



JULIA FLANAGAN  
DAZZLE

29 JANUARY - 22 FEBRUARY 2020 EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

# JULIA FLANAGAN

## DAZZLE

Julia Flanagan's work is colour and shape colliding across painting and sculpture. Rhythmic lines instinctively vibrates like a Broadway boogie-woogie. Pulling pattern ideas from her own textile library, she multiplies and layers these up, moving outward in a search for harmony in colour. She arranges her patterns to play with varying legibility, guided by her sophisticated understanding of colour. The title of the show, DAZZLE, refers to this visual obfuscation but also specifically to a stripy camouflage technique used to disguise naval ships. The artist's palette is high key yet playfully managed. Darker dashes and lines find volume and our eyes are opened to a vivid spectrum organised through shifting tessellations.

One work in *Dazzle* explores the square within a square formula popular in quilting and as described by the artist's mother. Flanagan's family have been involved in industrial sewing and manufacturing and this was felt by young Julia at home. She finds her place here in the overlap between crafted visual organisation and abstract painting. (It was in the German Bauhaus School of the 1920s that this conversation between industrial and the graphic processes took place, where the possibilities of textile manufacture were explored alongside methods of abstraction in painting.) Both Flanagan's sculpture and painting reference essential forms of architecture – the arch, the turret, the doorway. Her patterning might also get us thinking of postmodern architects who messed around with formalism by applying decorative elements to their geometries.

The show releases Julia Flanagan's work from her compact garden studio into the gallery. That small space has encouraged a dense coherence across the paintings. In discussion, Julia Flanagan unfolds a collection of study drawings in vivid paint pens. A smaller square sketchbook contains both refined and scratchy drawings, spatial explorations alongside notes on pattern, geometry and gesture. The drawings are a guide but the paintings show how these ideas are then adjusted, masked and overpainted. Her sketches for sculpture are different again, revealing an animated and mechanised quality. It is her attention to the internal spaces that brings character and a breathing space to the pieces.

Like the work, her titles are circular, contemplative and constructed. *How Long Is Too Long?* might be considering time, measurement or travel. And, *Having A Cup of Tea While I Weigh My Soul* brings together the everyday and the existential, a lovely analogism of painting as a time-based contemplative practice.

Julia Flanagan has just won the 2019 Georges River Sculpture Prize with *Everything I Own*. She is also currently collaborating with the fashion label Gorman. *Dazzle* is her first solo show at the Egg & Dart and an opportunity to see the dynamic interaction between the artist's complex paintings and playful cut out sculptures.

-Melody Willis

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*Dazzle*  
2019, acrylic on board  
120.5 x 100 cm  
SOLD

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*A Song Without Words*  
2020, acrylic on board  
110 x 90 cm

SOLD

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*On The Inside*  
2019, acrylic on board  
95.5 x 90 cm

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*It Sticks With You*  
2020, acrylic on board  
70 x 60.5 cm

SOLD

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*The Words Came True*  
2020, acrylic on board  
60 x 45 cm  
SOLD



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*This Time Around*  
2019, acrylic on board  
45.5 x 40.5 cm

SOLD

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*Razzle*  
2019, acrylic on board  
61 x 60 cm  
SOLD

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*Weaving Around*  
2020, acrylic on board  
40.5 x 45.5 cm  
SOLD

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*How Long Is Too Long?*  
2020, acrylic on board  
45.5 x 40.5 cm

SOLD

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*It's Hard To Say*  
2019, acrylic on board  
31.5 x 31.5 cm  
SOLD

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*Recipe to Roam*  
2020, acrylic on board  
21.5 x 21.5 cm

SOLD

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*Solitary Squares*  
2019, acrylic on board  
21.5 x 21.5 cm

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*If Anything, Bid Me Farewell*  
2020, painted timber construction  
26 x 26 x 5 cm



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*Another Other*  
2020, painted timber construction  
31.5 x 33 x 4 cm  
SOLD

