

IN THE FRAME

NOVEMBER 09



MARK HUTCHINS GALLERY

WELCOME TO OUR LAST NEWSLETTER FOR 2009.

I'M EMBARRASSED TO ADMIT THAT THIS INSTALLMENT OF 'IN THE FRAME' IS RATHER OVERDUE. AS A RESULT, QUITE A LOT THAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT THE GALLERY OVER THE LAST FEW MONTHS WAS NOT PREVIEWED IN OUR PREVIOUS NEWSLETTER.

HERE IS A RE-CAP OF SOME EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTS:

GRETCHEN ALBRECHT: ROSEA

In mid June we had the pleasure of debuting some stunning examples of an exciting new development in Gretchen Albrecht's painting practise.

Three large scale rectangular paintings provided dynamic visual anchors for her ROSEA exhibition amidst the smaller oval and hemispherical shaped works she has become so well known for.

In her new rectangular works Gretchen has liberated the dynamic gestural paintwork synonymous with her signature, allowing the energy of the colour to spill and splash freely beyond preconceived boundaries of form.

As the title of this exhibition suggests, Gretchen drew her inspiration for her most recent body of work from the layering of petals and rich pigmentation of old roses growing in her own garden.

The enthusiastic response from visitors to GRETCHEN ALBRECHT: ROSEA was quite over-whelming, and the show surpassed all attendance records for exhibitions we have presented to date.

To revisit these sumptuous paintings on line select the following link to our website: <http://www.mhgallery.co.nz/navigation/exhibitions/mainpage.html>



CHIARA CORBELLETO: WINTER/FALL COLLECTION

Gretchen's roses were followed by botanical evocations of a more geometric nature in our first major exhibition by ex-patriot Italian sculptor Chiara Corbelletto.

Although Corbelletto uses the latest synthetic materials, her work is always informed by nature and makes deliberate references to it. The suspended tessellating forms of her Archimedes series, for example, suggest flowers and segmented fruits while the pierced structures of her delta works evoke the bio-architectural structures of coral. Chiara's exhibition may also be revisited on our website.



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GREER TWISS: FIGURE 50 YEARS OF FIGURATIVE SCULPTURE

In August we were privileged to present a very special exhibition tracing 50 years of Greer Twiss's iconic and highly influential sculptural practice with specific reference to the human figure.

Our survey began with small iron figures cast while the artist was at art school in the late 1950s and concluded with examples of his newest series of reconstructed 'winged' figures inspired by the famous classical Greek Winged Victory of Samothrace. Copies of the illustrated catalogue we published to accompany this exhibition are still available for sale at the gallery and a number of works that featured in the show can be viewed in our stockroom.



MEGAN JENKINSON: SECOND SILENCE

Megan Jenkinson's recent multi-layered lenticular fabrications of Antarctica's *Aurora Australis* mysterious capture the other-worldly qualities of these phenomena that elude the hard science of conventional photography.

These lenticular works are made by digitally reconstructing several images into a single print, onto which is placed a ridged lens that simultaneously reveals and conceals parts of the print. The result is a shifting, illusory, image animated by the movement of the viewer in front of the work. As the viewer changes position the image seen by the viewer also changes. A fleeting glance, ironically, is what makes these pictures flash, but equally a motionless absolute focus/fixation from the viewer brings out an inner stillness in the work.

For a more detailed description of the extraordinary qualities of these works select the following link to Mark Amery's review of Megan's exhibition on The Big Idea website: <http://www.thebigidea.co.nz/news/columns/mark-amery-visual-arts/2009/sep/61112-atmosphere-perception>



2+ 2 [A DIALOGUE]

GEOFF THORNLEY & ELIZABETH THOMSON



Late last year two artists; Geoff Thornley and Elizabeth Thomson, working in two quite different disciplines; oil painting on canvas and multi-media wall relief sculpture, began discussing how they might create an interesting exhibition project together. Their principal intention was to initiate a visual dialogue or conversation between their respective practises that highlighted parallels

while still acknowledging their archetypal differences.

2 + 2 was the exhibition that resulted from Geoff's and Elizabeth's discussions; a fascinating and in parts quite surprising combination of works that presented visitors with fresh views of the rich practises of both well-known artists in a new context.



