

SEA OF LIFE

PENELOPE GREEN

For many of us, the ocean serves as a third space. A place where we go alone, or with our favourite people, to meet our need - or obsession - to simply be in the sea. My evolving practice, documenting sea communities, and experimenting with abstract work, is performed on a nature-based stage. From the beach, ocean baths bleachers, or in a lap lane, I witness the interactions of all who, like me, have a compulsion to be beside the sea. Like every ocean swimmer, I understand the abandonment of self and bone-deep joy that immersion brings, and bear witness to the ocean's role in wellbeing and community. Most mornings, buoyed by the women who join me, I find the courage to swim far beyond the surfers, into the open sea. It's here that the strength and grace of the sisterhood truly reveals itself, and it's this nuance I strive to capture in my images. I often return in the afternoons to the same seascapes, observing the people and the light as it softens, shifts, and reflects across the water and built forms. In a permanent state of flux, the ocean is our metaphor for life: challenging and rewarding in equal measure. What doesn't change is what it represents: a place of refuge and solace, a place to connect with ourselves and one another and nature. A place where we are reminded that we are all simply specks in the sea of life.

INTRODUCTION. 2

ARTWORKS. 3 - 10

Gil and The Moon
Buoyant
Bookends
I Miss You
Highest Tide
Best Seat In The House
The Embrace
Gimme Shelter

GALLERY CONTACT DETAILS. 11



Gil and The Moon (Winner, National Emerging Art Prize 2025) - Photograph on Ilford fine art paper. Print $3000 (94 x 59 cm), Framed print $3900 (98 x 62.6 cm). Edition of 6 + 2AP.



Buoyant - Photograph on Ilford fine art paper. Print $2800 (89 x 59 cm), Framed print $3500 (92 x 62.5 cm). Edition of 6 + 2AP.



Bookends - Photograph on Ilford fine art paper. Print $2800 (89 x 59 cm), Framed print $3500 (92 x 62.5 cm). Edition of 6 + 2AP.



I Miss You - Photograph on Ilford fine art paper. Print $2800 (89 x 59 cm), Framed print $3500 (92 x 62.5 cm). Edition of 6 + 2AP.



Highest Tide - Photograph on Ilford fine art paper. Print $1900 (59 x 59 cm), Framed print $2700 (62.5 x 62.5 cm). Edition of 6 + 2AP.



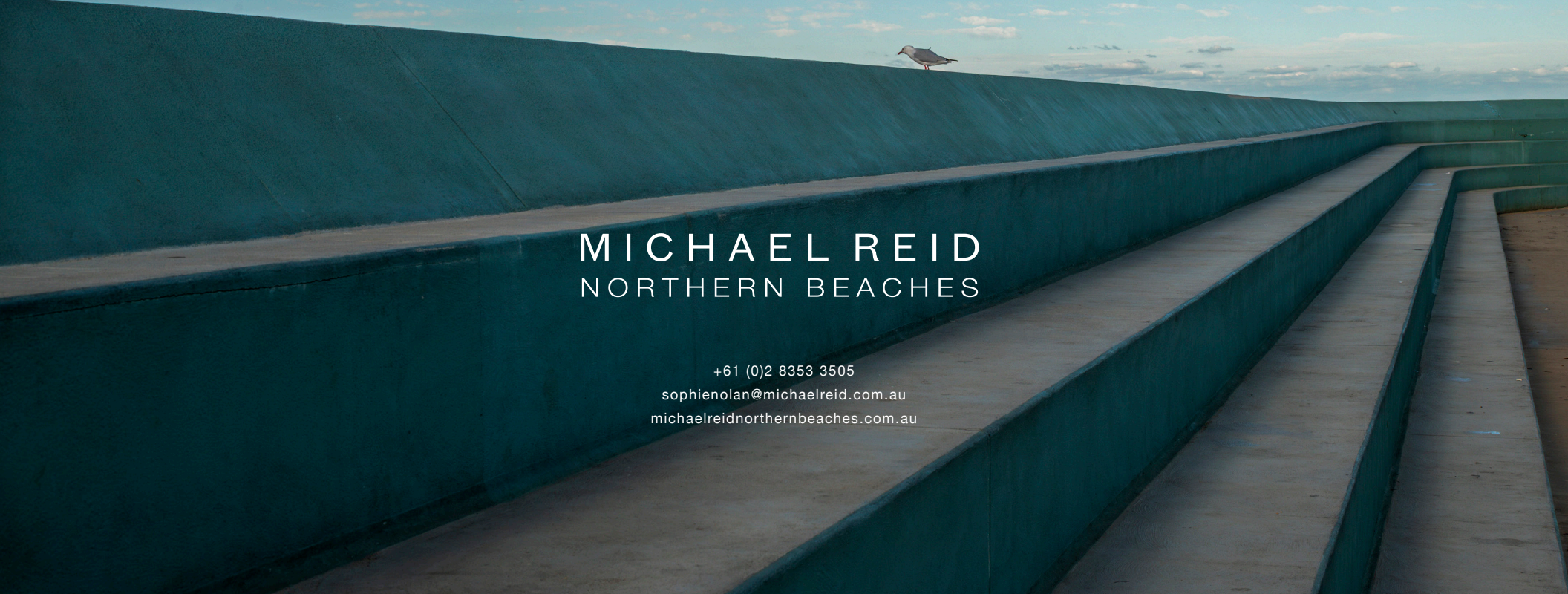
Best Seat In The House - Photograph on Ilford fine art paper. Print $2800 (89 x 59 cm), Framed print $3500 (92 x 62.5 cm). Edition of 6 + 2AP.



The Embrace - Photograph on Ilford fine art paper. Print $2800 (89 x 59 cm), Framed print $3500 (92 x 62.5 cm). Edition of 6 + 2AP.



Gimme Shelter - Photograph on Ilford fine art paper. Print $2800 (89 x 59 cm), Framed print $3500 (92 x 62.5 cm). Edition of 6 + 2AP.



MICHAEL REID
NORTHERN BEACHES

+61 (0)2 8353 3505
sophienolan@michaelreid.com.au
michaelreidnorthernbeaches.com.au