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Very special thanks also to: Magda and Douglas Sheerer for the opportunity to let the dingbats run wild in Galerie Düsseldorf and for all their support over the past six months. To Toni Collinge; Tanzi Collinge; Tony Nathan; Shannon Lyons; Ben Kovacsy; Shaun Chambers; Annette Seeman; Jessie Mitchell; Katrina Virgona; Matthew Ngui; Marco Marcon; Claire Ross; Shirley Vilches and Matthew Shane for their generous assistance and moral support with various aspects of the exhibition install and work-in-progress. May the dingbats always be with you!



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Pamela Gaunt

*Errant Abstractions an exhibition about frippery,
bibelot and aesthetic fluff*

3 - 31 August 2008

GALERIE DÜSSELDORF

Pam Gaunt

Errant Abstractions: an exhibition about frippery, bibelot and aesthetic fluff.

Introduction

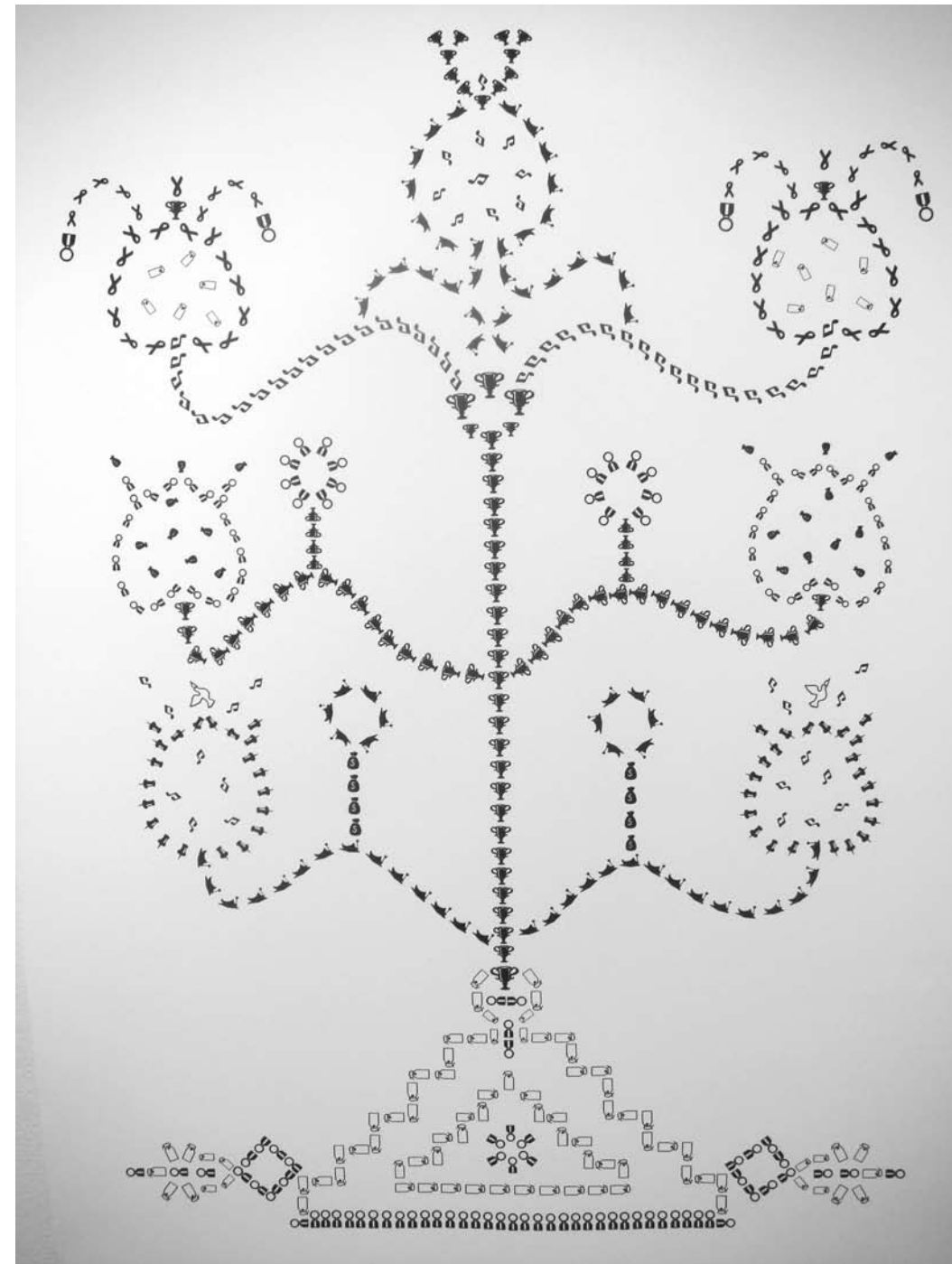
In an article titled Infinite Ornament, Massimo Carboni claims that the decorative, or ornament, in a Post modern sense: 'stands at the intersection between ethics and esthetics, breaking apart familiar value systems and provoking deep psychic responses'. Whilst this statement is too complex to flesh out in the space available, Carboni alludes to the depth of complexity surrounding any meaningful discourse about the ornamental.

