

Micaela Bumpstead

Primary Perceptions

21 September – 15 November 2017



Micaela Bumpstead, CMYK, Printer ink on watercolour paper, 83 x 102 cm

In *Primary Perceptions* Melbourne artist Micaela Bumpstead takes the viewer to the site where digital images are given a more permanent material existence in print. Releasing vibrant colours by force from the black plastic compartments within printer cartridges, Bumpstead's method of sourcing pure colour is at once an act of destruction and liberation.

The resulting works brightly and eloquently subvert our understanding of how images and identities are layered, while engaging with environmental issues associated with a consumer culture in which the deteriorating border between the virtual and the material is ever less apparent.

Artist Statement

Primary Perceptions features a range of artworks that include a series of abstract paintings, three hand manipulated photographic prints, four portraits and a drawing. Each work considers the foundational elements of images and the stability/instability of what they depict. My overarching concern is to explore how people consume images in contemporary society and how we live through photographs online.

The exhibition includes the unconventional use of painting portraits using printer ink to consider how images are merely formed through the four of colours cyan, magenta, yellow and black. Whilst showing a series of abstract printer ink paintings that looks at liberating the inks from a calculated form. This reveals the purity of the inks, their behaviours dripping and merging into one another.

photographs are as much an interpretation of the world as paintings and drawings are

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