



136 JOHNSTON STREET  
A Chapter House Lane project

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## STEPHEN BENWELL

### '3 Vases'

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**EXHIBITION:** 14 August – 7 September 2014



Image: *Large Vase*, 2014, Stoneware, 57 x 27 x 29cm

We're excited to announce the exhibition of Stephen Benwell's '3 Vases' at 136 Johnston Street from 14 August to 7 September 2014.

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 Museum and Heide Museum of Modern Art, he continues to delight.

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

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**LOCATION:** 136 Johnston Street,  
Collingwood, Melbourne

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Chapter House Lane thanks Arts Victoria and Mcpherson Wines for their ongoing support of our not-for profit space. Thanks too Leah Henry and Marcus Davies for the temporary use of 136 Johnston Street.

Tax-deductible donations can be made through The Australia Cultural Fund.  
Your contribution helps us to improve our space whilst keeping exhibitions rent-free for artists.