

YOUR TURN FOR THE MOON

JASMINE MANSBRIDGE



19 KAREN

contemporary artspace

If there is a set of guidelines recommending a traditional path to an artistic life, then it is clear that Jasmine Mansbridge missed the memo. Jasmine is the daughter of a Pentecostal 'the energetic religion' Minister - whose parish in the Northern Territory included several Aboriginal communities. The mother of five has been a paint mixer, a parole officer, a teachers' assistant and a published author. She grew up in the remote ochre-coloured outback world of Katherine, then she threw all her belongings into a horse-float and made off for NSW and the rich black-soil plains of New England, she now lives in the ordered green fields of Victoria's Western District.

Living in the inner city, wearing black and arguing over theory at art school were not for Jasmine.

Jasmine jokes that it is her naivety that has allowed her to dive into jobs, ideas and experiences that others would be too afraid, or maybe too savvy, to entertain. But there is nothing naïve about Jasmine's art; it has a precise sophistication that, on first glance, would seem to have no roots in her 'real life.'

But is this really the case? Does the ordered geometry of her work obscure the dreamer who created them, shutting out our chance to ask questions, or are we in fact seeing portals – doors, windows, openings – into the artist's mind?

Terri Lew, owner of 19 Karen Contemporary Artspace on the Gold Coast, was intrigued from first sighting of Mansbridge's work. "I saw Jasmine's work several years ago at Scott Livesey Gallery, Melbourne. It was her minimalist, geometric clean lines and colour palate that I found so striking. I constantly search and research artists and there is no doubt that Jasmine's architectural, graphic style grabbed my attention and held it."

Jasmine's latest work is an exploration of time. "If you really think about time, it is the thread that underpins our entire human existence. Time is everything. Everything time gives, it takes away." She says.

Mansbridge's new show for 19 Karen Gallery is titled 'Your Turn for the Moon.' In the body of work - 14 acrylic on Belgium linen paintings - Mansbridge says, "I have used my geometric and architectural devices, to think about time on a global scale. We humans compartmentalize how we perceive and break down time based on the rising and the setting of the sun. But perhaps it can be thought of differently. When one is pinned to a singular location, time feels static, a day following a night, but my travels have changed how I feel about time. Global time, 24-hour time and the thought of sharing time in motion, not the separate days it had once seemed to be for me."

Jasmine has determinedly taken herself back in time to create this show. “Time in Katherine is different; people there know the importance of a less Westernised, sitting around time. Art is a meditative process, I must not go too fast, I force myself to slow down.” She says.

Art commentator, author and friend, Adrian Newstead opened Mansbridge’s exhibition at the Hamilton Gallery in 2015, where he offered the following insight into Mansbridge’s painting impetus. “A few special people like Jasmine have an innate inner understanding of the way Aboriginal people Dream about ‘country’. Special places are sacred to us as long as we hold the memories of our time with loved ones. These places of shared memories are the true bedrock of our lives. As we move from place to place we carry with us the shards that act as memento mori. Just as Aboriginal people created sacred objects that they used to evoke the memory and sacredness of places. Jasmine believes in the power of art. She understands that paintings can be the most powerful artefacts of all because they bring memory and sacred associations to life.”

Jasmine Mansbridge draws on her life and experiences to take the viewer with her, as she explores the realities and the theories that drive all humans.

Words: Helen McKenzie



'YOUR TURN FOR THE MOON'

A SOLO SHOW BY

JASMINE MANSBRIDGE

ARTIST STATEMENT

"No-Time is-never/never but also everywhere/everywhere is forever/no-time is forever" Josef Albers.

"If you really think about time, think of it as the thread which underpins our entire human existence. Time is everything. Everything time gives, it takes away.

The show title, Your turn for the moon, references the passing of time. If you think of time on a global scale, i.e. the rising and setting of the sun, then you get the feeling that our lives are actually just one long day. That we humans compartmentalised time like this, it is how we have chosen to perceive and break down time.

When one is pinned to a singular location, time feels static, a day following a night, but my travels over the last little while, have changed how I feel about time and my notion of it.

Time changes, hours back and forward, speaking to people who are waking, while I am preparing for bed.

Global time, 24 hour time. The thought of sharing time in motion, not the separate days it had once seemed to be for me.

In this body of work I have explored some of these themes and ideas. I have used my geometric and architectural devices, portals and stairs and the like, as metaphors to tell my own stories about time.

Additionally, the descriptions for the paintings are written in prose. This was the result of the overflow of ideas in note form, which formed the basis for the show.

Some of my thoughts on time I have examined are; time and love, time and love lost, time and loss, time past, time present, lost time, time and distance.

And, another thing about time, if you have a painting of mine on your wall, then you have my time, captured forever on a surface. Art making is an exchange of time for creativity.

