

An abstract painting featuring thick, expressive brushstrokes in vibrant red, deep black, and off-white. The composition is dynamic, with bold, sweeping gestures that create a sense of movement and texture. The reds are varied, from bright crimson to dark, almost black tones. The black strokes are thick and saturated, while the white areas are more delicate and airy. The overall effect is one of raw energy and emotional intensity.

nanda hobbys

**CHEN**  
**PING**

**NINE SONGS ANCIENT POEMS**

4 - 20 MAY 2023



## CHEN PING

### Nine Songs Ancient Poems

Chen Ping is an artist who creates narratives that exist somewhere between the natural and poetic realms. Floating faces, forms and figures reveal themselves in canvases adorned with viscous oil paint. Chen constructs his subliminal worlds through sweeping gestures and deliberate touch, mimicking the patient rhythm of the ancient calligrapher with their ink brush.

For Chen, the morphing of nature, humanity, and philosophy traces back to his classical training at the Guangzhou Academy of Art as a painter in China, and his learnedness in the centuries-old tradition of scroll painting. Titled *Nine Songs Ancient Poems*, this exhibition takes inspiration from the anthology of the Songs of Chu, attributed to Qu Yuan (243-277 B.C.E). These ancient verses recount shamanistic stories of journeys in the spiritual world. Chen interprets these poems by blurring the relationship between humanistic, objective, and allusive forms.

While rooted in Eastern tradition, Chen simultaneously meditates on the Western landscape of Tasmania, where he's resided for nearly thirty years. Hiking the surrounding mountains and coastline near Hobart, Chen reconciles physical observations through the lens of ancient Taoist philosophy.

Chen accomplishes a sense of yin and yang in his paintings by balancing the physical with the mystical and the figurative with the abstract. The potency of Chen Ping's work resides in his ability to suspend time and place so that the viewer is swept into a story taking place between the metaphysical and tangible world.

