

SARAH AMOS

NEW WORKS

30 August - 17 September 2011

Sarah Amos' intricate works on paper explore the generative nature of image making. Within the repeated and shifting forms of her prints and drawings the progressive and evolving function of a visual language can be observed. Like an architect's blueprints or a traveller's navigational maps Amos' multilayered images combine impressions of the external world with the personal experience of memory to form a new plotting of pictorial space.

The passages within her images hinge on the technical nature of her collographic printing. Working from a series of textured plates to create a family of unique but related reliefs, this layering of visual motifs allows ambiguous shadows and offset slippages to reinforce the pace and quality of texture and line. Overlaid with the responsive act of drawing, a visual interplay emerges to reinforce the artist's decisions to extend and develop her images.

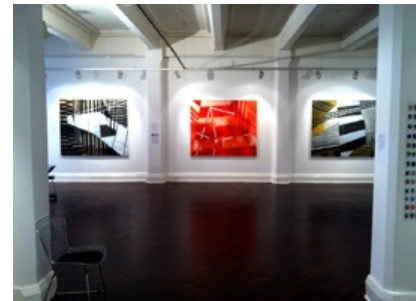
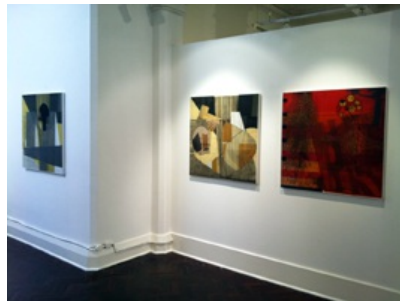
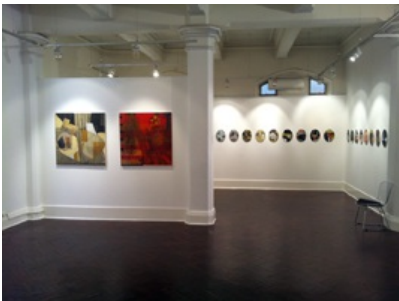
While her experiences and memories of the Australian landscape continue to inform the basis of her images, a more expansive, universal sense of space seems to also exist within her current work. Where previously referencing the geological cartography of Australia's deserts and bushland directly, these new pieces, reduced to delicate patterns of pared back geometry, signal an interest in the potential of recalled, mythologised space.

Amos is perhaps creating a new kind of topography here - one that is internal and questioning. Small gleaming black and white marks cascade to suggest mountains of coal or gold, or the tessellated escarpment of some ancient city. The sheer scale and mass of these countless parts creates a wavering sense of depth that moves these images beyond their object-hood into a more subjective and immanent presence. Like echoes of whispered words, or layers of memory, these soft monochrome surfaces drift into a spatial mapping that reveals a slow compression and transformation of graphic language over time.

Within the smaller works from this series the vast and multiple gives way to a lean sense of perspective. Suggesting contracted urban spaces: cantilevered walkways, ramps, partitions and staircases, Amos integrates the built world with a more abstract interest in the language of line. The material quality of these works - the tooth of the paper, chalky litho pencil, velvety gouache and translucent layers of printing inks - combine to create deep spatial images in which the flat and shallow moves imperceptibly into the three dimensional.

Emptied of the energy and flux of previous works, this new series is noticeably restrained. Working with the contrasting qualities of closed clusters and quiet blank surfaces Amos is interested in using the diagraphic quality of repartition to explore ideas of subtle balance and movement. The colour, pattern and texture of her images essentially speak of the beauty of mark making. Her graphic compositions pulse with the boundless possibilities of open space and metered action. Like the technically complex printing process she employs, Amos pushes the limits of her surfaces to create multifaceted and intricate images that traverse our fields of perception.

Phe Luxford 2011



Exhibition installation views



Mikros 3, 2011
 collograph and
 gouache
 35 x 27cm



Mikros 5, 2011
 collograph and
 gouache
 35 x 27cm



Mikros 25, 2011
 collograph and
 gouache
 35 x 27cm



Mikros 28, 2011
collograph and gouache
35 x 27cm



Mikros 30, 2011
collograph and gouache
35 x 27cm



Mikros 40, 2011
collograph and gouache
35 x 27cm



Mikros series in situ



Chute, 2011
collograph and gouache
38 x 99cm



Fink Truss, 2011
collograph and gouache
38 x 99cm



example of framed artwork



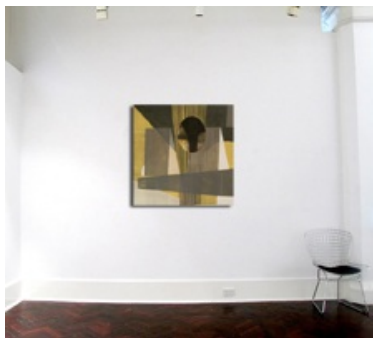
Four Pipes, 2011
collograph and gouache
38 x 99cm



