

EXHIBITION DATES: 24 FEBRUARY—4 MARCH

The Renaissance of Earth

Meezaan Dickinson



The Renaissance of Earth is motivated by the feeling that humanity is resting on a precipice, with climate change, overpopulation, conflict and economic crises threatening to push us over the edge. This exhibition explores various themes including the world's broken economic and political systems, and the struggle between maintaining the status-quo and finding new and sustainable methods for existing in our environment. These ideas are handled in a manner which intends to be nuanced yet also convey a sense of unease. Underpinning everything is the deep connection and expansion of the natural world which we as human beings seem to have lost touch with.

The painting process has become an outlet for the complicated emotions that are elicited by reflections about the state of the world and the artist's own privileged position within 'the system'. Thus, each piece possesses a unique

essence; from darkly satirical and desolate to hopeful and teeming with life.

Meezaan Dickinson is a Melbourne-based artist whose work consists primarily of large scale, acrylic paintings. These almost always feature a black background in order to offer high contrast with the vibrant colours employed for the paintings' subject matter. Her style takes inspiration from both hyperrealism and surrealism with detail oriented focus. A common theme loosely connects these pieces—humanity's relationships with nature and the state of the environment. This is represented by elements of flora and fauna which are included throughout to form a motif.

The George Paton Gallery would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land, the Boonwurrung and Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nations. We acknowledge their elders past and present and pay our respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in attendance. We would also like to acknowledge that this is stolen land and the sovereignty over this land was never ceded.

IMAGE: Meezaan Dickinson, Hand in Heart. Acrylic on paper, 2014

GEORGE PATON GALLERY
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