

Sarah Williams

Sarah Williams places an emphasis on the physical process of painting. The weight and substance of the paint supersede the image in her work as paint is dragged and scraped to call attention to the material surface of each picture. Her cakes of pigment are substantial and concrete yet with subtle nuances in colour and lustre. She confidently applies layer upon layer of paint; each one mixed with the previous application upon the canvas or obscured by the following action.

Her imagery, for the most part, comprises quiet and solitary spaces - staircases, empty rooms, corridors and the like - those banal interstitial spaces we move through every day and rarely pause to consider or appreciate. These spaces have a haunting emptiness and anonymity about them, and yet also a familiarity; the planes of her angled walls take on an impossible perspective of unease that is truer to memory than any schematic could ever be.

As the child of missionaries based in the Philippines, Williams spent her first twelve years travelling between Manila and NZ, during which time her family lived in thirteen different houses. She completed an MFA at the University of Auckland in 2010.

Education

- 2013 Postgraduate Diploma in Early Childhood Education
- 2010 Master of Fine Arts, Elam School of Fine Arts, University of Auckland.
- 2005 Bachelor of Fine Arts, Elam School of Fine Arts, University of Auckland.

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2021 *Stay a while*, Refinery Artspace, Nelson, NZ.
- 2015 *Outsiders Looking In*, Seed gallery, Auckland, NZ.
- 2014 *End of the Rainbow*, Seed gallery, Auckland, NZ.
- 2013 *what will become of us*, Seed gallery, Auckland, NZ.
- 2012 *Inside and Out*, Seed gallery, Auckland, NZ.
- 2010 *New Work*, Seed gallery, Auckland, NZ.
- 2008 *When a day becomes a year*, Seed gallery, Auckland, NZ.
- 2006 *New work*, Seed gallery, Auckland, NZ.

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2021 *Push Play*, Seed gallery at Studio One Toi Tu, Auckland, NZ.
- 2020 *Gravity and Levity*, Seed gallery at the Tuesday Club, Auckland, NZ.
- 2019 *Breaking Ground*, Seed gallery at the Tuesday Club, Auckland, NZ.
- 2018 *Ahead of the Curve*, Seed gallery at Studio One Toi Tu, Auckland, NZ.
- 2017 *Taking Shape*, Seed gallery at the grey space, Auckland, NZ.
- 2016 *Garden Party*, Seed gallery, Auckland, NZ.
- 2015 *Seeing Stars*, Seed gallery, Auckland, NZ.

- 2014 *Cameo*, Seed gallery, Auckland, NZ.
Paper, paint & polystyrene, Seed gallery, Auckland, NZ.
inches to metres, Seed gallery, Auckland, NZ.
- 2013 *Diamond in the Rough*, Seed gallery, Auckland, NZ.
- 2012 *Cross Purposes*, Seed gallery, Auckland, NZ.
Exquisite Corpse, Seed gallery, Auckland, NZ.
Writ Large, Seed gallery, Auckland, NZ.
TEN, TSB Bank Wallace Arts Centre, Auckland, NZ.
- 2011 Wallace Art Awards exhibition of finalists, Auckland, NZ.
Flying Colours, Seed gallery, Auckland, NZ.
Size Up, Seed gallery, Auckland, NZ.
Out of Order, Seed gallery, Auckland, NZ.
Alter Piece, Seed gallery, Auckland, NZ.
- 2010 *Collecting 101*, Seed gallery, Auckland, NZ.
Bowl me Over, Seed gallery, Auckland, NZ.
- 2009 *Seen This Century*, Judith Anderson Gallery, Hastings, NZ.
Jungle Out There, Seed gallery, Auckland, NZ.
- 2008 *Out of the Box*, Seed gallery, Auckland, NZ.
- 2007 Wallace Art Awards exhibition of finalists, Auckland, NZ.
- 2006 *Have a Ball*, Seed gallery, Auckland, NZ.
Temporary conclusions, Seed gallery, Auckland, NZ.
Origins and Originality, Seed gallery, Auckland, NZ.
- 2004 *TNIAP*, Judith Anderson Gallery, Auckland, NZ.

Bibliography

- 2013 Brown, W, *Style Merger*. NZ House & Garden. August 2013, p 142
- 2009 *Seen this Century*, 100 Contemporary New Zealand Artists: A Collectors Guide.
 Warwick Brown. April 17, 2009