

## A Very Beautiful Laundromat

*Rebecca Conroy*

This paper will introduce the concept of an artist-run Laundromat, which is currently in development by the artist Rebecca Conroy and planned for a location in Sydney in October 2017. This project A Very Beautiful Laundromat is both a venture with serious intent and speculative art project, or platform to experiment and present a number of different iterations on the theme of art and economy.

In order to understand the relevance and significance of a Laundromat as the perfect vehicle for an enterprise such as this, this paper will detail the context of the feast and famine economy of the creative labourer and the extra-ordinariness of domestic labour alongside the artists exceptional labouring body—as two examples of how both socially productive labour and the artist's draw attention to the flaws in current economic modelling and point to the potential for new ones.

Drawing on the work done by feminists and theorists Marina Vishmidt, Angela Dimitrakaki Andrea Phillips and Angela McRobbie, I will be using the Laundromat as a lens to explore the intersection between precarity and messy embodied laboring processes that are aligned with creativity, nurturing, and procreation.

**Conference Themes:** Work, Exchange, Money.

### **Bio:**

Rebecca Conroy is an interdisciplinary artist and independent scholar working across site, community engagement, and performative interventions through artist led activity and philosophy. Her work is bound up in mimetic strategies and the playful occupation of non-art fields such as urban planning, economics, and housing, particularly where it concerns the behaviour of cities and the rise of the creative entrepreneur and finance capitalism. She has previously worked in the role of Festival Director (Gang Festival), Associate Director (Performance Space); Provocateur (Splendid Arts Lab & Artist Wants a Life) and has been the co-founder and co-director of two artist run spaces in Sydney, *The Wedding Circle* and *Bill+George*. SHE received HER PHD IN 2007 FROM UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE [THEATRE DEPARTMENT].