

The New Sleep I & II

For the past few years, I have focused my art practice on harnessing sleep as a medium in an endeavour to further comprehend the phenomenon of this somnolent state. An aspect of my investigations involved observing clinical sleep studies which are designed for diagnosing sleep-related disorders. This photography series was produced while I was doing field research inside the sleep laboratories at The Centre for Sleep Science at The University of Western Australia. The New Sleep features medical paraphernalia employed to aid with limited breathing and oxygen loss in patients with sleep apnea. As the number of sleep apnoea cases in Australia is rapidly growing every year, my researched into the field of sleep science has provoked me to ask the question, "Is this what the new, natural sleep looks like?"

This series of photographs is a component of my investigation and aided by Dr. Ionat Zurr, SymbioticA and Peter Eastwood and Stuart King, The Centre for Sleep Science; The School of Anatomy and Human Biology. The images were composed with the help from Keitaro Yoshioka in a studio in Boston, Massachusetts, USA, a location which enabled me to take the photographs on a rare 20 x 24 inch Polaroid camera.