

Natalya Hughes

Looking Full

beam contemporary

22 March – 27 April 2013

Natalya Hughes deconstructs, reconfigures and rewrites figurative images to form partially abstracted and highly patterned psychological worlds. Working broadly across painting, print, animation and installation, Hughes conflates the boundaries between beauty and the grotesque, realism and abstraction.

In her new series of paintings, *Looking Full*, Hughes continues this exploration finding inspiration in traditional Japanese woodblock prints that depict demure female portraits. Here, Hughes reconstructs these portraits to create imagery that straddles figurative and abstract patterning. This process, together with her use of titles, such as 'Looking Itchy', 'Looking Suitable', 'Looking as if she wants to Change', uncovers the latent characteristics of these sitters. In turn they invite a different kind of 'look'.

Natalya Hughes is currently based in Sydney and has been included in major exhibitions at the Tarrawarra Museum of Art, VIC (2006), Ian Potter Museum of Art, Melbourne (2009), Queensland University Art Museum, Brisbane (2010) and Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane (2012). In 2007 and 2009, Hughes was a finalist in the ABN Amro Emerging Artist Award, and has completed residencies at Gertrude Contemporary, Melbourne (2006) and Art Incubator, Singapore (2009). Hughes's work is held in notable collections such as Artbank and the Queensland Art Gallery. This is her second exhibition at Beam Contemporary.



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wednesday to saturday 12 – 6

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Left to Right



Being Looked At, 2013
Sewn, digitally printed fabric and wood.



Looking Itchy, 2013
Acrylic on ply, 60 x 69cm



Looking As If She Wants To Change,
2012-2013
Acrylic on ply, 60 x 69cm



Looking Cool, 2012-2013
Acrylic on ply, 60 x 69cm



Looking Weighed Down, 2013
Acrylic on ply, 60 x 69cm



Looking Shy, 2013
Acrylic on ply, 60 x 69cm



Looking Suitable 2013
Acrylic on ply, 60 x 69cm

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