

JILLIAN GREEN

BLUE GARDEN

&

GRAHAM MILLER

SUBURBAN SPLENDOUR

6 July - 4 August 2007

Opening 6 - 8pm Friday 6 July

Turner Galleries is very pleased to present two solo exhibitions by Western Australian artists Jillian Green and Graham Miller.

Jillian's paintings and drawings have referenced the spiritual and reflected her interest in theology for several years. Her works in general have not sourced inspiration from just one religion, but from many. However in this exhibition, titled *Blue garden*, she has concentrated on the intricate and beautiful patterns of Islamic art that have fascinated her for many years. Historically Islamic art and architecture has evolved from a faith that prohibits the depiction of holy figures, resulting in sophisticated and breathtaking geometric patterning. Earlier this year it was discovered, by Harvard and Princeton University researchers, that these ancient designs, some from over 500 years ago, exhibit advanced decagonal quasicrystal geometry, meaning they are predictable but do not regularly repeat themselves. Some Islamic medieval buildings are covered in sophisticated decagonal symmetric patterns that never repeat. This is a concept discovered by Western mathematicians and physicists only in the 1970s and 1980s.

Jillian's exhibition attempts to pay homage to the incredible art and architecture of the Islamic world, its artisans and its influence on European culture. Beautifully crafted blue, white and gold paintings form the main body of the exhibition. Several are the usual four sided variety of paintings, but others are influenced by the many sided tiles found on Islamic architecture.

Jillian graduated from Edith Cowan University in 2001, but has been exhibiting since 1989. Her work can be found in several public collections, including Murdoch University, Royal Perth Hospital, Edith Cowan University, the Cruthers Collection, New Norcia and King Edward Hospital.

Graham Miller's exhibition has a similar stillness and contemplativeness. He has created a series of photographs of suburban people, infused with sadness. It is a sadness that is an essential part of what it is to be human, suffused with a modern urban anxiety that we may never possess enough to keep us happy. Graham is well aware of this, yet however melancholy his characters are in these photographs, they are survivors, they will endure, and hopefully find happiness. His attention to fine details, to the lighting, to the narrative that each image portrays is simply commanding.

He wrote that, "The inspiration for *Suburban Splendour* came from numerous sources. Images materialised from encounters observed while driving, walking to the shops or visiting friends, from eavesdropping and casual conversation, but more often than not the photographs were inspired by literature and cinema. Films by Paul Thomas Anderson, Jim Jarmusch, and Ray Lawrence all contributed, as did writing by Richard Ford and the lyrics of Paul Kelly. But the background soundtrack which remained constant was the voice of the American short story writer Raymond Carver."

Graham graduated from Edith Cowan University in 1999 and has exhibited widely since then. The *Suburban Splendour* series has been selected as one of the top three portfolios in the Kaunas Photo Festival in Lithuania and Graham will be travelling there later this year for a solo exhibition.

Please do not hesitate to contact staff on 08 9227 1077 or email info@turnergalleries.com.au should you require more information or images from the exhibition. Exhibition works will be available to view on line: www.turnergalleries.com.au and both artists are available for interviews.