

Kawita Vatanajyankur

Soaked

2013

single channel HD video

3:31 minutes

Poured

2013

single channel HD video

4:43 minutes

The dustpan

2014

single channel HD video

2:04 minutes

Courtesy of the artist and Nova Contemporary, Bangkok; Antidote Organisation, Sydney

Bangkok-based Kawita Vatanajyankur is the suffering subject of her own video performances. Creating situations that require her to endure physical and emotional hardship, her work explores the experiences of women in Thailand and globally, and the problems associated with consumerism. As she has said:

Through my work, I place strong emphasis on the value of the female gender and underline their contribution to the world. I also highlight the hardships endured by labourers—those who are disregarded by the world of materialism, consumerism and industrialism.

In these three works, Vatanajyankur places herself in the position of a domestic tool in order to act out and painfully embody the loss of female selfhood within the labour mechanisms of the family unit. While these formations are lived day-in and day-out by billions of people as if unchangeably inevitable, in Vatanajyankur's work they clearly and shockingly exist at the very edge of the bearable.

Kawita Vatanajyankur was born in 1987 in Bangkok where she currently resides. Since graduating from RMIT University in 2011, she has exhibited at CHAT, Hong Kong (2020); Albright Knox Art Gallery, New York (2019); National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts, Taipei; Monash Gallery of Art, Melbourne (2017); Asia Triennale of Performing Arts, Melbourne Arts Centre (2017); Australian Centre for Photography, Sydney (2017); and was curated into *Islands in the Stream*, Magazzini dell'Arsenale, 57th Venice Biennale (2017).