





circle/square

liz shreeve
kate mackay
francesca mataraga
pam aitken
marlene sarroff

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The Tin Sheds Gallery

Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning

Exhibition dates: 18 March - 2 April 2011

circlesquaretinsheds.blogspot.com

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unity in diversity: circles and squares

Symbolically circles represent infinity, eternity, wholeness and femininity; conversely squares have been used to depict balance, structure, stability and masculinity. Historically the tension between these elemental shapes has been explored by generations of non-objective artists for spiritual, formal, conceptual and decorative reasons. In response to the symbolism and history of circles and squares the five artists included in this exhibition explore their individual practices through the reinterpretation of these visual motifs.

Through refinement and subtlety Liz Shreeve's work investigates the potential for the interpretation of light as a physical entity. With the use of a multitude of small reflective wall mounted constructions installed as units in the form of a grid, Shreeve tests the interaction of light, colour and perception. These small square light boxes are constructed using a mat surface that is painted white. Two adjoining sides of each cube are pigmented using brightly coloured acrylic paint and when installed this creates a halo effect when the colour saturated light is reflected onto the white gallery wall. Although Shreeve's work does not directly reference the practices of light artists such as Dan Flavin, Robert Irwin and James Turrell, Shreeve has created her own place along side this tradition.

Pam Aitken's contribution to the exhibition consists of a large hanging screen as well as a selection of square two dimensional wall mounted works. As is the case with Shreeve's paintings, Aitken's work also contains light reflective properties. All of Aitken's works are fabricated using a standard ready made pattern containing circular motifs that have been industrially printed on clear PVC. The result is a shimmering translucent surface that absorbs rather than transmits reflections.

Similarly, Francesca Mataraga deploys the language of conceptual painting to create installations that draw upon the history of Minimalism. All of the diverse elements in Mataraga's work including electric lights, wall painting, timber constructions and remodeled two-dimensional stretcher frames invoke the spatial systems of relational painting. By referencing the codes of non-objective art Mataraga converts two-dimensional painted forms into the third-dimension.

In an entirely different way Kate Mackay creates playful sculptures and paintings that serve to declare their own process of manufacture. Through an emphasis on handmade craft Mackay has developed a homespun approach to the interpretation and production of geometric art. The centerpiece of Mackay's installation is the paradoxically titled *Round Cube*. This work takes the form of a large circular construction that has been made using a large number of brightly painted recycled cardboard cubes that are bound together with lengths of coloured wool. Mackay has also included a selection of square wall mounted oil paintings that employ repeated patterns emphasizing the theme of circles and squares.

Through the construction of brightly coloured circles made predominantly from corrugated cardboard Marlene Sarroff transforms ordinary mass produced materials into something else. The production and interpretation of Sarroff's wall mounted circular constructions enables the viewer to enter into a meditative state that reenacts the technical process of the artist.

