



Media Release
Tuesday 18th March 2003

Annie Howie Different and the Same

Annie Howie is one of the original 'Roar' artists, exhibiting with them from 1982 along with Sarah Faulkner, Jill Noble and Steve McArthey, to name a few. Annie hasn't had a solo show since 1995 and Bright! is very excited to be presenting her new show, *Different and the Same*.

Artists Statement:

My studio in winter is cold so I set up the drawing table inside, opened summer sketch-books, found coloured pencils and drew.

I had been making paintings of the beach for a long time: exploring ideas of landscape as well as ideas of human interaction and disengagement. These sketches covered many years and many beaches (life is a beach!).

Using a grid I scaled these drawings onto small canvases. It was fun and suited my time limitations. Importantly, I wanted to explore some different ways of working and still maintain expression for my concerns and interests. I wanted to play with shape and line: the graphic quality. It was fun, but I also found myself in danger of 'fascist colouring-in': bush fires and our recent world stage conspiring to recall 1939 and further haunt me. It was demanding to try for paintings that resonate. These women emerged, which I hope as paintings do resonate, and also pack the punch to disrupt the 'the gaze'.

Another theme in this show is the immediate and the domestic. This includes my lounge, as well as lounges I imagine in the flats down the road, the rooms in Palestine as seen on TV, and 'the others' place. Continuing my earlier series of children engaged in games of menace in city/ industry settings (The Playground Series) held little interest. But I did want to continue the narrative: to reconcile domestic ease and privilege with disruption, dislocation and danger. Specifically in this work I wanted to emphasize our commonality/ humanity: our need for a roof, food, and the freedom to pat a cat, or lie on a bed.

Although they "look different to what I usually do" these works are part of a progression of ideas and interests that have accompanied my twenty-five years of picking up a brush. I like painting what I see and thinking about what I paint. I have often used scattered images across a field and shallow -stage like spaces with wonky perspective. The paintings on board use these devices. The copying and revision of the smaller works is also another element of difference and similarity.

Opening: Wednesday 26th March 2003
Dates: Wed 26th March until Wed 16th April
Where: Bright! 8 Martin Street, St Kilda
Hours: Tuesday – Saturday 12 – 5 (Friday 'till 8)

Contact: Kylie Greer ph: 03 9593 9366
Web: www.brightspace.com.au
Email: kylie@brightspace.com.au

8 Martin St St Kilda
p. 9593 9366
e. bright@brightspace.com.au
www.brightspace.com.au