

Mijacogeo
Curated by Ry Haskings
TCB Art Inc. Melbourne

7 May – 24 May 2014

Clockwise from left

1. Shane Haseman

High Street, 2014

4 Painted glass sheets, 9 digital prints housed in cloth bound slipcase with foil stamped covers

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Slipcase, 32 x 42 x 3.5 cm

2. Andrew Long

Free speech directory, 2014

Epoxy ink on aluminum, photographic emulsion on wood frame

2 parts, each 61 x 81 x 2 cm

3. Isabelle Sully

Making A Sculpture A Star, 2014

Google image of 'archetypal modernist sculpture', button badge

3 cm diameter

4. Evan Morgan Grahame

Erm, 2014

Acrylic on cardboard, towels, towel rack

92 x 52 x 16 cm

5. Agatha Gothe-Snape

CHEZ LOUNGE, 2014

Sharpie on butchers paper

50 x 45 cm

6. Agatha Gothe-Snape

CASTING FIXED PEDESTAL, 2014

Sharpie on butchers paper

50 X 45 cm

Outside the gallery

7. Isabelle Sully

Making A Sculpture A Star, 2014

Google image of 'archetypal modernist sculpture' distributed on ten button badges pinned to audience

Each 3 cm diameter

8. Isabelle Sully

Making A Sculpture A Star, 2014

Google image of 'archetypal modernist sculpture' poster in waratah place

59.4 x 84.1 cm

Mijacogeo

Mijacogeo was the final telecast of the Monkees TV series. The episode contains multiple points of interest: the phenomena that was the Monkees, the specific plot of this episode, its title and its references.

TV producers Bob Rafelson and Bert Schneider formed the Monkees as a fictional band designed for a TV series with the same name, by auditioning several young actors with some musical ability. The series ran for two years between 1966 and 1968. Initially the band did not have the opportunity to play many of their own songs due to acting commitments. From fiction to fact. While the show was winding up at the end of 1968, the group of four sought independence from the television series and began playing their own music, touring and releasing their own albums.

"The Monkees really becoming a band was like the equivalent of Leonard Nimoy really becoming a Vulcan."¹

The episode Mijacogeo begins with the Monkee's neighbors being hypnotized by their TV sets. The source of the hypnosis is an alien plant creature with a football for a head with one large eye painted on it called "The Frodis". The Monkees plan to kill the alien plant until they discover that it is under the control of the Evil Wizard Glick whom they then turn their attention towards.

To some extent, Glick's costume and character was based on Dr Calgari from the 1920 acclaimed German Expressionist silent film *The Cabinet Of Dr. Caligari*. A seemingly sophisticated reference when compared to Monkees member Micky Dolenz's randomly invented term "The Frodis" as a stand in for weed.

The title Mijacogeo is an anagram created by adding the first syllable of each of Micky Dolenz's family members names including his own: Micky, Janelle, Coco and George. This episode directed by Micky, has no obvious links to his family and so it is suspected the title might operate more as a dedication, similar to those that a writer might announce in the opening pages of a book. On the other hand, the abstract sound of the anagram could be seen to capture the psychedelic nature of the episodes plot.

At the end of this episode Tim Buckley plays *Song to the Siren*, unique because at this time in the show's history it was usually The Monkees who performed the closing song. Buckley was a strange choice it seems, as the contrast between the songs serious and sorrowful mood and the comedic and psychedelic style of the episode bordered on nonsensical, but it was known that Dolenz was also a big fan of Buckley's at the time.

A version of Tim Buckley's *Song to the Siren* was recorded by This Mortal Coil in 1983 and was featured in David Lynch's *Lost Highway* as well as in the trailer for the 2003 remake of *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre*. Tim Buckley's last live performance would be in Dallas Texas a day before he died of a heroin overdose, aged 28.

Mijacogeo is a group exhibition featuring artists Agatha Gothe-Snape, Shane Haseman, Andrew Long, Evan Morgan Grahame, Isabelle Sully and curated by Ry Haskings at TCB Art Inc. Melbourne 7 May– 24 May 2014

¹ Kennedy, Mark (January 9, 2004). "Decades after the Monkees, Dolenz drums up a new stage role". *The Boston Globe*.