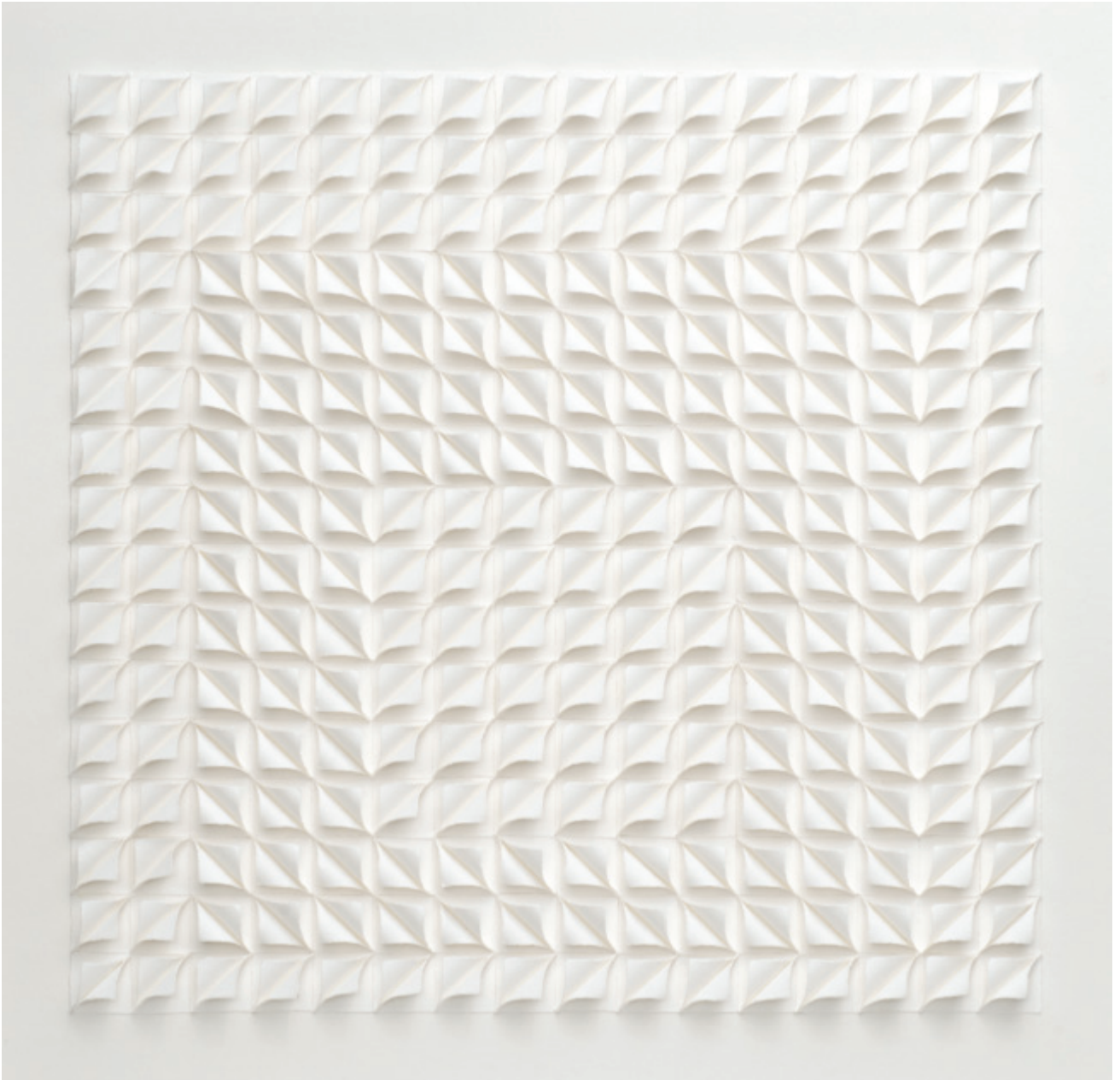
Through a simultaneity of vision, the five artists exhibiting in *circle/square* have arrived collectively at a unified position through a diversity of processes and experiences.

Christopher Dean



Image 1 (detail) and 2 (installation shot Level 17 Artspace)
Light Boxes 2010

liz shreeve



Homage to the Square 2008



Large Cube 2009

kate mackay



Circle Painting 2010



fragments from yellow (Level 17 Artspace) 2010

francesca mataraga



fragments from yellow (Level 17 Artspace) 2010



Variations on a still line 5a and 5b 2009

pam aitken



Volume #2 (detail) 2009



Yellow Spiral Cluster 1 2007

Green Spiral Cluster 1 2007

Blue Spiral Cluster 1 2007

Red Spiral Cluster 1 2007

marlene sarroff



Orange Spiral Cluster 1 2007

Liz Shreeve

Education

BFA Hons. (NAS), BSc Hons. UNSW

Selected Exhibitions

- 2011 Art Almanac Exhibition Space
- 2010 Factory 49, Level 17 Artspace, CarriageWorks, Melbourne Art Fair
- 2009 Stella Downer Fine Art, Factory 49, Bell St Vienna, Liverpool and Blacktown Art Awards
- 2008 Factory 49, Mary Place Gallery, Glebe Art Show
- 2007 Factory 49, Xavier Artspace
- 2007 Stella Downer Fine Art, Watermark, Transitions 07
- 2006 Blake Exceptions, Transitions, Waverley Art Prize, Willoughby Art Show
- 2005 MCQ International Art Prize, Kempsey Art Prize, Waverley Art Prize.

Kate Mackay

kate-mackay.blogspot.com

Education

MVA (SCA), BVA (SCA), Grad Dip Visual Arts (SCA)

Selected Exhibitions

- 2010 Factory 49, CarriageWorks, Index Studios, Linden, ATPV, Fishers Ghost Awards, Libris Awards
- 2009 Factory 49, Level 17 Artspace, Paris CONCRET, Liverpool & Blacktown Art Awards, Woollahra Small Sculpture
- 2008 Factory 49, Newcastle Uni Gallery, Blacktown Art Award, Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize
- 2007 Factory 49, Carnegie Gallery, Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize
- 2006 Factory 49, Tin Sheds Gallery
- 2005 Cross Arts Projects, SNO Showroom, Hazelhurst Art on Paper Award
- 2004 Cross Arts Projects, MOP Gallery, Song Company Project
- 2003 Front Room
- 2000 Gallery 4A, Joe's Sydney, MVA Exhibition.

