

JOSH ROBBINS

A LOOSE NATURE

26 February - 16 March 2013

'(My work) allows me to use paint in the way I like to see paint fall. Loose, tight, detailed. The freedom of the line. That's what I'm enjoying at the moment.'

Josh Robbins' spontaneous and honest work delights in exploring the physicality of his materials and techniques. Painting birds, blossoms, and trees, he is attracted to the beauty of the natural world, and the inherent beauty of mark-making. Often painting on wood, the unique marks and knots embedded in his medium guide the processes used and the end result of each piece. As he explains, *'I like to use the wood as wood, and then build the rest of picture around that, adding birds, blossoms and other flowers as the whim of the picture dictates.'* Robbins' creative vision centres firmly around the aesthetic; whether in 'the inherent beauty of a picture' or in the exploration of the beauty of distortion. Any resulting emotional resonance enhances the work further.

He paints some of his works blind - where he is not looking at he's drawing - instead, intuitively feeling his way around a work. The resulting distortions have their own particular form of beauty. Robbins says, *'I find this process has an inherent honesty to it as it bypasses any need to be correct to the end representation of the subject. Once the drawing is done it's either used or it's discarded. There's no reworking or modifying it any way. It either is what it is or it's not.'*

*'To just enjoy the way a line runs. How it undulates.
How a brush stroke turns.
How colours like or dislike each other.
The beauty of distortion.
The bravery of a single brash stroke.
Or the accumulation of many.
I think there's simplicity, beauty, bravery and depth in exposing all that you are, all of the time.'*



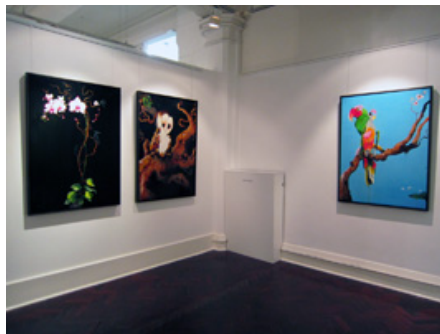
Josh Robbins



Exhibition installation views

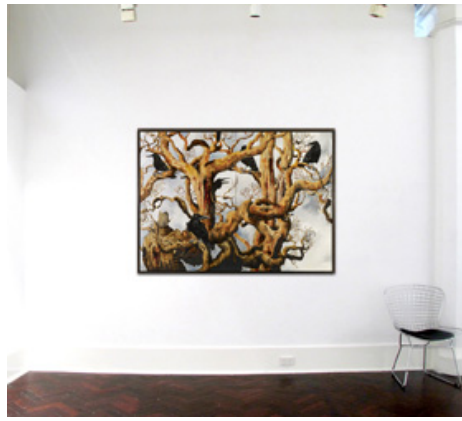


Exhibition installation views





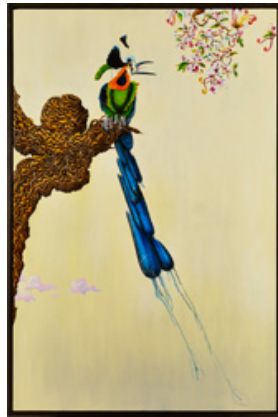
One, two, three, four, five crows
oil floor stain and charcoal
on plywood (diptych)
130 x 180cm (framed)



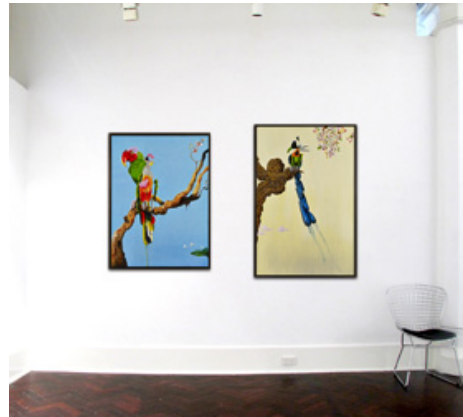
Work in situ on 3.7m wall



Those Two
oil floor stain and charcoal
on plywood
122 x 90cm



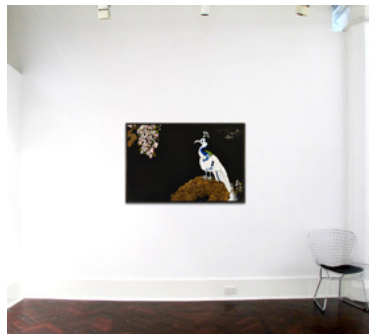
*Paradise Pie Sitting on a Branch
with Blossoms and Clouds*
oil floor stain and charcoal
on plywood
138 x 90cm