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CURRENT EXHIBITION

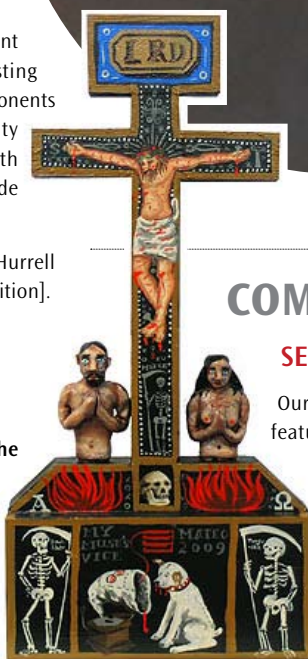
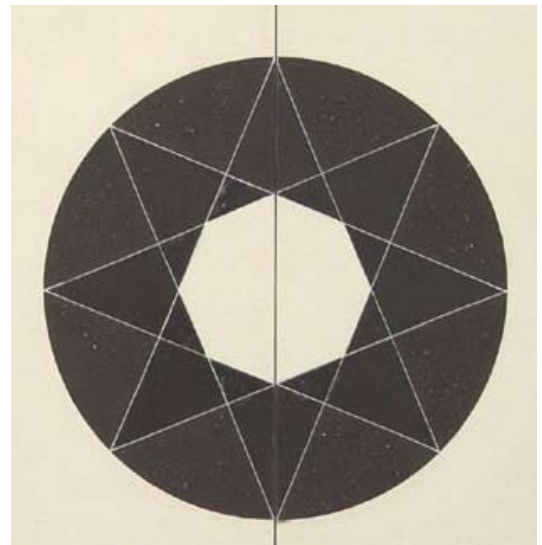
JULIA MORISON 1990-99

To most New Zealand art lovers, Julia Morison is known for her elegant but wildly extravagant design skills, complicated conceptual and pictorial layering, ambitious scale, and wide interests that include an unorthodox blending of contemporary and ancient knowledge systems. She is fascinated by some very old ideas, in particular those found in alchemy, the Jewish mystical kabala and the writings of Greco-Egyptian philosopher, Hermes Trismegistus.

Included in this show are some of the works which escaped the wide net cast by Justin Paton and Felicity Milburn for the Loop Around A Loopsurvey presented jointly by Christchurch Art Gallery and Dunedin Public Art Gallery in 2006. Here Morison has chosen to focus on the symbolic materials she has used by including examples from six projects of works made between the years of 1990 – 99.

"These groups of art objects present an intriguing range of contrasting and parallel qualities. The components work well together: simplicity with complexity; abstraction with narrative; the revealed along side the hidden"

[Extract from an essay by John Hurrell written to accompany this exhibition].



The exhibition: **Julia Morison 1990-99** will be on view until the end of November 2009. Most of the works can also be viewed on our website via the home page: <http://www.mhgallery.co.nz/>

COMING UP

SECONDARY PRACTICE: 02 - 23 DECEMBER

Our pre-Christmas show this year will feature an eclectic selection of works of applied art and other unexpected media by artists we represent.

The exhibition will include mixed-media works on paper by Elizabeth Thomson, recent hand-painted ceramics by Tony Lane, painted sculptural constructions

by Matthew Couper and many more surprises.

Although a few of the larger pieces like the painted antique screen by Gerda Leenards will inevitably be more expensive, most of the works in this exhibition will be 2,000 or less and quite a few, including some lead-framed photographic works by Julia Morison and unique embroidered cushions by Jo Torr will be under 500,00. There will also be a wide selection of gallery publications for sale under 20,00 and purchases by Eftpos are most welcome.



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REBECCA SWAN
MELISSA



RAYMOND CHING
AT THE MUSEUM



2010

We will be sending out our next newsletter in late January so won't let too much 'out of the bag' about our 2010 programme just yet. One event we would like to announce, however, is the special curatorial project we will present during Wellington's International Festival of the Arts in March 2010:

CAPTURING THE GAZE: AN EXPLORATION OF THE SEXUAL, SOCIAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF VIEWING

FEATURING WORKS BY RAYMOND CHING, SHIGEYUKI KIHARA, TERRY STRINGER AND REBECCA SWAN.

THERE WILL BE MORE ABOUT THIS PROJECT IN OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER.

IF WE DON'T SEE YOU IN THE MEAN TIME, WE HOPE YOU HAVE A MOST RELAXING AND ENJOYABLE SUMMER HOLIDAY. THE GALLERY WILL BE CLOSED FROM 23 DECEMBER 2009 UNTIL 19 JANUARY 2010 BUT, AS WE'RE NOT GOING FAR DURING THE BREAK, WE'RE HAPPY TO OPEN UP ON REQUEST.

PLEASE CALL 021 722 839 TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT.



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