Lana Hoffman  
May, 2023





*NINE SONGS, BIG BANG*

2023  
Oil on canvas  
122.8 x 92.5cm





NINE SONGS, BEAUTIFUL LIFE

2023  
Oil on canvas  
122.8 x 92.5cm

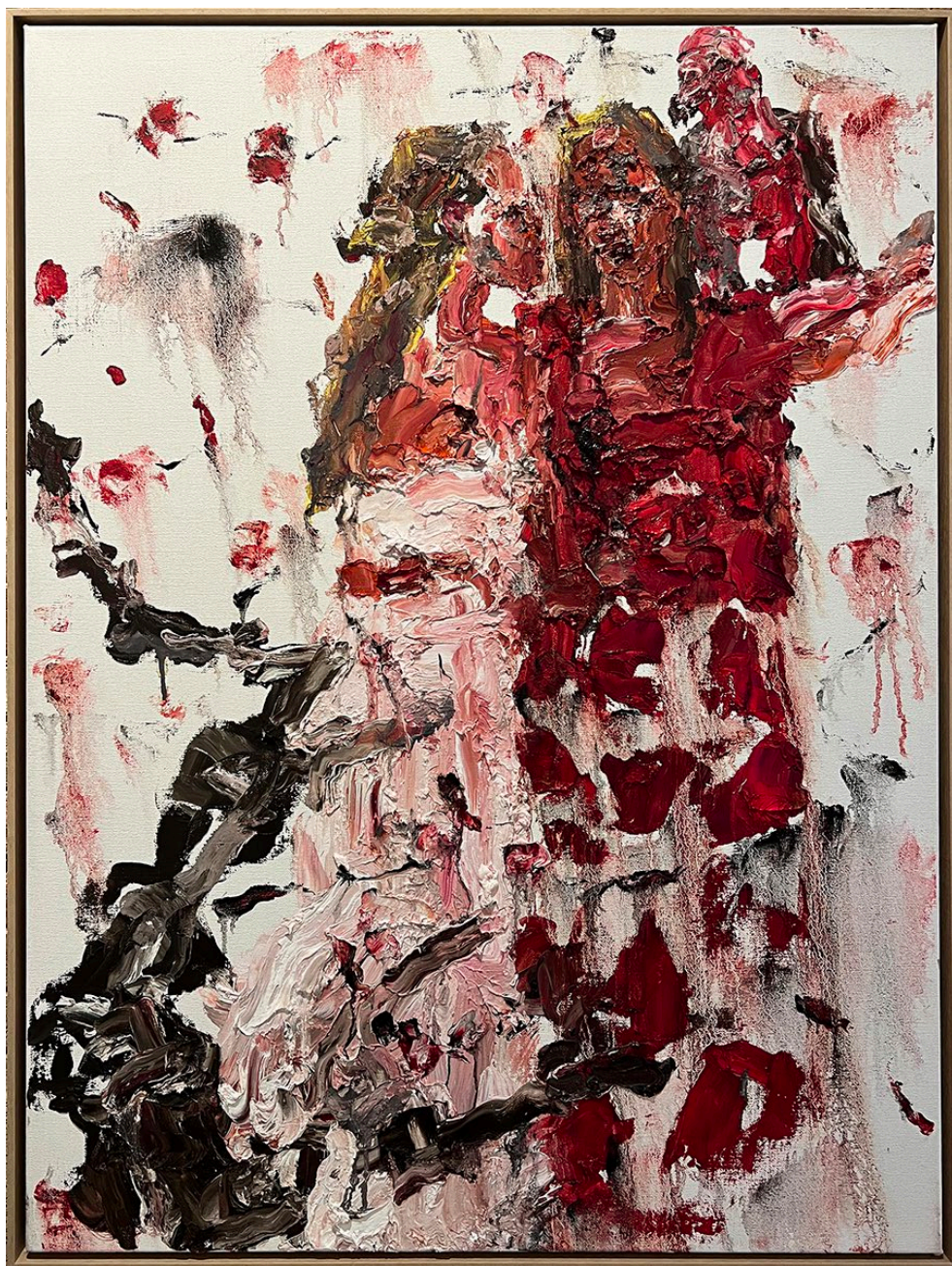




QUIET WORLD, RETURNING WHALE 1

2023  
Oil on canvas  
122.8 x 92.5 cm





NINE SONGS IMMORTALITY

2023  
Oil on canvas  