Waterclocks, 2011
collograph and gouache
38 x 99cm



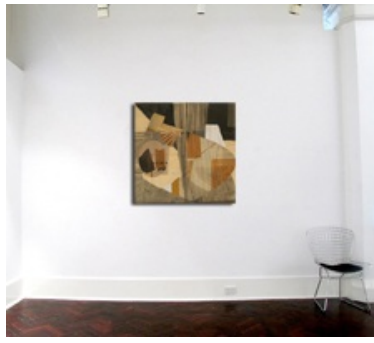
Indigo Keyhole, 2011
collograph and gouache
99 x 99cm



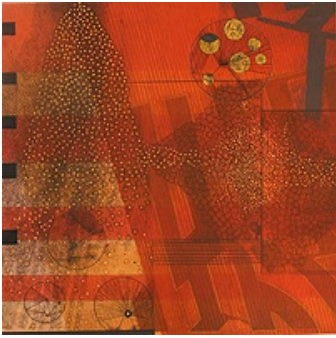
Indigo Keyhole in situ on 3m wall



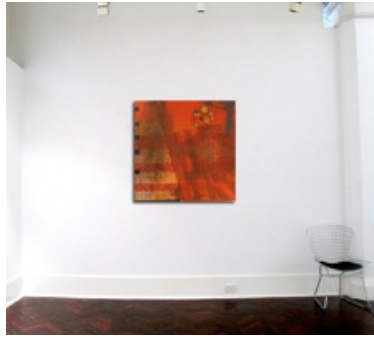
Umberscape, 2011
collograph and gouache
99 x 99cm



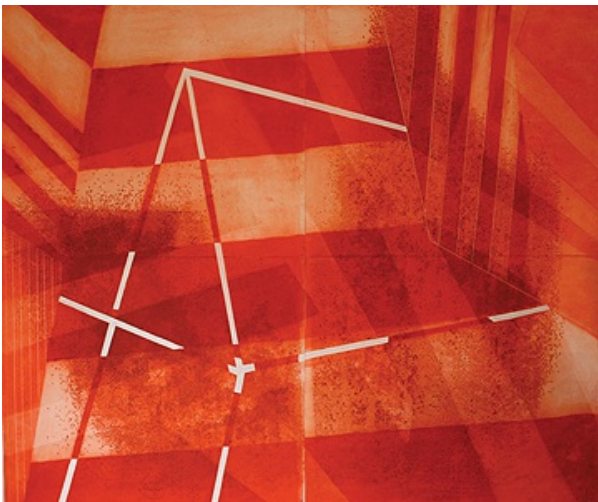
Umberscape in situ on 3m wall



Out There, 2011
collograph and gouache
99 x 99cm



Out There in situ on 3m wall



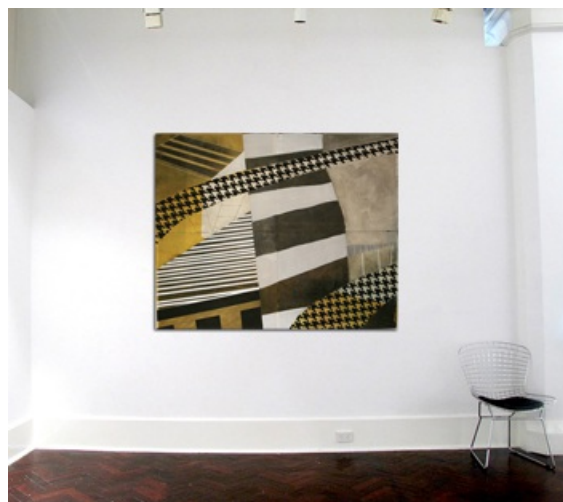
Little Red Wonder, 2011
collograph and gouache
160 x 190cm



Little Red Wonder in situ on 3m wall



Over and Yonder, 2011
collograph and gouache
160 x 190cm



Over and Yonder in situ on 3m wall



Golden Tower, 2011
collograph and gouache
160 x 190cm



Golden Tower in situ on 3m wall