

**Aerial View** The Reconfiguring of Painting

# Aerial View

## The Reconfiguring of Painting

This exhibition of international contemporary painting, curated by artist Jonathan Parsons, examines a new attitude towards the composition of the painted image. The artists explore the flatness and materiality of painting through a variety of original practices, confusing abstraction and figuration, and distributing compositional elements across the entire picture surface.

'These artists', writes Parsons, 'extend and consolidate the developments made in painting in the 1950s and 1960s when an emphasis on the flat surface produced a radical shift from the vertical, transparent projection plane that had been Western painting's principal model since the Renaissance. The artists in this exhibition lay out their pictures in formations like a roving scanner, sometimes "sampling" images previously viewed only through the lens of a camera.

'**Ingrid Calame** produces images derived from stains and marks found on the streets of Los Angeles. These are rendered as simulacra of old-style layered painterly compositions. **Monique Prieto** works with computer-generated imagery through a process of gestural finger-drawing, which is then transposed freehand onto canvas. **Sue Williams**' most recent images derive from fragments of cartoon bodyparts that meander across the canvas, dripping paint in their wake. **Ken Whisson** builds up his paintings section by section, sometimes over a period of years, using abstract lines, brushed-in areas of colour and a kind of figurative shorthand, presenting a number of viewpoints, mappings and interconnections that recall the multiple perspectives of Chinese painting and the diagrammatic figuration of Australian aboriginal art.

'All these artists go about painting as if it had just been invented. Investigating the properties of their medium they discover new ways of applying them and question what such procedures mean. This exhibition demonstrates that "easel painting" can be a progressive medium that remains relevant to cultural debates in the contemporary world.'



Artists under consideration:

**Ghada Amer**  
**Ingrid Calame**  
**Helmut Dorner**  
**Pia Fries**  
**Joanne Greenbaum**  
**Dennis Hollingsworth**  
**Jonathan Parsons**  
**Bernard Piffaretti**  
**Katie Pratt**  
**Monique Prieto**  
**Sue Williams**  
**Ken Whisson**

**Ingrid Calame**  
*BOF pf*  
1999  
enamel paint on aluminium  
Collection Karyn Lovegrove  
© the artist 2004

### Tour Information

The exhibition tour is planned for April–December 2006. Exact dates to be confirmed. The first showing will be at Newlyn Art Gallery.

Security: A

**Gallery Requirements:**  
Approx. 150 sq metres of hanging space

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**overleaf**  
**Monique Prieto**  
*On the mend*  
2002  
acrylic on canvas  
© the artist 2004, courtesy Corvi-Mora, London