122.8 x 92.5 cm





*TIBETAN BIRD, FLYING WITH YOU TO EARTH 1*

2023  
Oil on canvas  
90 x 60 cm





QUIET WORLD BEFORE SONGS 2

2023  
Oil on canvas  
90 x 60 cm





*FUCHSIA (STUDY) 1*

2023  
Oil on canvas  
50 x 40cm





*MOUNTAIN SPIRITS (STUDY)*

2023  
Oil on canvas  
50 x 40 cm





*FUCHSIA (STUDY) 2*

2023  
Oil on canvas  
50 x 40cm





*BIRD SONGS (STUDY)*

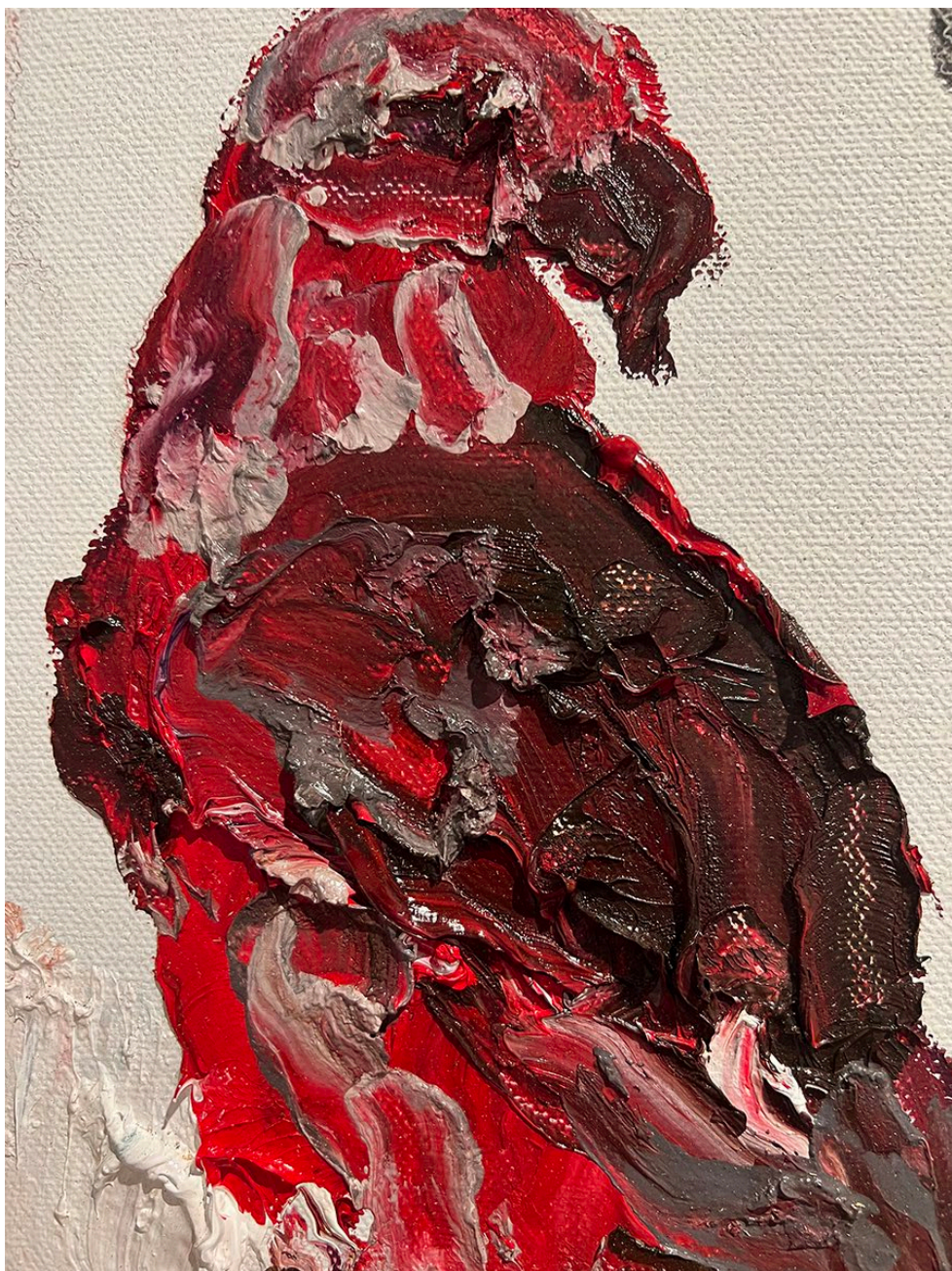
2023  
Oil on canvas  
40 x 50cm





QUIET WORLD, RETURNING WHALE 1

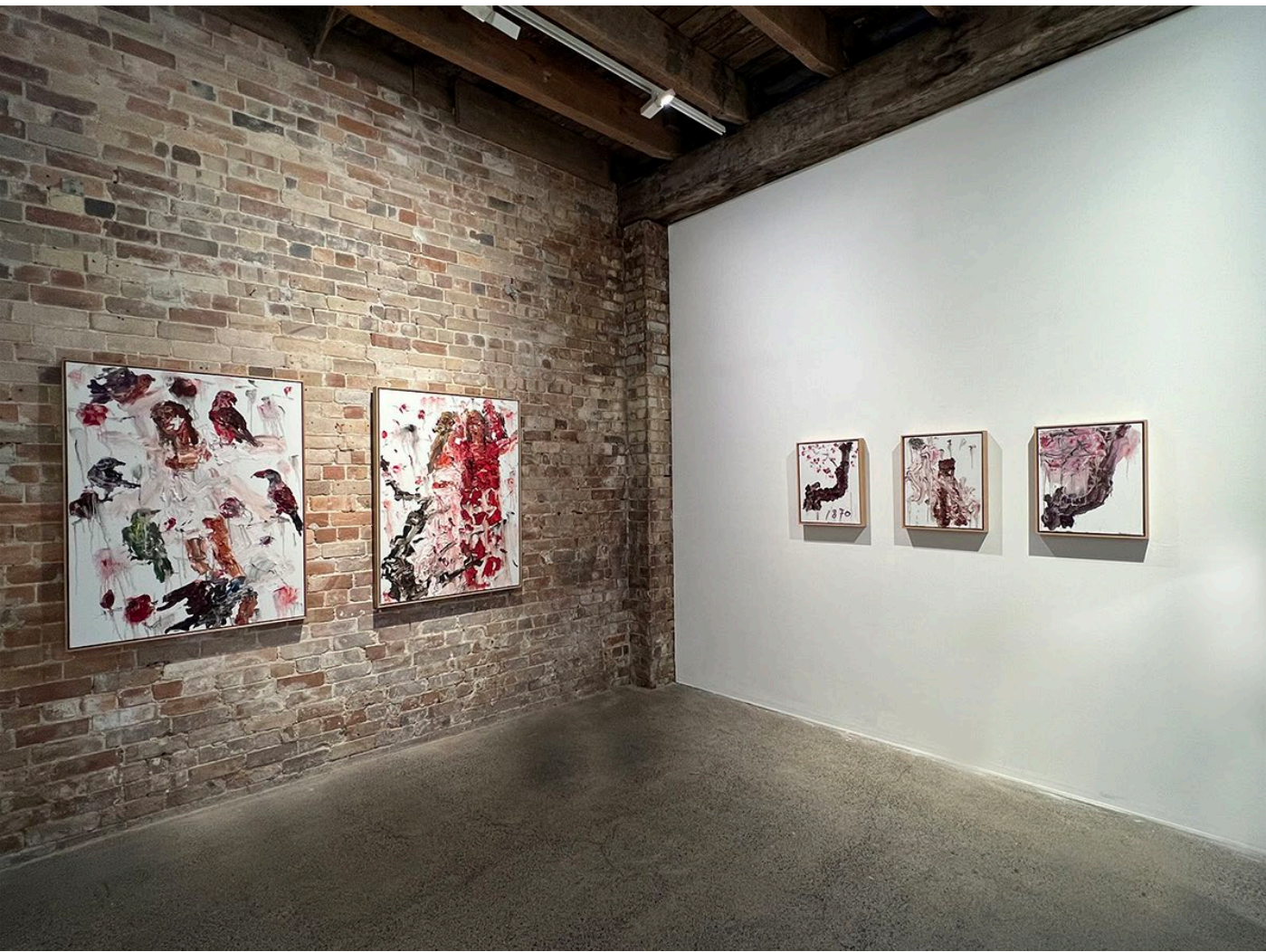
PAINTING DETAIL



NINE SONGS BEAUTIFUL LIFE

PAINTING DETAIL





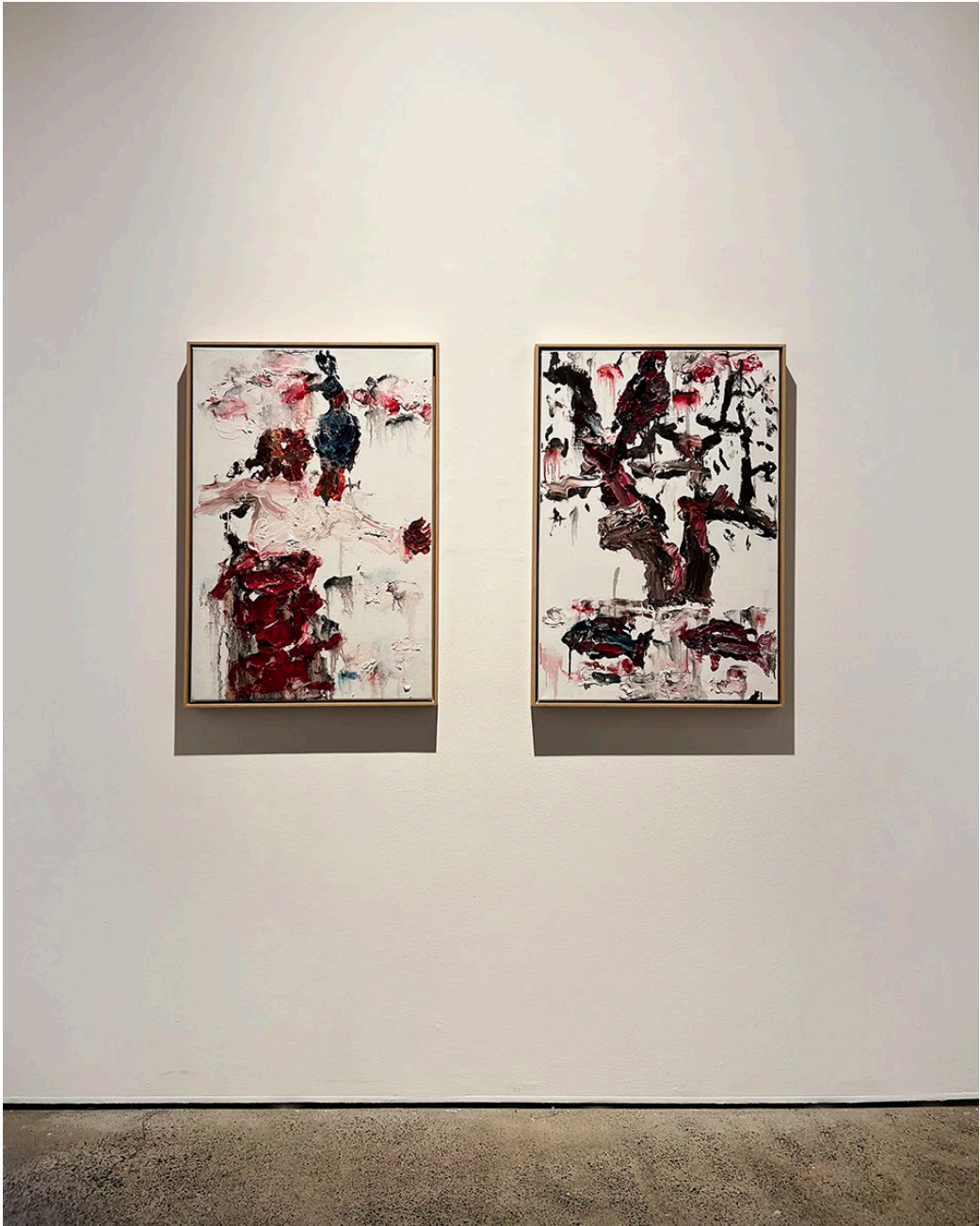
INSTALLATION PHOTO



