



Fiat Lux

'Art at the vanguard of the avant garde'

Now Showing:

Yvonne Todd

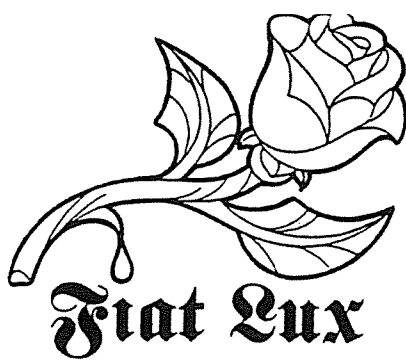
'The Crisis'

**opening: Wednesday the 15th at 6pm.
The 17th of Sept until the 25th of Sept.**

Fiat Lux gallery hours: Thu & Fri 10-5 Sat 11-4.

Shop 13, Mezzanine level, St Kevin's Arcade, KRD, Auckland, Tel (09) 3777-893.

Supported by Creative New Zealand.



'All things fall and are built again.
And those that build them again are gay.'

Here we go, Ole, Ole, Ole!

That's right folks we're back, so forget Apec, there's only one event you can't afford to miss this side of Y2K: the reopening of Fiat Lux, the best little art gallery in Aotearoa.

Fiat Lux has returned from hibernation rejuvenated, like the seed that with the sun's love in the spring becomes the rose. We are now comfortably nestled in the heart of KRD's cultural Mecca and officially open Thursday to Saturday every week for your convenience. Our gratitude and thanks must now go to Creative New Zealand for enabling our move to such a prominent location - there's a beat for you in our hearts. The buck stops here!

For all your closet white cube purists, we are proud to confirm your worst suspicions: Fiat Lux is indeed continuing in the same tradition of lurid Seventies chic. Our new carpet, cut and colour will undoubtedly leave the words 'bad taste' in your mouths. For those who still fail to understand our contrary creativity ponder these lyrics penned by the immortal pop princess Billie: 'Why'd you have to stand alone in crowds? Because we want to! Because we want to!'

Fiat Lux always starts in style and we've managed to rustle up some good art for the opening as well!

Yvonne Todd christens our new location with 'The Crisis', an exhibition of photographs that is more than just white lace and promises. Todd has quickly established a reputation for art that possesses the same bittersweet sentiment as a Karen Carpenter ballad. 'The Crisis' consolidates this position, with work which embodies a sense of melancholy and melodrama like the tears of a clown, at once twee and unnerving. Todd captures the iconic value of tired cliches, her photographs are a medium through which dispossessed spirits remind us of the mortality of our fashions and passions. Her title 'The Crisis' implies mysterious dire straits which are never resolved, like life in Peyton Place, one trauma begets another, so that all that prevails is a sense of permanent disease and impending doom.

Three words: Don't miss out! Its a roller coaster ride into the new millennium and Fiat Lux is paving the way with a programme ready to make history!

Fasten your seatbelts its gonna be a bumpy ride!...

Gallery Hours: Thu & Fri 10-5, Sat 11-4.
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Fiat Lux

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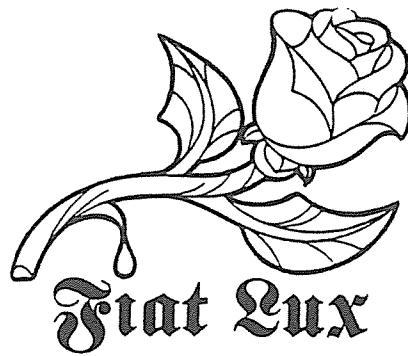
Now Showing:

**Fiona Amundsen
Juan Ruben Reyes**

'Into the International'

**opening: Tuesday the 28th at 6pm.
The 28th of Sept until the 10th of Oct.**

Fiat Lux gallery hours: Thu & Fri 10-5 Sat 11-4.
Shop 13, Mezzanine level, St Kevin's Arcade, KRD, Auckland, Tel (09) 3777-893.
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"We have no past, we won't reach back
keep with me forward all through the night
and once we start, the meter clicks
and it goes running all through the night
until it ends, there is no end" Cyndi Lauper.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the phenomenal success of our KRD debut- the turnout was an encouraging display of tangible support and testament to a continued community spirit - O come all ye faithful. A special mention must go to Verona for the complimentary Absolut vodka, Cheers! Heres wishing 'Champagne for our real friends and real pain for our sham friends' - we can all drink to that.

