

THE WALLS ART SPACE

TYZA STEWART AND JAMES BARTH

ASSUMING A SURFACE

1 - 30 June, 2019

Curated by CAITY REYNOLDS [OUTER SPACE]

Assuming a Surface expands upon James Barth's and Tyza Stewart's existing painting and image making practices. Both artists produce ongoing series of self portraits that critique constructions of (trans)gender narratives, visibility and image production. Their joint exhibition arose from a desire to consider more abstract and non-figurative aspects of their respective practices; to seek open-ended, non-prescriptive ways of addressing these ideas. Barth and Stewart have foregone conventional methods of painting to produce an exhibition that speaks to the functions of painting as a representational tool. Though neither artist shies from the expectations of painting, in Assuming A Surface the medium is exposed. Because of the reductive nature of representation in conventional painting practice Barth and Stewart have manifested works that transcend formalist fixations on aesthetics; they infer a greater significance than just their surface and decline to be categorised by declarative readings. This is a show absent of conventional representation and absent of resolution. Their pursuit of alternative surfaces and extension of their medium attempts to relinquish their image from representational dogma. By creating new methods of painting in Assuming A Surface, Barth and Stewart eliminate the need to rely on pre-existing binaries and establish a more equitable discourse that can accommodate practices outside of the accepted canon.

The first iteration of this exhibition occurred at Outer Space Artist Run Initiative in Brisbane, in 2018.

[Clockwise from entrance]

TYZA STEWART

PAST HAND (2019)

Cotton fabric dyed and bleached

80 x 60 cm

TYZA STEWART

NOWHERE TO NOWHERE (2018)

Acrylic paint, ply, pine

180 x 77 x 50 cm

TYZA STEWART

LONG STEP (2019)

Cotton fabric dyed and bleached

220 x 24 cm

JAMES BARTH

IS IT COLD? (SELF PORTRAIT IN A POOL) (2018)

Oil on Dibond

75 x 57 cm

TYZA STEWART

UNDER FLOOR (2019)

Cotton fabric dyed and bleached

87 x 228 cm

TYZA STEWART

RECEIVING AN AWARD IN HIGH SCHOOL (2018)

Acrylic paint, ply, pine

155 x 78 x 50 cm

TYZA STEWART

LYING ON ART GALLERY FLOORS (2018)

Acrylic paint, ply, pine

21 x 175 x 50 cm

TYZA STEWART

RELAXO LENGTH (2018)

Acrylic paint, ply, pine

225 x 25 x 50 cm

TYZA STEWART

HANDS AND FEET ON THE GROUND (2018)

Acrylic paint, ply, pine

87 x 130 x 50 cm

JAMES BARTH

OVER EXPOSED (GLASS AND PLANT) (2018)

Oil on Dibond

61cm x 79 cm

JAMES BARTH

OVER EXPOSED (SELF PORTRAIT IN A CAR) (2018)

Oil on Dibond

90cm x 78 cm

JAMES BARTH

ALL THAT GLITTERS (SPA) (2018)

Oil on Dibond

75cm x 57 cm

**THE WALLS
ART SPACE**

*OUTER
SPACE*

CITY OF
GOLDCOAST.

THE WALLS ART SPACE

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