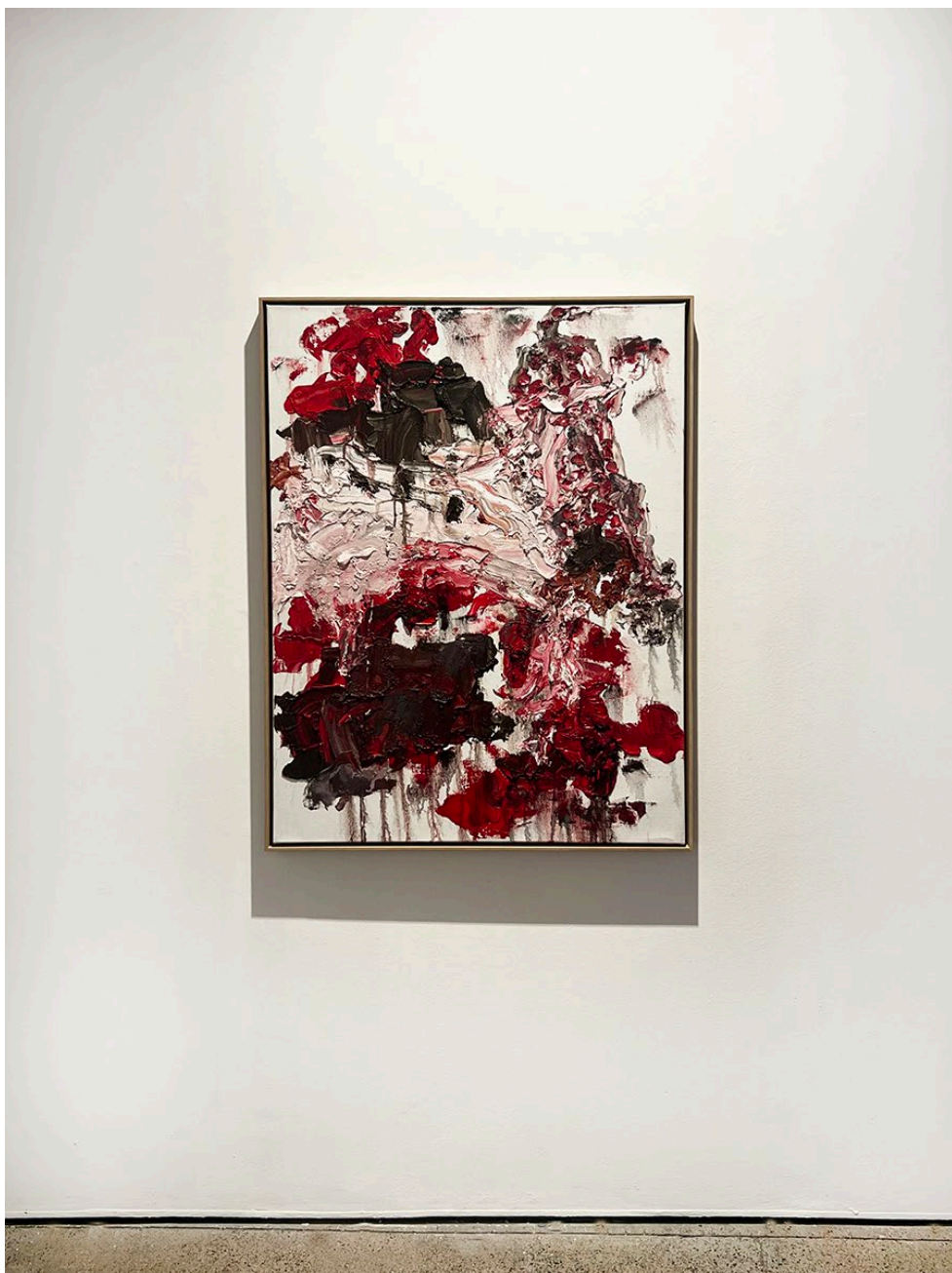


INSTALLATION PHOTO





INSTALLATION PHOTO



INSTALLATION PHOTO

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**CHEN PING**

**VIEW CV**

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## **NINE SONGS ANCIENT POEMS**

4 – 20 MAY, 2023  
N\H Project Space

### **Opening Drinks**

Thursday 4 MAY 6 – 8pm

*Nanda\Hobbs acknowledges the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation as the traditional owners of the land upon which our gallery stands, and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture.*

12-14 Meagher Street  
Chippendale \ Sydney

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