Your turn for the moon

I looked at my sun
And thought of you and the moon
Your side of the world asleep
But then like a child
I thought of my sun
Reflecting on the moon
An epiphany
The moon is mine too
The day is not separate
It is circular
It goes around
I have both the sun
And the moon
Even though my eye
Has lost sight of it
And you
You are still mine
As the sun is mine
And the moon is mine
It is just your turn
For the moon.



YOUR TURN FOR THE MOON

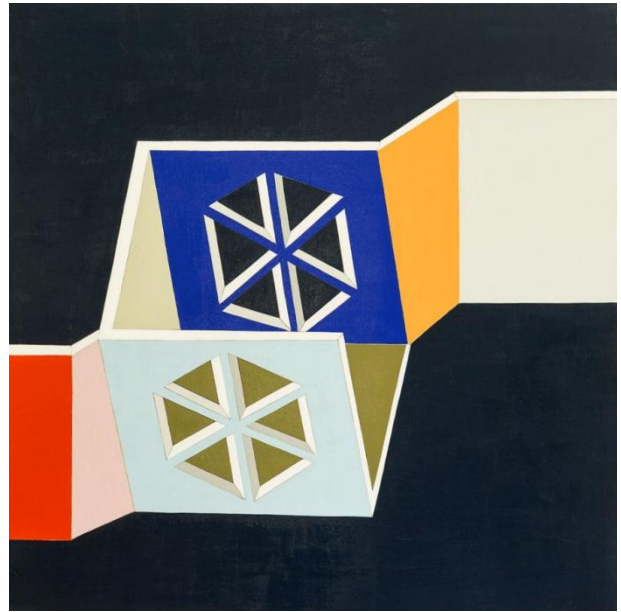
Acrylic on linen

102 x 102 cm

\$3300

Night becomes day becomes night

I am fond of that
in between space
When day becomes night
and night becomes day
The bridge between times
When the world is quiet
It is a place for painters
And writers
And crack heads
and dealers
A place where
the bills are paid
The kids are asleep
The dishwasher hums
I imagine I am alone
Alone with my work
In that time
that is the time
When night becomes day
And day becomes night.



NIGHT BECOMES DAY BECOMES NIGHT

Acrylic on linen

92 x 92 cm

\$3100

My memory twists and turns

I try to think of a thing
And another thing appears
The soft spot on your neck
Or the smell of your hair
Long ago memories
Blended with shopping lists
Blog posts I should write
Things I should paint
And then more to recall
Bright lights and baby cries
Reminders why I am alive
Feelings lost deep inside
Why I run but I can't hide
Why I laugh but I can't cry
My memory twists and turns



MY MEMORY TWISTS AND TURNS

Acrylic on linen

102 x 102 cm

\$3300

The divide of thoughts and time

Your thoughts

In your space

In your time

My thoughts

In my space

In my time

Divided

So near

Yet so far

Can I cross your line?

Can I ask you to cross mine?

We could

Share thoughts

Share space

Share time

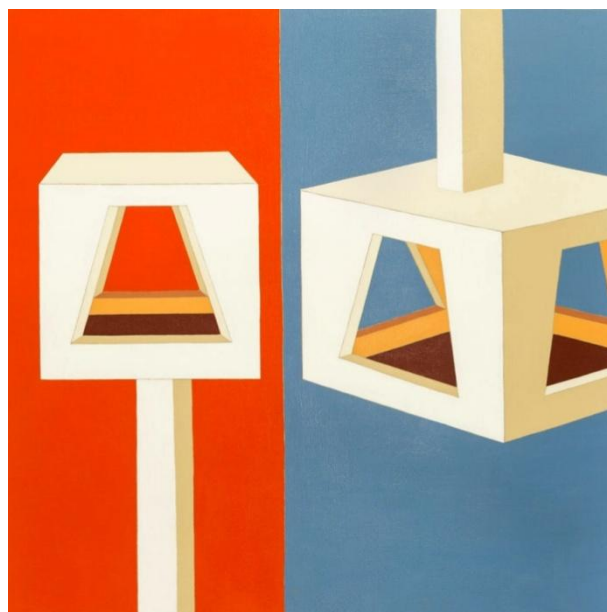
So far and

Yet so very near

We share

a divide

of thoughts and time



THE DIVIDE OF THOUGHTS AND TIME

Acrylic on linen

92 x 92 cm

\$3100

When time collides

The turn of a dime
Or so they say
How fast things can change
Something happened
Time collided
With a thing
And now nothing
Will ever
Be the same
Again
A beginning
And an end
When fate and time
Collide.

