



AUSTRALIAN GALLERIES
MELBOURNE

NICK HOWSON

Heroes

MEDIA RELEASE

Exhibition Dates: 12 - 31 July 2016

35 Derby Street Collingwood VIC 3066

Open 7 days 10am to 6pm

Nick Howson's current exhibition *Heroes* is a celebration of iconic Australian sports and scenes. Howson creates rich, colourful artworks that capture bodies in motion; silhouettes arch and extend, depicted in moments of energy and triumph.

Howson is a highly skilled painter, best known for his distinctive mosaic compositions. His unique technique of building softened layers of oil paint to form a patchwork of vibrant colours is intriguing and engaging, combining a naivety of style with intricate attention to detail and captivating softness.

This exhibition presents a series of recent paintings, as well as a new body of three-dimensional works carved in wood. These sculptural pieces are an extension of Howson's painting practice; a further exploration into shape and form, colour and composition. In these highly original works Howson distills his heroic figures into streamlined profiles, with each artwork presenting two uniquely painted surfaces; a 'St Kilda saint' on one face becomes a 'Melbourne demon' on the opposite. Highlighting curves and bends, Howson



uncovers the harmony between body, ball, bat and pitch in this celebratory and highly engaging exhibition.

Nick Howson has completed commissions for the Australian Open Tennis Poster, Melbourne; a mural for the National Gallery of Australia restaurant, Canberra; a mural for the Prahran Market, Melbourne and a significant mural at the Richmond Railway Station, Melbourne. His work is represented in collections around Australia including Art Bank, Sydney; the Melbourne City of Whitehorse Art Collection, VIC; Crown Casino, Melbourne; the Gold Coast Art Gallery, QLD; the Horsham Regional Art Gallery, VIC; Parliament House, Canberra and the Tullamarine Airport, Melbourne.

Heroes is current until 31 July 2016

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