Works in situ on 3.7m wall



Royal alacrity
oil floor stain and charcoal
on plywood
90 x 137.5cm



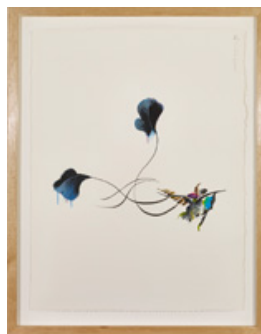
Work in situ on 3.7m wall



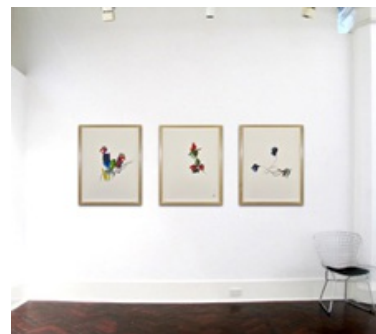
Black Capped Lory's
76 x 56cm (paper size)
92.5 x 71cm (framed size)



Frilled Coquette
76 x 56cm (paper size)
92.5 x 71cm (framed size)



Marvellous Spatuletail
76 x 56cm (paper size)
92.5 x 71cm (framed size)



Works in situ on 3.7m wall



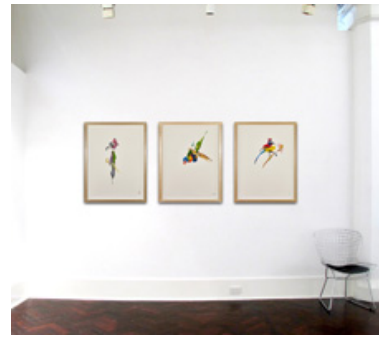
Hawk Headed Parrot
76 x 56cm (paper size)
92.5 x 71cm (framed size)



Rainbow Lorikeet
76 x 56cm (paper size)
92.5 x 71cm (framed size)



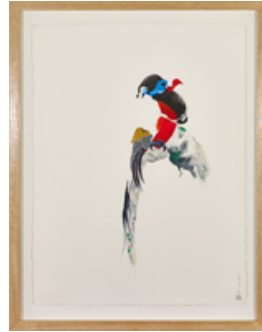
Mrs Gould's Sunbird
76 x 56cm (paper size)
92.5 x 71cm (framed size)



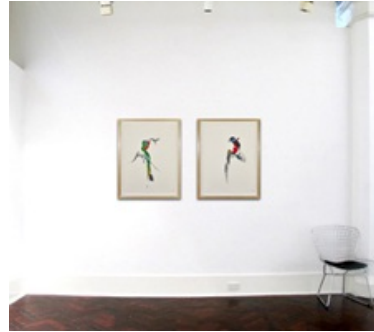
Works in situ on 3.7m wall



Red Bearded Bee Eater
76 x 56cm (paper size)
92.5 x 71cm (framed size)



Red Naped Trogon
76 x 56cm (paper size)
92.5 x 71cm (framed size)



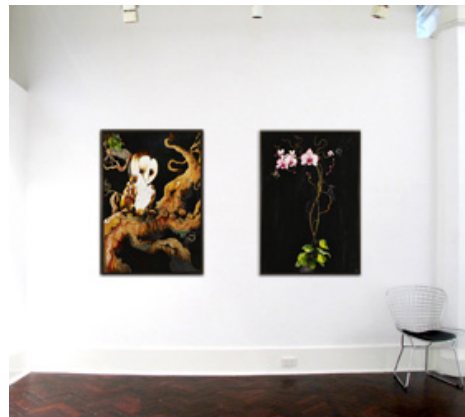
Works in situ on 3.7m wall



Barn Owl
oil floor stain and charcoal
on plywood
130 x 90cm



Orchid and Friend
oil floor stain and charcoal
on plywood
130 x 90cm



Works in situ on 3.7m wall