

Still No Answer

■ Contemporary Women Artists
from Australia and NZ

31 August – 13 October, 2019



THE ■ VIVIAN

Introduction

The Vivian has always been proud of its commitment to showing women artists. In fact, since 2017, the gallery has made sure that at least 50% of all work displayed in the gallery is by women artists as a matter of policy. Not that you'd necessarily know – great art is great art, irrespective of who makes it. And this show offers tangible proof.

Still No Answer: Contemporary Women Artists from Australia and New Zealand is a response to, and extension of, the highly popular 'Never an Answer' all-women show curated by Lucinda Bennett and Linda Tyler in 2018.

This time around, we asked all the exhibiting artists to choose a work; there was no curatorial premise other than the context of the show – artists doing their own thing, responding to their individual enquiry, and exploring through their practice what it means to be an artist working in our culture, at the present time. So it's not a particularly political show about identity politics (notwithstanding the fact that the subject of representation of women in the arts is still, quite rightly, an area of legitimate concern in New Zealand and the world.)

As well as our own fantastic represented artists Patricia Piccinini, Sally Gabori, Monique Lacey and Rebecca Wallis, there are many artists you'll likely be familiar with in this show.

The reason for this is simple. By necessity at first, and now increasingly by choice, The Vivian has always worked collaboratively with other commercial galleries in New Zealand and overseas. It's not as common as you might think. But the results, as you'll see, can often be spectacular. To show artists of the calibre of Lisa Roet and Sara Hughes (Gow Langsford Gallery), Fiona Pardington (Starkwhite), Star Gossage (Tim Melville), Grace Wright (Parlour Projects) and Aroha Gossage (Artis Gallery) is down to the generosity and support of these galleries.

We are grateful to them all, and honoured to show such outstanding work.

Scott Lawrie
Director

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