The subtitle to this exhibition somewhat audaciously refers to pejorative perceptions of the decorative that deny the semantic potential of this vast and expressive paradigm. The work nods to past decorative lexicons and winks at the present. Amongst other things, it also makes reference to the functionalist architect Adolf Loos' infamous statement Ornament and Crime, and indirectly to the hedonistic work of the artist Henri Matisse – particularly his late cut-out series, that Carboni describes the experience as: '...a garden suspended in air'.

Gaunt's conceptual raison d'être explores the relationship between architecture and pattern, or the ornamental. For several years she has explored spatial arrangements in architectural space that create new dialogues between the two. In this exhibition she continues to mine the diversity of the ornamental, from traditional motifs to the quirky contemporary appeal of computer symbols/icons - wingdings, web dings and dingbats.

Twelve decorative motifs from European, Asian and Middle Eastern origins are the source material for the forms and structures of the works in this exhibition. By isolating and repositioning these anthropomorphic decorative motifs, Gaunt engages the viewer with unfamiliar contexts and contemporary translations of these ubiquitous forms.

I am grateful to Andrew McNamara for the term aesthetic fluff.



PAMELA GAUNT

Short Biography

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2008 Errant Abstractions, Galerie Düsseldorf, Perth
- 2003 Floribunda, Galerie Düsseldorf, Perth
- 1999 New Works, Galerie Düsseldorf, Perth
- 1999 Moth-Eaten, Object Gallery, Sydney
- 1998 Nothing To Wear, Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne
- 1998 Patterning The Edge, Craft Victoria, Melbourne
- 1996 Marginalia, Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts
- 1994 One Size Fits Most, The Story So Far Gallery, Perth
- 1984 Body Works, Australian Craftworks Gallery, Sydney

REPRESENTED IN THE FOLLOWING COLLECTIONS

Museum Fur Kunsthandwerk, Frankfurt am Main, Germany; Art Gallery of Western Australia Sir James and Lady Cruthers Collection; Jewish Museum of Australia; Crafts Board of the Australia Council Curtin University of Technology; Ararat Regional Gallery, Victoria; Perth College Collection
Several national and international private collections.

COMMISSIONS

- 2007 Artwork for A.K Reserve site works – DHW – Ministry for Sport, new Perry Lakes Stadiums
- 2005 Artwork for DHW, Homeswest West Perth, in collaboration with Marco Marcon, - Donaldson & Warn architects.
- 2005 Artwork for DHW, Homeswest, Subi Centro, with Sharp & van Rhyn Architects
- 2004 Artwork for BGPA, WA Ecology Centre at Bold Park, Perth with Donaldson & Warn Architects.
- 2003 Private commission for Lynne Hughes and Dr Graham Raad's residence.

