



MELISSA HARTLEY

BIO
Melissa Hartley is a self-taught artist, that studied graphic design and who has been working for the last 16 years in publishing in Sydney and Edinburgh. In 2010 she decided to pick up the paint brush again and pursue her love of painting. Her compositions feature darkly poetic female portraits against undefined backgrounds, in a void or dream-like state. These mystical portraits of women, almost haunting in their beauty, are steeped in the natural world, each work contains an element of the supernaturally surreal. They are contradictions within themselves, brought to sensual life through surrealistic icons & symbols. Each subject is attractive, yet somehow disturbing. These paradoxes play an important part in her work, the subtly strange, with an intermingling of the pretty and obscure, distant and elusive, but at the same time sensual and enticing. These females seem like they could be from another world.

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

Solo Exhibitions

2015 March, "The Tarnished Age", 19 Karen Contemporary Artspace, Gold Coast
2013 July, "phases de La Lune", Auguste Clown Gallery, Melbourne

Group Exhibitions

2015 Interiors, Copycat Violence Art Collective, Gristle Art Gallery, Brooklyn NY USA
2015 Les Petit Fours, beautiful.bizarre Magazine with Friends of Leon Gallery, Sydney NSW AUSTRALIA
2014 "Tarot under Oath", Last Rites Gallery, New York, USA
2013 "Grand Opening", Alexi Era Gallery, Saint Louis, USA
2014 "Temple of the Soul: bodies and sacred systems", Alexi Era Gallery, St Louis, Missouri, USA
2014 "Kulture Klash", Queen Mary, Long Beach, California, USA
2014 "Wilderness", Auguste Clown Gallery,, Melbourne, Australia
2014 "On Beauty", Modern Eden Gallery, San Francisco, USA
2014 "Universe: the art of existence", Modern Eden Gallery, San Francisco, USA
2014 "Tarot Under Oath", Last Rites Gallery, New York, USA
2013 "Curiosities", Modern Eden Gallery San Fransisco, USA
2013 'The Art Of Cirque Du Soleil', Sofitel Hotel Broadbeach hosted by 19 Karen Contemporary Artspace, Gold Coast
2013 'The Language of Flowers', Modern Eden Gallery, San Francisco, USA
2013 "Venice", Modern Eden Gallery, San Francisco, USA.
2012 "Vanishing Points", Auguste Clown Gallery, Melbourne, Australia.
2012 "Small is Beautiful", Pymont Art Prize in association with Tap Gallery, Sydney, Australia



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IT'S ABOUT TIME

PRESS/INTERVIEWS

2013 The Flying Fruit Bowl online feature
2013 Pony Anarchy Issue 10 interview
2013 beautiful.bizzare, Issue 12012 Curvy online feature
2012 Artist directory online Q&A
2012 www.dumpjekunst.nl online feature
2012 la21f.com, Interview
2012 Nothing to Nobody issue 9 July-Sept 2012, Interview

ACHIEVMENTS

2014 Finalist Kilgour Art Prize

19 Karen Contemporary Artspace
19 Karen Avenue, Mermaid Beach, Gold Coast, Q 4218
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