



LIAM BARR

Out of
Kilter

"When the worlds balance spins out of kilter, so too are the works which spill from the easel".

"At the time of making, I often feel separate from the work, trusting and allowing the process to unfold, not always knowing exactly what is being said, but once complete and on reflection, a narrative reveals itself. To me, this is the creative process at its best.

Out of Kilter is a body of work which reflect what Covid '19 threw us into. There is a feeling of unsettled turmoil and intersecting ideas which formulate a collection of works as opposed to a series of similar themed works. While we couldn't be in a more grounded country to endure such a pandemic, nevertheless, we weren't quite sure what the future would hold. This imbalance pushed and pulled the work yet somehow managed to symbolise an image set depicting personal reflection, historical meanderings and a subtle reminder that those we hold dear are everything."

- Liam Barr 2022 -



Windshift
Oil on linen, 1200 x 1400 mm
Signed lower right



First Light
Oil on linen bonded to birch panel, 1200 x 700 mm
Signed lower right



Praxis
Oil on linen, 700 x 1150 mm
Signed lower right



Pressure Drop
Oil on linen, 740 x 700 mm
Signed lower right



Night Owl
Oil on linen, 900 x 900 mm
Signed lower right



Showdown
Oil on linen bonded to birch panel, 800 x 645 mm
Signed lower right



Adrift
Oil on linen, 900 x 900 mm
Signed lower right



An Ordinary Gesture
Oil on linen, 900 x 900 mm
Signed lower right

Liam Barr has been represented in ARTIS since 2012 and has held an exhibition every two years since 2014.

Barr was born in Scotland in 1966 and immigrated to New Zealand with his family in 1974. Following a period of travel overseas, Barr settled in Perth, Western Australia, where he trained and worked as a graphic designer before returning to New Zealand in 2004 to further develop his artistic career.

A recurring theme in his work is the idea of symbolism reflecting an aura of pathos, displacement and insight into contemporary New Zealand life. Barr's finely honed skills communicate with delicacy, compassion and perception aspects of the human condition. With a breath of irony his works delve into more serious concerns of spirituality, morality, the environment and one's role in life.

Barr's paintings have been shown in public exhibitions - 'Scape', Whakatāne Art Museum, 'Tears For Tane's Children', Whangarei Art Museum and 'Mind Games, An Exhibition of Surrealism in Aotearoa', Hastings City Art Gallery.

In 2020, a retrospective of Barr's work was exhibited throughout Wellington via the Urban Art Foundation to promote New Zealand art to a wider community. This exhibition was extended to Turku, Finland as part of the International Urban Art Exchange.



Detail: Praxis



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