

MEDIA RELEASE



STUDIO 12: MINNA GILLIGAN, *ON A CLEAR DAY YOU CAN SEE FOREVER*

EXHIBITION DATES: 6 NOVEMBER–19 DECEMBER 2015

EXHIBITION OPENING: 6PM FRIDAY 6 NOVEMBER 2015

Gertrude Contemporary is pleased to present a new Studio 12 exhibition by current Studio Artist Minna Gilligan. Gilligan works primarily with painting, drawing and collage. Her practice speaks of fleeting, personal encounters with the past and present, and manifests in a tumultuous reconciliation of both. Her works are playgrounds of colour, often inhabited by lone protagonists trapped in states of longing, sadness or exhalation.

For her Studio 12 exhibition, titled *On a clear day you can see forever*, Gilligan presents a new body of paintings and one new digitally printed fabric, which will function as a kind of backdrop to the paintings—turning Studio 12 into a more immersive and intimate environment. Gilligan's paintings and digital prints boast complex, all-over surfaces—an energetic admixture of brightly coloured spray paint, found fabric, photographic collage and acrylics. Her canvases swarm with linear patterns, bleached clovers, flowers and butterflies—the types of automatic doodlings that might populate a teenage girl's diary whiling away long hours at school.

Minna Gilligan has a Bachelor of Fine Arts (First Class Honours) from the Victorian College of the Arts. Recent solo exhibitions include: *Long time no see*, Daine Singer, 2014; *Memory Motel*, TCB Art Inc., 2014; *Holiday Inn*, West Space, 2013; *Halos and Plateaus*, Rear View, 2012; and *Not in Kansas Anymore*, Dudspace, 2012. Recent group exhibitions include:

Melbourne Now, National Gallery of Victoria, 2013–14; *The Kenneth Biennale*, TCB Art Inc., 2013; *PICA Salon*, Perth Institute of Contemporary Art, 2013; *Period Piece*, Ontario College of Art and Design, Canada, 2013; and *No Soda*, Knight Street Art Space, 2012. Gilligan also performs in the band Pamela with artists Jon Campbell and Georgina Glanville. Gilligan maintains an illustration practice as an artist for New York-based online magazine *ROOKIE*, as well as fashion clients, and is a member of artist collective The Ardorous, curated by Canadian photographer Petra Collins.

Image: Minna Gilligan, *On a clear day you can see forever*, detail, 2015, acrylic, ink, bleach, spray paint and collage on found fabric, 101 x 121 cm. Courtesy the artist and Daine Singer Gallery, Melbourne.

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