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HUMCARD

notes from an artist

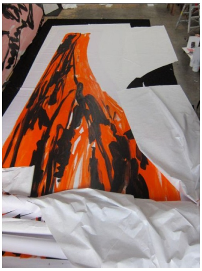
__Welcome to our second edition of HUMcard!__ Continuing on from launching the first at the start of January (with inter-disciplinary artist Hikalu Clarke on his residency at Gasworks London), HUMcard is a new feature designed especially to thank all of our patrons and supporters, and it's something we will be sending out every couple of months, focusing on a new artist each time.

For this edition, our featured artist is esteemed painter __Judy Millar,__ who splits her time between Auckland and Berlin, and we take a closer look at her solo show 'The Future and the Past Perfect', __opening today at Kunstmuseum St. Gallen in Switzerland__ (until 19th May 2019). Curated by Roland Waespe, the exhibition is an overview of Judy's entire oeuvre, and includes work created in Auckland and Berlin over the past 40 years, a new spatial installation designed especially for the Museum's Skylight Hall, as well as several early abstract geometric paintings from the 1980s that will be shown in Europe for the first time.

Judy has kindly sent us some images and thoughts from the install of the show. Read on about her experience of bringing the exhibition together, from the perspective of the artist herself.

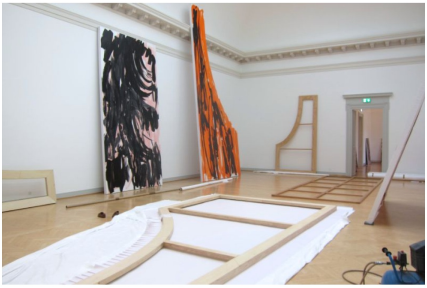
Judy Millar at Kunstmuseum St. Gallen

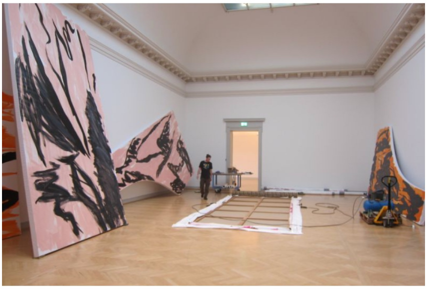
"It seems as if, for the last few months, I've been surrounded by my past as I've gathered together and packed up works covering nearly 40 years of studio life. Works from my student days, works begged back from sometimes reluctant lenders and works made newly to reflect on things made back in the day. All brought together for 'The Future and the Past Perfect'".



Above left: Loading works into trucks to travel to Switzerland, at Millar's studio in Henderson, West Auckland. *Above right and lower image:* Gallery members and Judy Millar unpack the pieces in Kunstmuseum St. Gallen, where *'The Future and the Past Perfect'* is on now. Photos courtesy of the artist.

"Every artist's work is an echo chamber to some extent and bringing works together for a survey show makes clear the depth of that reverberation. I decided to amplify this by making copies of the paintings made for the New Zealand Pavilion at the Venice Biennale of 2009 for the central room of the exhibition. The original works in Venice were seven meter high printed billboard copies of small-scaled direct paintings. This time I've repainted the works directly at billboard scale. So from small paintings to large printed billboard format, they have this time become giant sketches of themselves."





Both images (top and above): Installation view of Judy Millar's new solo show at Kunstmuseum St. Gallen, Switzerland, on from 2 March until 19 May 2019. Photos courtesy of the artist.

"Around this central gallery space other works are exhibited chronologically – starting with a group of paintings from 2018, moving through early drawings from 1980 and then through rooms with works from all the time in-between; the whole exhibition is staged as a large feedback loop."

Judy Millar The Future and the Past Perfect , 2. März - 19. Mai 2019, KMSG

Top image: Exhibition floorplan for *'The Future and the Past Perfect'. Bottom (L) and (R):* Preparation and hanging of the exhibition, which is on now at Kunstmuseum St. Gallen, Switzerland. All photos courtesy of the artist.

"Curator Roland Waespe has done a painstaking job of picking out what he considers to be the best bits of my painting from the last decades. Now, placed in the gallery these works open up entirely new thoughts and potential readings of what I've been up to all these years. Views through the museum, from one gallery space to another, compress the years of work and set up entirely new viewings."

All images (top, middle and lower): Installing Millar's pieces for her solo show *'Future and the Past Perfect'* at Kunstmuseum St. Gallen, Switzerland, from 2 March - 19 May 2019. Photos courtesy of the artist.

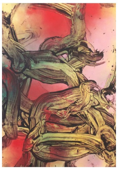
More on the artist

Judy Millar lives and works between Auckland, New Zealand and Berlin, Germany. Known for her large-scale gestural paintings and spectacular installations, Millar has exhibited widely throughout New Zealand, Australia and internationally, and has work held in public collections including Dunedin Public Art Gallery, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki, The Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, and Christchurch Art Gallery, as well as in numerous private collections throughout Europe.

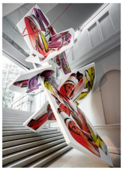
Recent solo exhibitions include *The View from Nowhere*, Fold Gallery, London (2018); *Studies in Place*, Gow Langsford Gallery, Auckland (2018); *My Body Pressed*, Sullivan + Strumpf, Sydney (2018); *Swallowed in Space*, Mark Müller Gallery, Zürich (2018); *Leave the Doors and Windows Open*, Robert Heald Gallery, Wellington (2018); *Turning the World Inside Out, 30 Years a Painter,* Gow Langsford Gallery, Auckland (2016); and *The Bridegroom's Voice*, Bartley + Company, Wellington (2016).

In 2009, Millar represented New Zealand at the 53rd Venice Biennale with her installation *Giraffe-Bottle-Gun* and was included again in the 2011 Venice Biennale as part of the collateral event and group exhibition *Personal Structures*. Image: Judy Millar at her home and studio on the West Coast of Auckland, photographed by Mary Gaudin for FreundevonFreunden, 2013.

Read more on the artist's website...



Untitled (2017), as displayed in *Swallowed in Space* exhibition, Gallerie Mark Müller, Zürich, 2017



Rock Drop installation shot, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki, Auckland 2017

We hope you enjoyed this edition of HUMcard. Our next special will focus on ***Mata Aho Collective*** *and their work for the upcoming* ***2019 Honolulu Biennial****. Titled 'To Make Wrong / Right / Now', the Biennial is the second major exhibition series in the world to focus on contemporary practices of the Pacific and will bring together 19 artists and artist groups from Hawai'i, along with 29 artists and artist groups from the Pacific, Asia and the Americas. It is on from* ***8th March to 5th May 2019.***

Once again, we want to give a big thanks to all of you who have supported HUM over the past couple of years. We are continuing to grow and expand our programming to include more *exhibitions and events happening abroad—a full list of which can be found here on our Calendar page.*

HUM is busier than ever and we wouldn't be able to keep doing what we do without your generosity and encouragement. So, thank you and ka kite anō!

Contemporary HUM is the first centralised platform dedicated to documenting New Zealand art projects abroad. We publish conversations, reviews and essays on the international projects of New Zealand creative practitioners, in addition to a calendar of events and exhibitions.