This week Fiat Lux welcomes 'Into the International' a collaboration between Fiona Amundsen and Juan Ruben Reyes, with an accompanying Teststrip micrograph by Paul James.

Fiona's photographs convey a dry pathos like the embodiment of a Morrissey lament minus the affected posturing and maudlin whinge/cringe factor - a lonely bicycle on a hillside, desolate... Amundsen's preoccupation with capturing the institutions and monuments of architectural Modernism is not for the sake of social documentary or anthropological commentary however. Her interest is in formalism and formula, manipulating each shot to amplify the impersonal aesthetic of these generic state tenements in order to capture an aesthetic that embodies the bleak and the dull.

Reyes reductionist strategy takes the modernist 'form is function' mandate its representational extreme through the textual mapping of Amundsens photographs. Stacking words like building blocks this conceptual cartography analyses modes of description and transcription - how and if information survives the translation from original document to conceptual skeleton and the way in which this ideogram represents the object literally but eliminates from the equation a sense of subjective social meaning or contextual value judgement.

Internationalism in thought is alive and well and as universal as welfare state architecture- could the link between literary modernism and council tenancy's be a new conceptual Esperanto? Things that make you go hmmmmmm?

Philosophy is a walk on slippery rocks... **Fiat Lux.**

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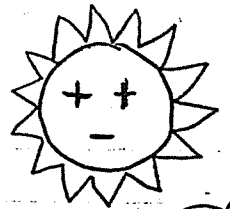
Now Showing:

**Ani O'Neill, Lisa Reihana,
Yuk King Tan**

'More Than Ever'

**opening: Tuesday the 26th at 5:30 pm.
The 26th of Oct until the 7th of Nov.**

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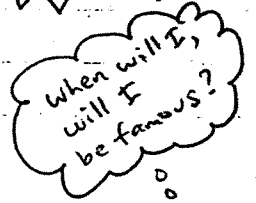


Deconstructing Fiat Lux: Part One

The Fiat Lux newsletter

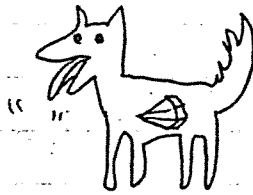
Stage 1. 'The Briefing'

More Than Ever: an exhibition of jewellery by Ani O'Neill, Yuk King Tan and Lisa Reihana opening on Tuesday the 26th Oct at 5.30pm and concluding on Sunday the 7th of Nov.



Stage 2. 'Bohemian Rhapsody'

Romancing the Stone

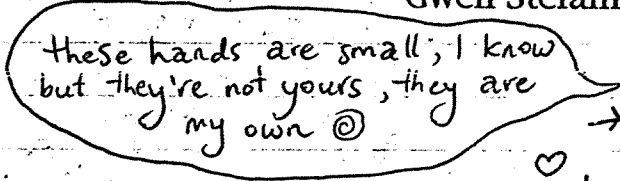


Gwen Stefani's bindi

TOTAL MIAO!
£ π π & π π!



Jewel

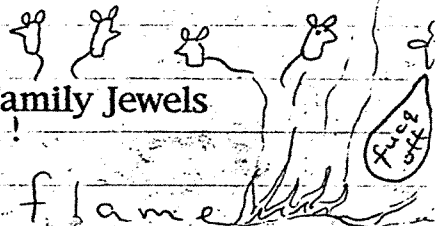


Rhinestone cowboy

Sylvester Stallone + Dolly Parton

MAKIN BACON

Prince Albert and the Family Jewels under pressure!



The Bangles is this burning an eternal flame

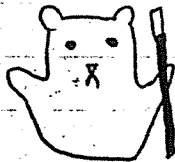
modern primitives

ie. George Michael



Mr T. ditto!

izzy wizzy lets get busy



The Dark Crystal & The Velvet Goldmine
Morrisey and Mark Knofler

BROTHERS IN ARMS

square cut or pear shaped these rocks dont lose their shape

Dressed for success- Roxette

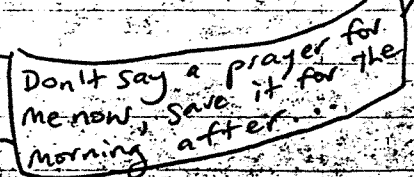
YEAH!

