnology and Medical Research with Honours**
Menzies Research Institute, University of Tasmania, Hobart, Australia

2017-2021 **S9T Doctor of Philosophy (Mathematical Sciences)**
School of Natural Sciences, University of Tasmania, Hobart, Australia

Selected Group Exhibitions

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| 2021, 2022 & 2023 | Artfully Queer
Long Gallery, Salamanca Arts Centre, Hobart |
| 2022-2023 | Queer Artists Collective Exhibitions
Community Gallery, QVMAG, Launceston |
| 2022 & 2023

Clarence | Minds do Matter
Schoolhouse Gallery, Rosny Farm Arts Centre, |
| 2023 | Artfully Queer Winners: Companion Pieces
Artosaurus, Moonah |

Solo Exhibitions

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| 2023 | In and Out of Focus
Top Gallery, Salamanca Arts Centre, Hobart |
| 2024 | In Memoriam
Lightbox, Salamanca Arts Centre, Hobart |
| 2024 | Painting my Thesis
Sidespace Gallery, Salamanca Arts Centre Hobart |