



AUSTRALIAN GALLERIES
DERBY STREET

BARBIE KJAR

Shy Beast

MEDIA RELEASE

Exhibition Dates: 24 September - 13 October 2013

Australian Galleries 35 Derby Street

Collingwood VIC 3066

Open 7 days 10am to 6pm

Through large-scale drawings *Shy Beast* is a dedication to the act of portraiture. Alex Miller states in his book *The Sitters*, 'the artist must watch and wait for the shy beast to come out of hiding'. Barbie's patience pays off with the emergence of this beast and the resulting magnetic and intimate portraits revealing with candid directness the essence and energy of the sitter. Known for her examination of the boundary between human and animal natures Barbie waits as her sitters relax, capturing their resulting animal spirits peering out from the pages or frolicking through features rendered in expressive charcoal and conté.

'In many instances the person modelling for me becomes a Muse. I look to that person to quietly perform, to revel in the play with particular objects. When I presented Tom O'Hern, with bird's wings he transformed himself into many guises. He became a bird, a man with a moustache, a person in hiding, a man with feather antennae.'
– Barbie Kjar, 2013

To be opened by Godwin Bradbeer, artist.

Shy beast is current until 13 October 2013.

For more details or images contact:
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