Silent Lucidity



Allergic to work... Fiat Lux

P.S



I went to Elam 4 4 YEARS!!



Fiat Lux

'Art at the vanguard of the avant garde'

New Showing:

'I Love, I Love, I Love...'

Violet Faigan

opening: Tuesday the 9th at 6 pm.
The 9th of Nov until the 20th of Nov.

Fiat Lux gallery hours: Thu & Fri 10-5 Sat 11-4.
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'When you dance with the devil,
the devil doesn't change, the devil changes you'
MaxCalifornia, 8MM.

My blood runs cold, my memory has just been sold, my angel is a
centrefold....

Violet Faigan puts sex back in the city this Tuesday night with her
red light special "I love, I love, I love", an exhibition of paintings
on glass that is more Playboy centrefold than Pirrelli Calender.
Violets motifs are the sex bombs of 60's cheesecake photography
and the Vargas pin-up girls in their diaphanous negligee and
transparent teddy's - curvaceous glamazons from a time when the
cone breast was the pinnacle of perfection and cellulite wasn't
even part of the popular vocabulary, Amen!

Painted on glass Faigans work references popular forms of low
brow art/craft crossover- the kitsch elements of bourgeois realism
and homemade naive erotica. Making high art out of porn elevates
the naked to the level of the nude but through this transition the
works erotic element loses a certain indefinable "I don't know
what", this is not helped to any degree when you realise that all
the original models are older than your mother (some stones are
better left unturned).

Lets face it, nudity nowadays is about as confrontational as
wallpaper and even more ubiquitous (the interior decor choice of
the automotive mechanic from time immemorial), it's function is
decorative as much as it is titillating and 50's & 60's glamour
photography is now as wholesome and twee as "Leave it to
Beaver"...

So leave your inhibitions at the door, for we at Fiat Lux are sure
this exhibition will reach the orgasmic heights only previously
seen in Nomi Malones magical watersports routine (complete with
neon palm trees) in Showgirls (the movie). 'You and me baby ain't
nothin but mammals, so lets do it like they do it on the Discovery
channel', Oh Behave!

Trained by Circus monkeys... at Lux.



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Fiat Lux

New Showing:

'Grunt Machine'

curated by Simon Cuming and Gwyn Porter

video art by: Megan Dunn, Violet Faigan & Duane Zarakov, Simon Cuming, Stuart Page, Michael Morley, Rachel Shearer, Jeff Belt, Not These Days (Daniel Malone & AD Schierning), David Townsend, The Axemen, David Carman & Anya Thompson, Matthew Hyland & Liz Kane, Ava Seyour & Graham McFelin.

Screening during normal gallery hours on
Thursday 2nd, Friday 3rd and Saturday 4th of
December

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"I want to live like animals, careless and free..."
Savage Garden

Ladies and Germs, pre-ops and post-ops, this week and this week only Fiat Lux is proud to host the first Auckland screening of Grunt Machine - a touring video package curated by Gwyn Porter and Simon Cuming in conjunction with the Physics Room. Me casa su casa.

The Ariadnes thread that links the package together as a whole is an exploration of the interface between music video and video art. Kenneth Anger announced publicly on numerous occasions that he invented the blueprint for MTV so the connection between experimental video art and music television appears to be well cemented- although this is also the man who claims to be responsible for introducing Mick Jagger to the devil (does Satanism fit into the mandate of Grunt Machine?). The recent trend for critiques of the likes of TLC and Aphex Twin in the international art style bible, Frieze magazine, begs the question have the best Rock'n'Roll videos become art already? Lets face it, underground music and experimental art have long been happy bedfellows in a marriage of convenience...

The works in this package cover every conceivable perversion of the music television genre- running the gauntlet from the Teletubbies to Spermbank 5.

'Tropical Hot Pig Night' by Graham McFelin and Ava Seymour is a regular Sodom and Gomorrah. Without giving the plot away, an inflatable plastic sex pig is menaced and assaulted by a big rubber dildo. Animal lovers may feel a little queasy sitting through the anal deflowerment of this pig in a poke, but no-one can say that bestiality and buggery don't add a certain cachet to any local video compilation.

'Dandelion Seeds' by David Carman and Anya Thompson taps into the genre of low budget 60's British psychedelia with extreme macro explorations of the unspectacular plant life of an English heath or council allotment filtered through a veil of romantic soft focus- it's like a David Attenburrough alternative lifestyle acid flash back sequence.

