

# ABBEY McCULLOCH

## 'The Shallows'

24 March - 18 April 2015

## Catalogue of Works

555 Brunswick Street New Farm QLD 4005 Australia  
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Women as social beings: mothers, daughters, sisters - the manner in which the feminine might present itself when the public gaze is not present and perfection not a requirement - this is what concerns Abbey McCulloch. Her paintings of the female persona, while grounded in the tradition of self-portraiture, also act as vehicles for exploring emotions ranging from awe to frustration, from screaming abandon to resolute determination. McCulloch says she looks to create a “reflexive mirroring process” using her own image as a prop to lay bare contrivances necessary for emotional survival in our overly self-conscious culture. Her ease and facility in working with the face and figure lead to “a mix of theatre, a bit of softening, some exaggeration” and subsequently, an incisive glimpse into forthright, unsentimental observation.

Her palette favours complementary colours applied in thin layers, building to a sense of irony: opposites work against one another in disagreement and tension. “My work is an absolutely private pilgrimage. I want the viewer to feel the struggle between risk and hesitation”.

McCulloch holds a Masters in Fine Art from the Queensland College of Art, Griffith University. Named as one of Australia’s 50 Most Collectable Artists by Art Collector in 2009, 2010 and 2011, she has been a finalist in the Archibald Prize three times (with portraits of Toni Collette [2007], Nell Schofield [2009] and Naomi Watts in 2013). She has also been a finalist in the Redland Art Prize, the Paul Guest Drawing Prize, the Northern Rivers Portrait Prize, the Stan and Maureen Duke Prize and the Metro Art Prize. Carol Schwarzman



'The Re-Enchantment' 2014  
oil on canvas  
167 x 140 cm  
\$12,000

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'The Master' 2015  
oil on canvas  
70 x 60 cm  
\$6,000

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'Elixir' 2015  
oil on canvas  
150 x 120 cm  
\$11,000

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'Reviver' 2015  
oil on canvas  
150 x 120 cm  
\$11,000

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'The Fever' 2015  
oil on canvas  
150 x 120 cm  
\$11,000

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'Deeper' 2015  
oil on canvas  
70 x 60 cm  
\$6,000

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'Hermetic' 2015  
oil on canvas  
112 x 86 cm  
\$8,000

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'Alpha' 2015  
oil on canvas  
70 x 60 cm  
\$6,000

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'The Frontier' 2015  
oil on canvas  
150 x 120 cm  
\$11,000

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'Untitled #6' 2014  
gouache/graphite on paper  
28 x 45 cm  
\$1,500 unframed

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'Untitled #5' 2014  
gouache/graphite on paper  
28 x 45 cm  
\$1,500 unframed

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'Untitled #3' 2014  
gouache/graphite on paper  
28 x 45 cm  
\$1,500 unframed

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ABBEY McCULLOCH  
CV

EDUCATION

- 2008 Masters of Visual Arts (Research), Queensland College of Art, Griffith University  
1995 Bachelor of Visual Arts, Queensland College of Art, Griffith University

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2015 The Shallows, Edwina Corlette Gallery, Brisbane  
2014 Control, Art Stage Singapore, Marina Bay Sands, Singapore  
2012 A New Normal, Helen Gory Galerie, Melbourne  
2011 The Thunderheads, Helen Gory Galerie, Melbourne  
2010 Cabin Fever, Helen Gory Galerie, Melbourne  
2009 New Portraits, Helen Gory Galerie, Melbourne  
2008 The Sting, Schubert Contemporary, Queensland  
The Pretender, Helen Gory Galerie, Melbourne  
2007 The Penny Drops, Art Galleries Schubert, Queensland  
2006 I WANT, Helen Gory Galerie, Melbourne  
10 Palominos, Philip Neville Gallery, Darwin  
2005 I Miss You Most of All, Helen Gory Galerie, Melbourne

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2014 The Gold Award, Rockhampton Regional Gallery  
2013 Archibald Portrait Prize, Art Gallery of NSW  
2012 Sexualising the City, Gold Coast City Art Gallery  
2010 Redland Art Prize, Redland City Art Gallery  
Melbourne International Art Fair, Helen Gory Galerie  
Paul Guest Drawing Prize, Bendigo Art Gallery  
Northern Rivers Portrait Prize, Lismore Regional Gallery  
Flying Colours, Gold Coast City Art Gallery  
Salon des Refuses, SH Ervin Gallery  
2009 Wax On, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery  
Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of NSW

- 2008 The Stan and Maureen Duke Prize, Gold Coast City Art Gallery  
Metro5 Art Prize, Metro5 Art Gallery, Melbourne  
2007 Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of NSW  
2006 Redland Art Prize, Redland City Art Gallery

AWARDS/PRIZES

- 2013 Finalist, Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of NSW  
2011 Semi-Finalist, Doug Moran National Portrait Prize  
2010 Finalist, Redland Art Prize, Redland Art Gallery  
Finalist, Paul Guest Drawing Prize, Bendigo Art Gallery  
Finalist, Northern Rivers Portrait Prize, Lismore Regional Gallery  
2009 Finalist, Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of NSW  
2008 Finalist, The Stan and Maureen Duke Prize, Gold Coast City Art Gallery  
Finalist, Metro5 Art Prize, Metro5 Gallery, Melbourne  
2007 Shortlisted, Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of NSW  
2006 Second Prize, Redland Art Prize, Redland Art Gallery QLD

COLLECTIONS

Gold Coast City Art Gallery  
Bendigo Art Gallery  
The Local Collection  
Turner + Associates Architects

PUBLICATIONS

- 2014 Art Monthly, July, Feast or famine? Art in Queensland, by Alison Kubler, p. 52.  
Vogue Living, January/February, Singapore Fling, Art and About, p. 55.  
2013 The Sydney Morning Herald, 'Every picture tells a story as dab hands vie for  
victory', by Andrew Taylor, March 17.  
2012 A New Normal, Catalogue essay by Sharne Wolff.  
2011 Harper's Bazaar, September, Downtown Abbey, by Susie Burge, p. 180.  
Australian Art Collector, Issue 55, 50 Most Collectible Australian Artists, p. 202.

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