

21 May – 19 June 2010
opening 6 - 8pm Friday 21 May

Please join us for the opening of two solo exhibitions by two extraordinary West Australian artists.

In late 2007 **Jillian Green** travelled to Spain and walked the famous pilgrimage route The Camino de Santiago (The Way of Saint James). This valuable research expedition was funded by a Department of Culture and the Arts Project Development Grant. During the long walk Jillian studied the architecture of the region, including the monasteries, churches and cathedrals, the decorative tiles and geometric design details. Her pilgrimage, the observation of repetitive patterns and decorative glass and tiles, the art of walking in quietude, and the seductive contemplative nature of painting are all interrelated. Jillian divides the surface of each painting into small tile-like grids, and some works are comprised of several small paintings. The resulting exquisite paintings glow with colour and intricate meditative patterns, often also incorporating the outline forms of buildings. Jillian stated that, "this work is designed and distilled from the many images I took throughout the trip. It is a continuation of an interest in shape and pattern, tone and texture. I can see in the work an attempt to resolve opposites, primarily movement and stillness, simplicity and intricacy."

The title of the exhibition, *Black stone white stone*, is from a Tibetan Buddhist practice where a monk would carry two small pouches one containing black and white stones the other empty. During the day when aware of a non-virtuous action, of body, speech or mind, he would take a black stone and put it into the empty pouch. When aware of a virtuous action he would place a white stone into the once empty pouch. At the end of the day he would count the stones rejoice at his virtuous deeds and regret, therefore purifying, his non-virtuous deeds.

Jillian's work has been continuously inspired by religious art, architecture and the contemplative practices of religion, particularly those of Christianity that originated in the Middle Ages. She graduated from Edith Cowan University in 2001 and went on to study Theology and Philosophy at Notre Dame University. Her artworks can be found in the collections of New Norcia, Royal Perth Hospital, King Edward Hospital, Murdoch University, The Cruthers Collection at UWA, Edith Cowan University and several others.

By coincidence **Rina Franz** also has an interest in architecture, studying it in Rome in 1970. However her interest turned to the visual arts, studying in Perth at TAFE in 1985, completing a BA at ECU in 1988, and going on to do her Master of Arts at Curtin University, graduating in 1991. Architecture and the influence of Italy has remained a strong force throughout her artistic career, yet with this exhibition of *Fragmented Narration*, Rina has opted for a new direction.

This is a far more personal show of paintings and drawings, often incorporating portraiture of herself and family. She is investigating the importance of unpredictable life fragments in our lives when life presents us with unexpected events. She stated that "*Fragmented Narration* looks into the relationship between these events and the psychological response to those moments that interrupt and suspend the course of our lives. Our life is built upon these fragments. We continually transform ourselves when we are confronted with something that we cannot change or understand. Looking through the mirror I find myself exploring the meaning of portraiture and how memories are preserved in order to make decisions. This self-exploration has given me the opportunity to see beyond the image in the mirror and to begin the search into the unseen."

Many of the paintings and drawings in this exhibition consist of several panels set together to form new narratives. Drawings sit next to paintings, portraits next to chaotic city scenes, a train next to architectural structures, a delicate bird wing next to a tram. Rina allows the beautiful woodgrain of the ply panels to form the backdrop to her striking drawings and portraits. Overall, this exhibition is filled with themes of loss and departure, of travel and struggle and of fragments of memories.

Rina is an important mid career Perth artist and teacher whose extraordinary talent for drawing and painting has earned her the prized Artsource Basel residency this year, and has seen her work included in the collections of the Art Gallery of WA, University of WA, Australian Capital Equity, Edith Cowan University, Royal Perth Hospital, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital and many others.

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 these exhibitions. Exhibition works will be available to view on line: www.turnergalleries.com.au and both artists are available for interviews. Turner Galleries is located at 470 William Street Northbridge, near the corner of Bulwer Street.