Those who wish to know the full depravity of 'Gruntmachine' are advised to attend the gallery on either Thursday, Friday or Saturday this week. Come back Karen Hay, all is forgiven!

White Mischief... **Fiat Lux.**

NB: There is no opening for Gruntmachine!



Fiat Lux

Now Showing:

'The Doom Show' Graham McFelin

opening: Wed the 15th of December at 6pm
Thursday the 16th-24th of December.

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"We've got stars directing our fate... and we know we're falling from grace...Millennium." Robbie Williams

Resistance is futile, we all knew it had to happen, so here without further adieu is the final Fiat Lux newsletter of the 20th century filled to the gunnels with more lame references to the Millennium, (or should that be Willennium!). Last but not least of our exhibitions for the year is 'The Doom Show', a pseudo-retrospective of Graham McFelin's work from the 90's. The show is an immaculate collection of art that is old, new, borrowed and blue- where the "doodly internationalism" of Miroesque biomorphic surrealism is offset by the simple poignancy of a potato wearing false eyelashes- creating an atmosphere that is distinctly McFelin.

1984 came and went without much ado (big brother may very well be watching but that's just reality television) while the much anticipated year 2K will be celebrated with pomp and circumstance- but what does the future hold? Nostrodamus heralded the end as nigh, government authorities are preparing for suicide cults, religious violence in Jerusalem and the Vatican city, global computer meltdown, blah, blah, blah. Will human civilisation just be a blip on the cosmic screen? Will we ever know what happened to the dinosaurs and the Olmecs? and who is Roxy Carmichael? These are all pertinent queries as we reevaluate our place in the universe but perhaps the secret is to focus on the question rather than the answer...

So Fiat Lux puts the why in Y2K, as McFelin's pessimistic title scratches the surface of age old wounds...Where are we coming from? Where are we going too? What is the sound of one hand clapping?

With works drawn from a diverse artistic lineage The Doom Show reflects the fin de siecie culture of the 20th century- a place where Dali's flaming Giraffe is a metaphor for the contemporary popular psyche hitting the skids, or the position of avant garde art in a user pays society...no wonder it hurts when you laugh. C'est La vie, that's just the way it goes, that's life.

The meaning of Liff...**Fiat Lux.**

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Fiat Lux

Farewell drinks and...

'Perfect'

The latest velvet paintings by

David Townsend

Sunday the 2nd of July at 6.30pm

Fiat Lux gallery

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Fiat Lux

THE VANISHING

"In the midst of the word he was trying to say,
In the midst of his laughter and glee,
He had softly and suddenly vanished away-
For the Snark was a Boojum, you see." Lewis Carroll.

Q. 'The louvre is on fire. You can save either the Mona Lisa or the injured guard who had been standing next to it - but not both. What should you do?'

A. Don't save either of them, save yourself.


There is no easy way to say this, it's over, the thrill has gone. Don't blame yourself, it's not you, it's us. We're just in a very different place at the moment and we need more space to sort out our feelings. We're simply not ready to settle down and make a long term commitment...hey, we all knew this couldn't last forever- we never promised you a rose garden. We know in our heart of hearts that you'll make some other gallery very happy oneday. Just remember that while we don't have tomorrow we still have yesterday. We're all mature adults here, don't you think we can still be friends?...

What more can we say. Full time employment has been the kiss of death for Fiat Lux and we have realised the we are not currently interested in pursuing curatorial careers. Fiat Lux is however back for one last hurrah. This Sunday at 6.30pm you can officially say goodbye to 'The best little gallery in Aotearoa'. Come and have a drink to commemorate all the shows we've had before, all the artists that have travelled in and out our door. A slick and professional Fiat Lux just wasn't meant to be, so we've decided to cut the Gordian knot and call it quits, after all 'Self improvement is masturbation'. Stay tuned for a travelling exhibition that encapsulates the definitive Fiat Lux and the accompanying catalogue, coming later to a gallery near you.


In the meantime savour the latest luxurious 'Physique Pictorial- esque' velvet paintings of David Townsend; the cummerbund on this dogs tuxedo.

yes, we have no bananas, we have no bananas today,

Fiat Lux.



So long
Suckers!



"Rosebud"