

**CAMERON ROBBINS – FIELD LINES**  
**Museum of Old and New Art**

Exhibition dates: 18 May to 29 August 2016  
 Official opening: 4pm Saturday 11 June 2016



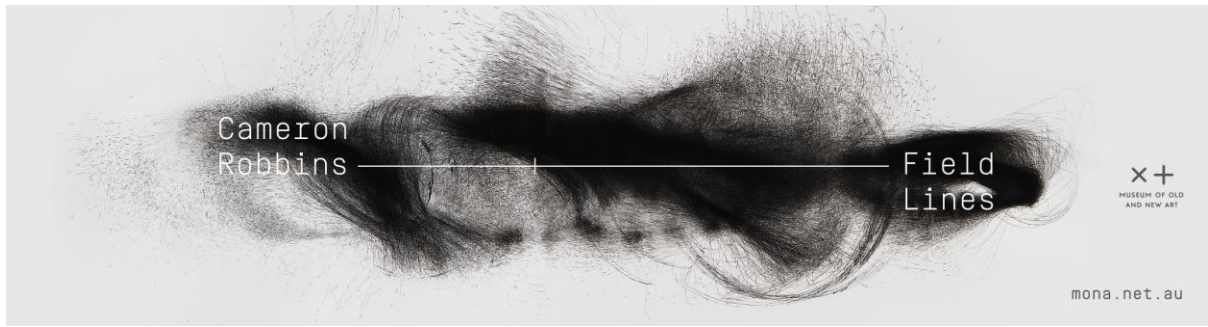
*Wind Section Instrumental (2013)*

*Some artists can give us a glimmer of things that we usually can't see. Mona delights in such artists. Cameron Robbins gives nature a voice, but he's not telling it what to say.*  
 —David Walsh

Australian artist Cameron Robbins' work is an interaction with natural forces and the elements. He creates structural instruments and devices, such as wind or ocean-powered mechanical systems and site-specific installations that enable collaboration between artist and nature.

This year, Mona presents **Field Lines**, Robbins' first international solo exhibition in a major museum, including works created over more than three decades of his practice and seven new installations developed specifically for Mona – many in direct response to the museum's location. A few of these installations will generate work for the duration of the exhibition, providing visitors with a live artistic response to the world outside the museum's walls.

Robbins' mechanical instruments are set up in different locations to collect wind energy, transcribing as drawings, photographs and sound compositions that take on the forms of time and place; ranging from violent storms to calm stillness, clean laminar winds on a pier to turbulent city windscapes.



This drawing practice has led Robbins to focus on forms generated by natural energy, including the exploration of vortices, magnetic anomalies in the landscape, tidal movements and astronomical observations.

Robbins was among the first artists to be commissioned by Mona for the inaugural Mona Foma (Mofo) in 2009, for which he installed *Southern Marine Music Test Rig* (2009). Robbins created another site-specific work for Mona's exhibition *The Red Queen; Wind Section Instrumental* (2013), which harnessed wind to create dozens of large-scale drawings between June 2013 and April 2014.

**Field Lines** will include the impressive collection of 16 drawings up to five metres in length from *Wind Section Instrumental* (2013), plus installations, photography, sculpture and video, as well as works being created on-site throughout the duration of the exhibition, involving tidal motions from six metres below the museum and the forces of wind from above.

**Field Lines** is curated by Nicole Durling and Olivier Varenne. The exhibition will be accompanied by a catalogue including interview with the artist and essay by Mona curator, Jarrod Rawlins.

[www.mona.net.au](http://www.mona.net.au)

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**Cameron Robbins** lives and works in Melbourne and is inspired by natural forces and the elements in site-specific locations internationally. He creates structural devices such as wind or ocean-powered mechanical systems, site-specific installations, wind drawings, photographs and sound compositions.

Robbins has devised, co-curated, and produced many performance events of large-scale works involving composers, complex instruments, installations, fire and sound. Since 1990 Robbins has exhibited in Australia, Europe and Asia, including shows at the National Gallery of Victoria, Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Artspace, Perth Institute of Contemporary Art, Setouchi Festival of Art Japan, East China Normal University, plus Hong Kong and Korean International Art Fairs. Robbins was Artist in Residence at NKD – Nordic Arts Centre in 2013.

Robbins also plays jazz and experimental music on clarinet and bass clarinet, and is a guest lecturer at RMIT Visual Arts and Communication. [www.cameronrobbins.com](http://www.cameronrobbins.com)

IMAGES: <https://www.flickr.com/gp/67221831@N08/97Cv3q>

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