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2007 [ex]Changing Traditions, Kyoto Art Centre, Japan
- 2006 Melbourne Art Fair, with Galerie Düsseldorf
- 2005 Signpost to a New Place, Harrogate, England
- 2004 Shelflife, Festival of Perth, Galerie Düsseldorf, Perth.
- 2003 Contemporary International Textiles, Ormeau Baths Gallery, Belfast.
- 2003 Connection Visual II: An Exhibition of Western Australian Contemporary Fine Art, Shanghai and Hangzhou, China.
- 2001 Chinese Whispers, The Study Gallery, England.
- 2001 In Our Hands, Nagoya, Japan.
- 2001 Divergence, Art Gallery Chiang Mai University and The Grand Hall, Siam Discovery Centre, Bangkok, Thailand.
- 2001 Second Look, Prospect Gallery Textiles Biennial, Prospect Gallery Adelaide
- 1999 Material Narratives, Jam Factory, Adelaide.
- 1995 Symbol And Narrative, India, Nepal and Thailand

PUBLISHED MATERIAL

- 2004 "The (E)Merging of the Decorative in Contemporary Art", The Space-Between post- conference publication.
- 2004 Pam Gaunt - Selected Works, 1997-2004, texts by J. Stringer and P. Gaunt (Perth: Published by Pam Gaunt, 2004).
- 1997 Pam Gaunt - Selected Works, 1989-1996, texts by R. Bell and M. Marcon (Perth : Published by Pam Gaunt, 1997).

PROFESSIONAL RESEARCH, AWARDS & GRANTS

- 2008 Department of Culture and the Arts, Arts Development grant
- 2005 Australia Council, Visual Art & Strategy Grant
- 2001 ArtsWA Creative Development Fellowship
- 1998 Curtin University Vice Chancellor's Excel Award for Teaching
- 1997 Australia Council Milan Studio Residency, Italy
- 1996 VA/CB of the Australia Council Project Development Grant
- 1995 W.A. Dept. for the Arts, Creative Development Grant
- 1993/94 Curtin New Researchers Grant Scheme



Pamela Gaunt

Errant Abstractions an exhibition about frippery, bibelot and aesthetic fluff

Galerie Düsseldorf : 3 - 31 August 2008

List of works:

1 - 5

Errant Florid Drawings #1-5 2008
Stencilled and painted industrially routed MDF
etch primer & automotive paint
Sizes variable
1 - 3 \$ 2,500
4 - 5 \$ 2,000

6 - 33

Errant Abstractions installation
Suspended works (Errant #1 to 27) 2008
Stencilled and painted industrially routed MDF
etch primer & automotive paint
Dimensions variable - may also be wall mounted
\$ 950 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13
\$ 750 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26
\$ 550 28, 29, 30, 31
\$ 350 32, 33

27

Errant #28 – (wall piece)
Stencilled and painted industrially routed MDF
etch primer & automotive paint
\$ 750

34 - 36

Dingbat Series
(from dingbats/webdings and wingdings) 2007 - 2008
Inkjet printed and photographed collaged drawings
on Archival Cotton Rag paper
Edition of 5
34 No 8 (transport and landscape)
35 No 9 (Tree of Life dingbats - awards, rewards and medals)
36 No 4 (people and animals)
\$ 990 each

37 - 46

Dingbat Series
(from dingbats/webdings and wingdings) 2007 - 2008
Small (edition of 5) # 1-10
Dimensions: 50cm high width variable
Inkjet printed and photographed collaged drawings
on Archival Cotton Rag paper on aluminium
NB: All small dingbats can be printed at a larger scale (POA)
\$ 330 each (\$ 2,800 for complete set of 10)

47 - 82

Partners in Crime Series (edition of 10 of each series)
Homage to Adolf Loos' infamous 1908 statement:
ornament and crime
(which was later mistranslated as: ornament IS crime)

47 - 58

Stainless steel series #1-12 2008
Laser cut stainless steel
\$ 250 each (\$ 2,500 for complete set of 12)

59 - 70

Mirror acrylic #1-12 2008
Laser cut mirror acrylic
\$ 250 each (\$ 2,500 for complete set of 12)

71 - 82

Painted mirror acrylic #1-12 2008
Laser cut and painted mirror acrylic
\$ 250 each (\$ 2,500 for complete set of 12)

83 - 84

Webding Speech Bubbles 2008
2 clusters
Laser cut, painted, sandblasted, acrylic mirror
\$ 550 per cluster