

Australian Centre for Contemporary Art

MEDIA RELEASE

AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART

PRESENTS

JON CATTAPAN *Journal Entries*

EXHIBITION DATES 4 MARCH - 4 APRIL

Jon Cattapan's JOURNAL ENTRIES are, as the exhibition title suggests, diaristic in nature; private, intimate investigations. Cattapan's diurnal 'drawings' - works on paper - narrate transitory thought and, ultimately, the artistic process. At the heart of these works is the notion of the automatic starting point. This meandering, exploratory approach has its roots in the artist's interest in Surrealism. The result is a visual journey that requires consideration not only of the psychology of the individual pieces but of the "installations" as a whole.

The exhibition consists of three suites: The Sister Drawings, made in Melbourne in 1984, Under New York, made while living in New York in 1990, and Figures In Red, made in Canberra in 1992. An exploration of formal devices, atmosphere, expression and of self pervades each suite. As Cattapan relates, "there is the need to communicate, to point to the pages, to give people a glimpse. The story-telling is all of a private order but I seem to return to it again and again. I hardly ever show these little notes so people are sometimes surprised by their "lightness" but I've been quite excited to see how an image or symbol takes form, gets developed and is finally understood through its inclusion in an associative narrative." Collectively the works elevate Cattapan's concept of story-telling: the communication of the intimate.

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Affiliated with Monash University



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