
KATHERINE HATTAM

Book Covers

PETER D COLE

Elements + Memories



18 March – 4 April 2009

Previewing from the 13 March 2009

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Press release

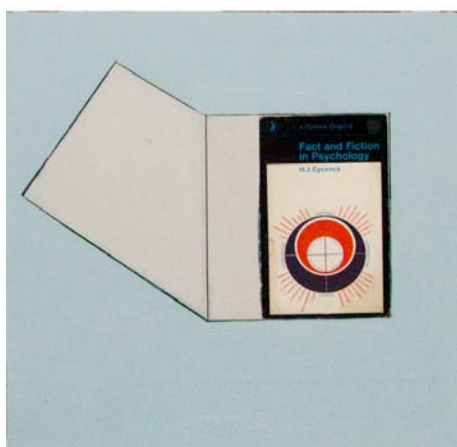
Front Gallery

Katherine Hattam

Book covers

Katherine Hattam presents her latest body of work in the front gallery. Book Covers is an exhibition devoted to Hattam's dynamic and signature use of collage and book titles. Hattam's literary subject matter hails back to a childhood immersed within the modernist design covers of Penguin classics in the 60's and 70's and her long-term relationship with novelist Jim W Morgan. With a vibrant and minimal palette, Hattam selects elements of the book designs to highlight and extend across the canvas.

This visual reinterpretation allows us to contemplate the meaning of the titles as abstract text – and to contemplate the symbolic function of books in our lives. As Sophie Cunningham describes in her catalogue essay for Hattam's exhibition at the Bendigo Art Gallery in 2007 *'Hattam gives books back to us, cuts them free from their moorings, and allows them to talk to us of many things.'*¹



Katherine Hattam Fact and fiction in Psychology 2008
book covers, pencil and oil on plywood
64 x 63 cm

¹ Cunningham Sophie, *Katherine Hattam's Innocent Works*, Bendigo Art Gallery 2007

Main Gallery

Peter D Cole

Elements + Memories

In Peter D Cole's stunning and ambitious exhibition *Elements + Memories* he creates a playful interactive work titled *Elemental Landscape*. Utilising his highly stylised modernist and reductionist technique – influenced at an early age by studies of Miro and Calder - Cole presents 64 small sculptural pieces of varying colour and shape of which the audience is encouraged to create their own compositions. Cole also presents three large-scale sculptures drawing on memories of his times in Japan.

Cole's distinct skill of distilling the landscape and architecture into separate elements and symbols is in itself evocative of traditional minimal Japanese aesthetic and he has created a series of works which draw upon Japanese interiors and street scapes and the gardens of the Sakura Matsuri (Cherry Blossom festival).



Image: Peter D Cole, *Bar 4 – Shibuyu* 2009, Painted wood, plastic, copper, steel, brass and aluminium, 210 x 323 x 50cm