Francesca Mataraga

<http://francescamataraga.com/>

Education

PhD (COFA) - Current, MFA (COFA), BFA (NAS), BA Hons. (USyd)

Selected Exhibitions

- 2010 Level 17 Artspace, CarriageWorks, Tim Olsen Drawing Prize, Factory 49
- 2009 The Los Angeles Center for Digital Art, Tim Olsen Drawing Prize, Factory 49, Photospace ANU
- 2008 Ivan Dougherty Gallery, George Paton Gallery, Curtin University, 57th Blake Prize, Factory 49
- 2007 Sydney Non Objective Contemporary Art Centre, Factory 49, 69 Smith St
- 2006 Tin Sheds Gallery, Art Sydney 06
- 2005 Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize, Peloton
- 2004 The Year in Art, The Cross Art Projects, The 4th Floor Gallery
- 2003 Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize, 52nd Blake Prize
- 2002 Jacaranda Acquisitive Drawing Award.

Pam Aitken

<http://www.pamaitken.com.au>

Education

MVA (SCA,USyd), BVA (HONS) (SCA,USyd)

Selected Exhibitions

- 2011 Edsviks Konsthall Sweden, Galerie Grand E'Terna France, Moulins de Villancourt France
- 2010 Hebel_121 Switz, Galerie Nothburga Austria, Salon des Réalités Nouvelles France, ParisCONCRET France
- 2009 Holtzman MFA Gallery USA, Bell St Austria, ParisCONCRET France, CarriageARTSworks
- 2008 Connie Dietzschold Gallery, Salon des Réalités Nouvelles France, Factory 49
- 2007 Gary Snyder Fine Arts New York, Phillippe Gelot Gallery France, Moulins de Villancourt France
- 2006 Salon des Réalités Nouvelles France, La Baralliere Tulette France, SNO, Hebel_121 Switz, Factory 49
- 2005 Tin Sheds Gallery, SNO Showroom
- 2004 Sculpture by the Sea, Artspace, Moores Gallery Fremantle, MOP Gallery
- 2003 MOP Gallery, Esperance, Albany, Margaret River, Ballidu, IASKA, Western Australia.

Marlene Sarroff

<http://www.marlenesarroff.com>

Education

BA Art Theory (COFA), MVA (SCA)

Selected Exhibitions

- 2010 Factory 49, 66 Far Point, SNO, O+Festival Kingston NY
- 2010 Hebel 121, Carriage Art Works
- 2010 ParisCONCRET, Office Project Space, Factory 49
- 2009 Factory 49, Pour faire simple, ParisCONCRET
- 2008 Factory 49, Brightspace
- 2006 Coffs Harbour Regional Gallery
- 2005 Graphis Gallery, New England Regional Art Museum
- 2004 Esa Jaske Gallery, Kudos Gallery
- 2002 The Depot Gallery, Gallery 4A.

list of works

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Liz Shreeve

Image 1 (detail) and 2 (installation shot Level 17 Artspace)

Light Boxes 2010

acrylic, gesso and wax on wood

Each unit 15cm x 15cm x 5cm.

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Liz Shreeve

Homage to the Square 2008

torn and curled paper on board

56cm x 56cm x 3cm.

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Kate Mackay

Large Cube 2009

cardboard, acrylic and yarn

180cm x 180cm x 180cm.

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Kate Mackay

Circle Painting 2010

oil on canvas

100cm x 100cm.

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Francesca Mataraga

'fragments from yellow (Level 17 Artspace)' 2010

mixed media

dimensions variable.

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Francesca Mataraga

'fragments from yellow (Level 17 Artspace)' 2010

mixed media

dimensions variable.

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Pam Aitken

Variations on a still line 5a and 5b 2009

PVC on canvas

30.5cm x 30.5cm each.

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Pam Aitken

Volume #2 (detail) 2009

printed PVC

Installation 545cm x 57cm x 115 cm and

536cm x 25cm x 115cm.

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Marlene Sarroff

Yellow Spiral Cluster 1 2007

mixed media

70cm x 70cm x 8cm.

Marlene Sarroff

Green Spiral Cluster 1 2007

mixed media

70cm x 70cm x 8cm.

Marlene Sarroff

Blue Spiral Cluster 1 2007

mixed media

70cm x 70cm x 8cm.

Marlene Sarroff

Red Spiral Cluster 1 2007

mixed media

70cm x 70cm x 8cm.

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Marlene Sarroff

Orange Spiral Cluster 1 2007

mixed media

70cm x 70cm x 8cm.

