



**MATTHEW  
LINDE  
AND  
CENTRE FOR  
STYLE**

Established 2013  
Melbourne

SOLO EXHIBITIONS—*A Vogue Idea*, Craft, Melbourne, 2014.

GROUP EXHIBITIONS—TarraWarra Biennial, Victoria, 2016; *Boulevard*, Gertrude Contemporary, Melbourne, 2015; *Unshelling and Shelling Again*, Kunsthall Stavanger, Norway, 2014; *Bowier's Bedroom*, Mathew Gallery, Berlin, 2014; *Silly Canvas*, Utopian Slumps, Melbourne, 2014.

AWARDS—Marion Fletcher Scholarship, 2014.

Matthew Linde is an artist, curator and fashion designer. He often curates exhibitions and performances under the name Centre for Style. Linde's artistic practice is complementary to his activities under Centre for Style. His work dissects constructed notions of glamour and luxury through installation and performance.



Matthew Linde, *I laid golden orchid crowns around your feet*, 2014, mixed media, dimensions variable. Installation view, *Unshelling and Shelling Again*, Kunsthall Stavanger, Norway, 2014. Image courtesy the artist and Kunsthall Stavanger. Photograph: Christoffer Jonsson.

*I laid golden orchid crowns around your feet* was an assemblage of clothing and accessories on stands and mannequins. The garments and props came from window displays and dressing rooms. Held together in a circular installation, the assemblage merged high fashion with threadbare aesthetics. Each element seemed to represent a disconnected version of the artist's self. These included a child, an adolescent, a woman in a floral dress, a man in a deconstructed suit and a stick figure wearing knee-high boots. Linde also performed in this environment. Acting as though he was alone he avoided the gaze of the audience. Seeming as if a rehearsal, this heightened the relationship of the installation to the dressing-room. The self-conscious nature of his performance also reflected the self-consciousness of the fashion industry.

*Silly Canvas* was curated by Matthew Linde through Centre for Style. He invited a group of local and international fashion and art practitioners to create new work from two rectangular pieces of fabric. The rectangles were then attached to each other to form a double-sided wearable canvas. On the opening night, one model wore each work in sequential order. Afterwards, the wearable canvases were exhibited, suspended from the gallery ceiling with aluminium tubing. A panel symposium, *The Styled Canvas*, accompanied the exhibition. It discussed the possibilities of image production in contemporary fashion practice. This was preceded by a performance, *Tell me what to do*, from Austrian artist Anna-Sophie Berger with Matthew Linde. Linde instructed her movements as though assuming the role of designer and model.



Matthew Linde, *Silly Canvas* curated by Centre for Style, 2014, installation view, Utopian Slumps. Image courtesy the artist. Photograph: Christo Crocker.



Linde works across art and fashion in the fields of performance, installation and garment fabrication. His practice dissects notions of beauty, opulence and self-image. In this way his work serves as commentary on both industries.