



CHAPTER HOUSE LANE

MEDIA RELEASE
8 January 2015

Jonas Ropponen

Pubism

15 January – 1 February

Jonas Ropponen's paintings throw fingernails, pubic hair, pulped magazines and pigment into arresting swirls of colour that are as personal as they are pretty.



Jonas Ropponen, *Loose man in bed*, 2014, polymer activated gypsum, pubic hair, acrylic, oil on found board, 30cm x 40cm

Jonas Ropponen is literally all over his new series of paintings for Chapter House Lane. Hair, blood, semen, saliva and fingernail clippings feature in combination with splashes of pigment and pulped *Watchtower* magazines – a nod to his upbringing as a Jehovah's Witness. Sculpture meets painting meets personal history.

Born in Sweden and Melbourne-based, Ropponen explains that his textured abstract pieces are 'as much an investigation into colour, materials and processes, as they are repositories of my DNA'. The by-products of human life, instead of being thrown away, are here captured, layered and composed together into arresting swirls of colour.



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Ropponen reveals both himself and his process by combining found materials with a bright palette of blue, yellow and red. The colours draw you in to look closer and provide an anchor point for navigating the paintings, revealing work that's both personal and abstract, grotesque and joyful, hectic and intuitive.

This exhibition will be accompanied by an artist talk, in which Ropponen will discuss the 'Pubism' series, his process and background. Check our website for details in the coming week.

Exhibition: 15 January – 1 February

Launch: Thursday 15 January, 6–8pm

Location: Chapter House Lane, off Flinders Lane, Melbourne

About the artist

Jonas Ropponen is an artist, arts writer and sessional printmaking lecturer at RMIT and Monash University. He has a diverse practice spanning sculpture, painting, printmaking and alter ego projects. For the past decade Ropponen has shown his work nationally and internationally, and over that time it has been acquired by numerous public institutions and private collectors. For more, see his [website](#).

About Chapter House Lane

Chapter House Lane is a non-profit, contemporary art gallery that hosts exhibitions in a walk-by window space located alongside Melbourne's St Paul's Cathedral. In the heart of the city, our monthly exhibitions are seen by locals, art-lovers and many a curious passer-by. We proudly offer artists rent-free and commission-free exhibitions, while providing professional curatorial and marketing support from a dedicated group of volunteers.

Find out more at chapterhouselane.org.au.

Contact us for media enquiries, interviews or images:

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