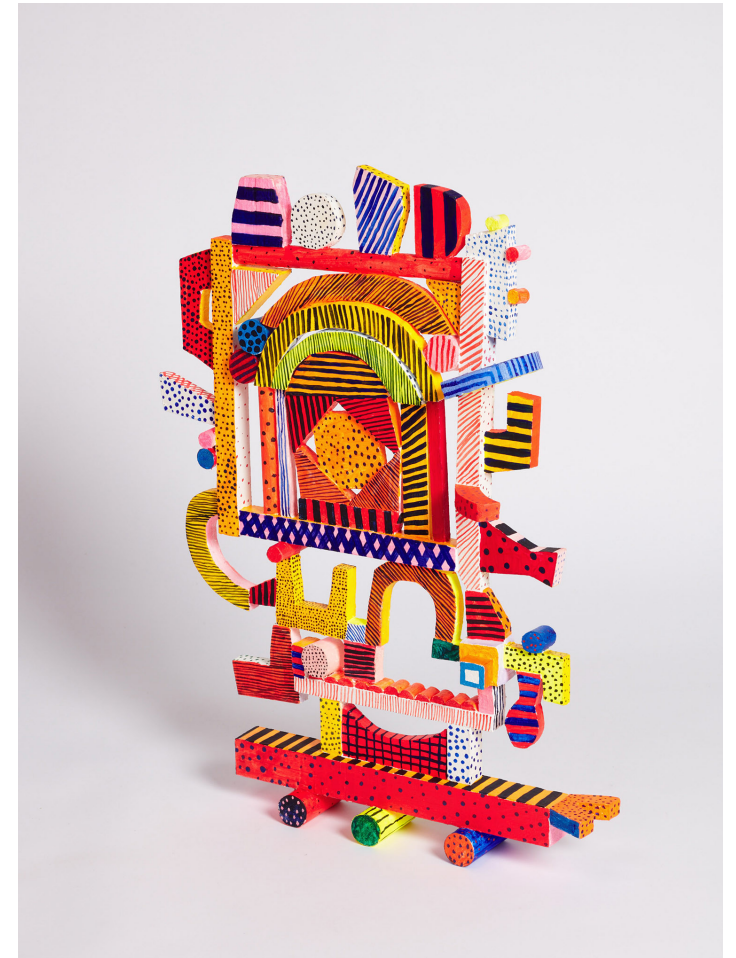
JULIA FLANAGAN  
DAZZLE



*Having a Cup of Tea While I Weigh My Soul*  
2020, painted timber construction  
57 x 40 x 7 cm

SOLD

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DAZZLE



*How do You Know When Its The End?*  
2020, painted timber construction  
50 x 35 x 8 cm

SOLD

# JULIA FLANAGAN

## CV

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Born 1978 Newcastle, NSW, Australia

Based in Sydney, NSW, Australia

### EDUCATION

2005 Bachelor of Fine Arts, Painting (Honours), National Art School, Sydney, NSW

2004 Bachelor of Fine Arts, Painting, National Art School, Sydney, NSW

### SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2020 *Dazzle*, The Egg & Dart, Thirroul, NSW

2017 *Observations of Happiness*, Art Est Gallery, Sydney, NSW

2016 *Every Now and Then*, Sheffer Gallery, Sydney, NSW

2002 *This Is a Modern World*, Side On Gallery, Sydney, NSW

### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2019 *Ritual Practice*, Modern Times, Melbourne, VIC

*Affordable Art Fair*, Hong Kong

*An Exhibition*, The Egg and Dart, Thirroul, NSW

2018 *Mixed Bag*, The Egg and Dart, Thirroul, NSW

*Movers and Shapers*, Hazelhurst Gallery, Gymea, NSW

*The Way We See Ourselves*, West End Art Space, Melbourne, VIC

*Wanderings*, Gallery 139 hosting at Sheffer Gallery, Sydney, NSW

2017 *Directors Choice Exhibition*, Gallery 139, Newcastle, NSW

*Ways of Seeing*, Sheffer Gallery, Sydney, NSW

*Place / Place*, Scratch Art Space, Sydney, NSW

*The Egg and Dart Family and Friends*, The Egg and Dart, Thirroul, NSW

*Ambedo*, Gallery 139, Newcastle, NSW

*Here + There*, Sheffer Gallery, Sydney, NSW

2016 *Every Now and Then*, Sheffer Gallery, Sydney, NSW

*Imbued*, Gallery 139, Newcastle, NSW

*Director's Choice*, Gallery 139, Newcastle, NSW

2016-2019 *The Egg & Dart Annual Christmas Salon*, The Egg and Dart, Thirroul, NSW

2015 *Paint Like Bill*, Gallery 139, Newcastle, NSW

### AWARDS & COLLECTIONS, PUBLICATIONS

2019 Hazelhurst Art on Paper Award (finalist), Hazelhurst Gallery, Gymea, NSW  
Georges River Art Prize (finalist), Hurstville Museum and Gallery, Hurstville, NSW  
Georges River Sculpture Prize (Winner), Hurstville Museum and Gallery, Hurstville, NSW

2018 Greenway Art Prize - Small Sculpture Prize, Highly commended (finalist), Art Est Gallery, Sydney, NSW  
Blacktown Art Prize (finalist), The Leo Kelly Blacktown Arts Centre, Sydney, NSW

2015-2017 Greenway Art prize (finalist), Art Est Gallery, Sydney, NSW

### CURATORIAL PROJECTS

2019 *Twelve*, Group exhibition, Art Est Art Gallery, Sydney, NSW

2018 *Geometrize*, Group exhibition, Art Est Art Gallery, Sydney, NSW

2017 *1970's Selfie and the Electronic Embrace*, Miguel Valenzuela, Sheffer Gallery, Sydney, NSW

2017 *Visible Light*, Group exhibition, Sheffer Gallery, Sydney, NSW

### COLLABORATIONS

2020 Julia Flanagan X Gorman (Textile and Fashion Design)

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