

- A (**POETRY**) Zine
- A (**LENS**) Zine
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- A (**WAITING**) Zine
- A (**ISSUE·SEVEN**) Zine
- A (**SAVANNAH**) Zine
- A (**VAN·DER·NIET**) Zine
- A (**MINDY**) Zine
- A (**GILL**) Zine
- A (**BRISBANE**) Zine

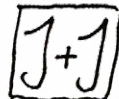
A () Zine, issue seven, featuring art by Savannah van der Niet and words by Mindy Gill, put together by Jerath Head & Jonathan O'Brien, and published by pseudonaja.group.

**W**hen we first sat down with the idea to make a zine during quarantine, the whole country was in roughly the same boat. Quarantine meant staying home, and we figured staying home meant we'd all be missing each other, and we'd all be looking for things to do. And then we thought—just because we can't see people doesn't mean we can't make something together.

We reached out to some of our favourite Brisbane creatives, who are also some of our favourite people. We said—we don't have any money or particularly coherent ideas, but it'd sure be nice to work with you and put some of your work in front of the public during this time, and to maybe pair you up with someone else to make something that is each of you, and also its own thing, and also uniquely Brisbane.

As it turned out, the coronavirus lockdown meant different things to different people. In Queensland we were fortunate, many of the people involved in this zine particularly so—some found themselves busier than they thought they would, and others ended up busier than when lockdown began.

So this zine became a slow process. This was almost exclusively our fault. But everyone was patient, and didn't complain, and gave freely of their time and energy. Savannah and Mindy were a natural pairing: two of the most poised, contemplative young artists we know. Mindy's poem takes the softness in Savannah's images and sits with it, turns it into something nostalgic. Together their works are like watching the light fade at dusk, wondering when you last took a moment to look. Take one now, and enjoy this parenthetical zine, this quaranzine, this seven-of-eight zine. We enjoyed making it.







### **Borrowed Apartment**

Coffee is cheap here, the sea near.  
The cab drops me by the tulips  
that genuflect by the wrought gate.  
I walk my bags the two flights.  
If the weather holds I'll go to the water  
at noon and read, swim a little,  
buy a loaf from the dimly lit bakery.

I've been thinking back to the last  
time I knew this. Maybe in the dry field  
at summer, fifteen, cantering past calves  
on the young white horse who never asked  
me of anything. Happy to be loved and fed,  
led to his stable as the storm blew in.

I'm working away from old ambition.  
I ride the tram to the other side of town  
for a single glass of wine, come home each day  
to glassine sheets of rain, windows  
open to the honeyed bloom of almond trees

then stand there in the dark, waiting  
for the quiver of bells, the neighbour's cat.  
She jumps over the flower bed and back again.





( a p s e u d o n a j a p r o j e c t )

**S**avannah van der Niet (Savvy Creative) is a photographer, graphic designer and writer from Brisbane, based in Berlin. Her work celebrates the simplicity of life and human connection through its observational nature; always soft, sometimes empty, sometimes full of life. The images she submitted for *A () Zine* are a small collection of moments and textures taken throughout the shifts of seasons and feelings through the time of COVID-19.

**M**indy Gill is the recipient of the Queensland Premier's Young Writers and Publishers Award and the Australian Poetry/NAHR Poetry Fellowship in the Val Taleggio, Italy. Her poetry and criticism have appeared in *Island*, *Award Winning Australian Writing*, *Sydney Review of Books*, *Australian Book Review*, the Institute of Modern Art and the Queensland Art Gallery.

**P**seudonaja is a small independent literary group based in Brisbane. *A () Zine* is their first project. More details, including financial breakdowns and digital versions of this publication, can be found online at [pseudonaja.group](http://pseudonaja.group). You can reach out to the collective at [pseudonaja.group@gmail.com](mailto:pseudonaja.group@gmail.com).

The traditional owners of the lands on which Brisbane sits—and where this zine was made—are the Yugara and Turrbal people, and their sovereignty was never ceded.



**IF THE  
WEATHER HOLDS...**

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