



## MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday 27 June 2013 | Chapter House Lane | not-for-profit contemporary art space | Melbourne

### JULY SHOW: MATLOK GRIFFITHS

- Chapter House Lane presents Matlok Griffiths' *'Out of Touch'* this July, with an opening from 6-8pm, Thursday 4 July. It may be mid-winter, but new work by this exceptional local artist is not to be missed.
- Drawing on Griffiths' love of the exotic and his heady suite of holiday ephemera, the collection combines colour, line, abstraction and iconography to deliver pictures with punch. In contrast to previous, painterly pieces, he alternates self-fashioned totemic instruments to create lead-lined, brushed or scraped surfaces, amid which enamel, acrylic and oil collect to tell his stories. Along with the best titles in the business, the images are seeped in referential treats - amid which you'll find a motley crew: Matisse, Guston, Hockney, and Captain Beefheart.
- The show title – apt in its physicality – comes from Ashley Crawford's catalogue essay for an earlier show *'All these words keep getting in our way'*: "Works that rely upon gut association, upon things such as colour and form and, dare we say it, even emotion, are fragrantly dismissed as out of touch." Crawford writes. He suggests Griffiths' work is an antidote to the disease taking root in the art world – one that is spawned by academics and spread by bureaucrats' bastardisation of philosophy. His assessment is Griffiths will be crushed. But not by us. We are definitely on the dancefloor with him.
- Robert Hollingworth, reviewing Griffiths' May show at Blockprojects: *'New Thoughts on Luxury'* names Griffiths as one of the "contemporary artists who seem to disregard these rationalist modes of thought", that is, the binary framework, defining something as one thing, or the other. Rather, Griffiths' work is part of a pursuit which "might easily turn left or right, reconcile or complicate further" any semblance of the definitive "abstraction / representational" divide.
- This might mean there's no knowing what you'll get. But rest assured, it's 100 percent Matlok and a testament to his skill that early in his career he's been able to develop a strong, identifiable style.
- Matlok Griffiths has recently joined the stable of artists represented by Blockprojects in Richmond. See <http://www.blockprojects.com/2013/04/19/matlok-griffiths-2/> for more.

### COMING UP:

- August: Kate Smith
- September: Kez Hughes
- November: Helen Johnson

### NITE ART:

- On 24 July 2013, the city's art spaces old and new, contemporary, artist run and commercial, will open their doors to participate in Nite Art. A map and program of what's on will appear in next month's *Art Guide Australia*. See <http://niteart.com.au/> for more.

### FOR MORE:

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- Chapter House Lane, entry via Flinders Lane, Melbourne (alongside St Paul's Cathedral)

Chapter House Lane is proudly supported by:

