Exploring Emotion and Memory through Photography
Exploring Emotion and Memory through Photography was a series of six workshops that took place between August and October 2015. It was delivered by the Centre for Contemporary Photography, headspace Collingwood and the Australian Research Council's Centre of Excellence for the History of Emotions, The University of Melbourne.
The workshops attracted young people living and/or attending services in the City of Yarra. Their familiarity and prior experience of working with photographic processes ranged from minimal to extensive. They engaged and re-engaged creatively with the world around them through a series of artistic activities, presentations, technical lessons and discussions. Each participant scrutinized and reflected upon their own affective response to memory and emotions by reconnecting with spaces, places, personal mementos, and objects of their remembrance, love and affection. Also supporting the program was an exhibition curated by Pippa Milne at the Centre for Contemporary Photography. This exhibition, titled *For Future Reference*, drew on photography’s ability to trigger, hold and play with memory.

Numerous photos were taken over the program’s six week period. This publication is a collection of photographic works that represent the collective effort of the group, with each image individually selected by the participating young artists.

The Centre for Contemporary Photography, headspace Collingwood and the Australian Research Council’s Centre of Excellence for the History of Emotions, The University of Melbourne would like to acknowledge the kind support of a Small Project Grant from the City of Yarra.

The experiential program explored and reflected upon the complex topic of how memories and emotions function and are experienced – both in the past and present. Central questions within the workshops were:

- How do we reconstruct memory and can we trust it?
- How do emotions shift over time, and how do they influence memory?
- Is photography an objective, reality record of an emotion, feeling and experience in time?

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Melissa Hodge

Melissa is a 24 year old who likes to travel, listen to music and try new things. She takes photos every now and then, but wanted to try something different and get herself into photography again, which is why she participated in this group. Melissa loves her friends and family, comforting herself and the people she cares about. She enjoys swimming and the gym and is looking forward to working at the Melbourne Show and seeing the fireworks.
Jamie is a 20 year old aspiring photographer from Melbourne. He is passionate about taking photos, and spends much of his days exploring and capturing what’s going on around him. He goes a long way for a photo, and will find unique vantage points in order to get the perfect shot. When he’s not taking photos he’s studying and he’s currently looking for the perfect place to call home.
Melinda Stone
Ell Roberts is a 22 year old, originally from the UK but now living in Melbourne. A member of the youth advisory panel at headspace Collingwood, Ell is passionate about spreading mental health and LGBTIQ awareness. Incredibly creative, loves to draw, colour in and take photos, Ell has been training a service dog, Toby, for the past year with huge success. Ell is passionate about animal welfare as well as spreading awareness about how to interact with service dogs.
Sherrie Daniels is a 25 year old who grew up in Queensland, but now lives in Melbourne. She professes that ‘music is my soul’ and loves writing rhymes. She is an avid NRL football supporter, which makes her a Queenslander at heart. She enjoys exploring Melbourne’s landscape and will find spots where most Melburnians would never tread, whether it be on top of an old factory or the alleyways of Collingwood. She's always loved taking photos, and is always the one to document what's going on around her. She is thankful for the support she's had from youth workers throughout the years and who were able to show her the light when she couldn’t see it. Sheree wants to become a youth worker so that she can give back, and help other young people.

Sheree Daniels

A walk in the concrete jungle

These two pictures were taken 9 years apart from my veranda in Collingwood. I used to call the old factory ‘the towers’ or ‘the tanks’. It was my place to go and climb to the very top through the stairwell inside and get a beautiful look at the city. Now it has been replaced with apartment buildings, so I wanted to capture the change because I am just one of the many who used to go there. It was filled with priceless graffiti artwork and many had numerous memories there. ‘The towers’ – a historic priceless place – now gone… but not forgotten!