



MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday 24 October 2013 | Chapter House Lane | not-for-profit contemporary art space | Melbourne

CHAPTER HOUSE LANE TURNS TWO!

- Chapter House Lane marks its second anniversary with a show by local painter Helen Johnson. Celebrate the occasion with drinks from 6-8pm, Thursday 7 November.
- Johnson's painting has moved from the figurative, literal, to the abstract, expressive. The shift has caused her little angst, rather it's a naturally inquisitive, exploration of the medium; her nimble mind now using the room it has created to synthesise the ideas sifting from her subconscious to the conscious.
- Camouflage kangaroos, CAPTCHA technology and Kippenberger all come into play for different reasons. But Johnson's treatment is confident to the point she'll let you be in your interpretation and extrapolation. Avoiding prescription, her art mirrors the well-known writers' edict 'show, don't tell'.
- In what has been a busy year for Johnson, she maintains an ability for quiet protest, and a love of place, that place – *Australia* – a concept we are all at risk of rubbishing (or worse, ignoring) at times. Sometimes the kindest thing we can do is be cruel, to shine a light and sharpen the wit.
- It's what separates us from the bots trawling the net. We meet in the middle, we laugh, we have *time enough for love*.
- Helen Johnson is represented by Sutton Gallery, and in addition to significant shows in LA and Melbourne this year, will also be featured in the forthcoming 'Melbourne Now' at the NGV.

WHAT'S IN STORE FOR 2014

- The program for 2014 is taking shape with announcements on the horizon. Expect more three dimensional work with sculptural, spatial and physical artists taking advantage of the height and depth of the windows. We continue to showcase a range of contemporary art with an emphasis on independent practitioners, mixed in with our pick of the represented. We'll introduce our 'companion shows' where we bring two complementary exhibitors together as well as kick off the year with a roll call of our past and upcoming exhibitors in a bumper fundraiser.

FUNDRAISING:

- We are commencing our campaign to raise \$15,000 to ensure our annual program and artists are supported throughout 2014. We can receive tax deductible donations through the [Australia Cultural Fund](#) and receive drink donations from our patrons at openings thanks to a super supportive arrangement with McPherson Wines Australia. We look to build on this in the coming months.

SHOWS FROM PAST EXHIBITORS:

- Benjamin Lichtenstein currently has a show at the Utopian Slumps project space and Nicole Breedon will exhibit work at Strange Neighbour in a show curated by Excerpt Magazine. Up in Sydney, Rowan Conroy currently has work on display at the Australian Centre for Photography.

FOR MORE:

- facebook.com/chapterhouselane | chapterhouselane.org.au | instagram.com/chapterhouselane
- Amy Rudder, Managing Director | 0414 625 525 | amy@chapterhouselane.org.au
- Louise Klerks, Gallery Director | 0404 118 105 | louise@chapterhouselane.org.au
- Chapter House Lane, entry via Flinders Lane, Melbourne (alongside St Paul's Cathedral)

Chapter House Lane is proudly supported by:

