



AUSTRALIAN GALLERIES

DERBY STREET

## STEWART MACFARLANE

*Persistence*

*Drawings 1969 - 2015*

### MEDIA RELEASE

Exhibition Dates: 12 – 31 May 2015  
35 Derby Street Collingwood VIC 3066  
Open 7 days 10am to 6pm

Stewart MacFarlane is known for his dynamic paintings exploring the complexities of social interactions within urban settings. His upcoming exhibition showcases a comprehensive collection of drawings from 1969 – 2015 which form the foundation for the cryptic narratives in his figurative and often voyeuristic works.

*“Behind the big bright canvases there sits a lifetime of drawings, of studies for pictures, but also works complete and finished unto themselves. For Stewart, a drawing is invested with the same care, time and energy as an oil painting, but they rarely come out from the studio to be aired to his public. He feels vulnerable in exposing the drawings, a wariness about how they might be judged and considered by those more used to his very confident and up-front paintings. While rarely looked at and reconsidered, it has been important to him that they remain close, the reservoir of ideas and the markers of change over decades. Paintings will be created, shown and sold off into a willing market. The drawings have remained, until now, a private and very personal part of his art.” – Gavin Fry, March 2015*

Stewart MacFarlane studied painting in Melbourne and New York. He has exhibited extensively in Australia, Asia, Europe and the United States. His work is held by several collections including The National Gallery of Australia, Canberra; the National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne; the Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth; Artbank, Sydney; regional and university collections and internationally in the United States. A monograph of his work, titled ‘Stewart MacFarlane: Riddles of life’ was published in 1996 and a second publication, ‘Stewart MacFarlane: Paintings’ by Nicholas Jose and Timothy Morrell was published in 2012.

*Persistence: Drawings 1969 - 2015*  
is current until 31 May 2015

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