



MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday 6 August 2014

**IT'S THE SECOND SHOW FOR THE SECOND SPACE FOR CHAPTER HOUSE LANE.
136 JOHNSTON STREET, COLLINGWOOD, WELCOMES STEPHEN BENWELL WITH HIS EXHIBITION
'3 VASES'.**

This month, the window space at 136 Johnston Street features the middle show in its off-site season. Last month, Benjamin Lichtenstein launched the space with textured photographs in 'Paperwork'. In August we present ceramist Stephen Benwell, and mid-September, we wrap up a stellar line-up with Sydney painter Catherine Cassidy.

Stephen Benwell's exhibition runs from 14 August to 7 September 2014 and we encourage you to walk, cycle, bus or drive past at some point during the month to see the small suite of new works.

Benwell's current practice sees his St Kilda studio filled with familiar forms: the vase, the male nude, jugs. Unusually, one is finished with what looks like an elongated dorsal fin – its adornment rubbish from surrounding streets. Benwell likes rubbish, it's small he says, to hand, and far from grand. He doesn't liken his work, his subjects to anything political – likes instead the angle in a chest in relation to the legs, a cheekbone to the neck, the vase mouth to its depth. Comfortable with beauty, either painting flowers or sculpting their partnering vase, he brings a happy simplicity to the work.

Habitual research has made him an expert, bright eyes, experimental still, and after a long career and shows at Shepparton Art Gallery and Heide Museum of Modern Art, he continues to delight.

Stephen Benwell is represented by Niagara Galleries, Melbourne where he'll exhibit a forthcoming solo show.

For more on the artist see: <http://stephenbenwell.com/>.

SUPPORT FOR CHAPTER HOUSE LANE

As a not-for-profit organisation reliant on voluntary and professional contributions, Chapter House Lane welcomes donations through the Australia Cultural Fund and encourages private support of the arts. We also hope to attract other business and property owners with unused city spaces to turn them over for the benefit of the arts, and cultural well-being of the city. We invite you to come and see the new space, situated between Wellington and Hoddle Streets Collingwood, where we neighbour Bluebird Espresso; spitting distance from the Tote.

MORE INFORMATION, INTERVIEWS AND IMAGES

- Louise Klerks, Gallery Director | 0404 118 105 | louise@chapterhouselane.org.au
- Chapter House Lane, entry via Flinders Lane, Melbourne (alongside St Paul's Cathedral)
- [facebook.com/chapterhouselane](https://www.facebook.com/chapterhouselane) | chapterhouselane.org.au | [instagram.com/chapterhouselane](https://www.instagram.com/chapterhouselane)

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