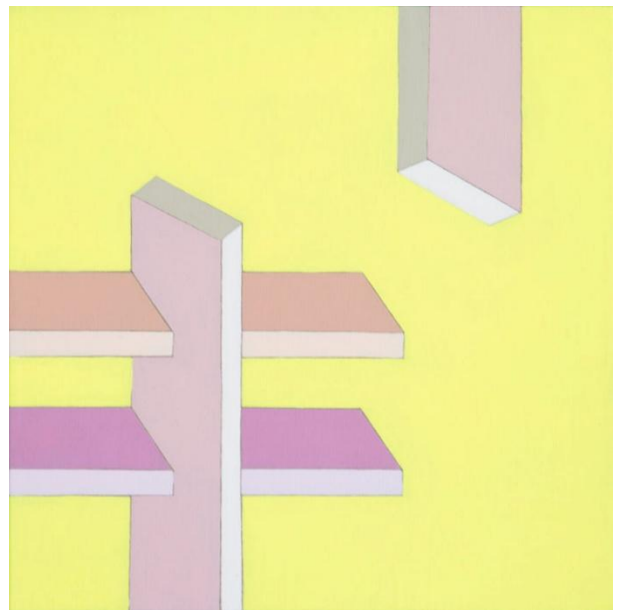


WHEN TIME COLLIDES

Acrylic on linen
92 x 92 cm
\$3100

The light behind

You stand
Illuminated
The light behind
Setting you aglow
Streetlight
Night light
Neon light
Sunlight
Light light
I just don't want
That light
to go.



THE LIGHT BEHIND

Acrylic on linen
40 x 40 cm
\$1800

The future is bright

The future is bright
With Leonard Cohen's light
My cracks and yours
My world and yours.
The future is bright
As fluoro night light
My heart and yours
My word and yours.
We're like fools with fire
Drunk with a half full cup
Optimism and blind love
Out of time and out of luck.
The future is bright
With Leonard Cohen's light
My cracks and yours
My world and yours.
{While these columns
stand upright
and while we live
let's live alive
We can deflect dark
and spray light
It's good for them
and good for us}.

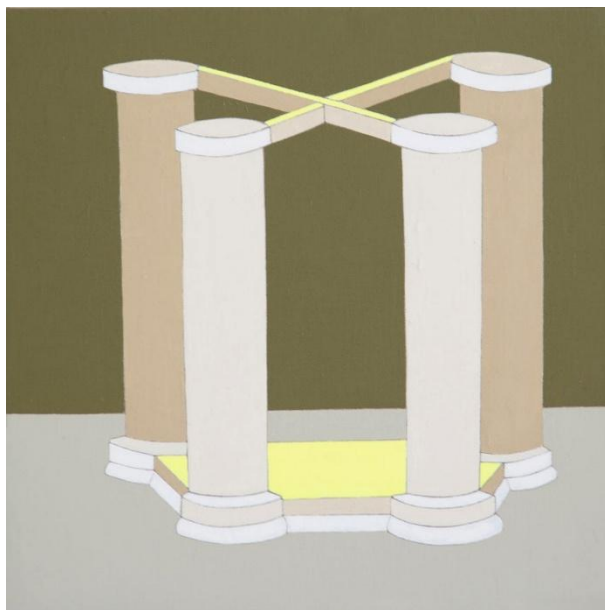


THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT

Acrylic on linen
40 x 40 cm
\$1800

Faith/Time

We have faith
More than we first thought
Faith the world
Will turn
Faith that time goes on
Faith that love
Can be found



THE EPIPHANY (FAITH TIME)

Acrylic on linen
40 x 40 cm
\$1800

Somehow

Somehow we got here
Sharing space
Sharing time
Somehow
Somehow
Through tears
Through fog
Through past and present
We got to here
Somehow
To hope is to love
To love is to hope
To live is to wonder
About
Somehow.



SOMEHOW (WE STACK UP)

Acrylic on linen
40 x 40 cm
\$1800

One long day

Child I said
go to sleep
It has been a long day
Then I went and started work
A new day
Within a night
Not a night
Just one more
long day.



ONE LONG DAY

Acrylic on linen
40 x 40 cm
\$1800

Homage to Time (Josef Albers)

I sat in front of Autumn Leaves
Where your hand worked
I sat and thought
of your thoughts
I felt them right before my own
I felt tears at the passing of time
Your art left
to do the talking
Your homage to the square
A homage to colour and form
And an Homage
to time.



HOMAGE TO TIME (JOSEF ALBERS)

Acrylic on linen
40 x 40 cm
\$1800

Cleopatra's Portal

I painted a portal in your floor
For you to escape forever more
The tyranny of men and
your own ambition.
I wake some days
Not wanting to be me
And I wonder if you
thought the same
To give up your throne
for a babe
on your breast.
And I should
put down my brush
and pick up
The washing
I should love best.
A portal for you
And a portal for me
An escape from duty
And domesticity.



CLEOPATRA'S PORTAL

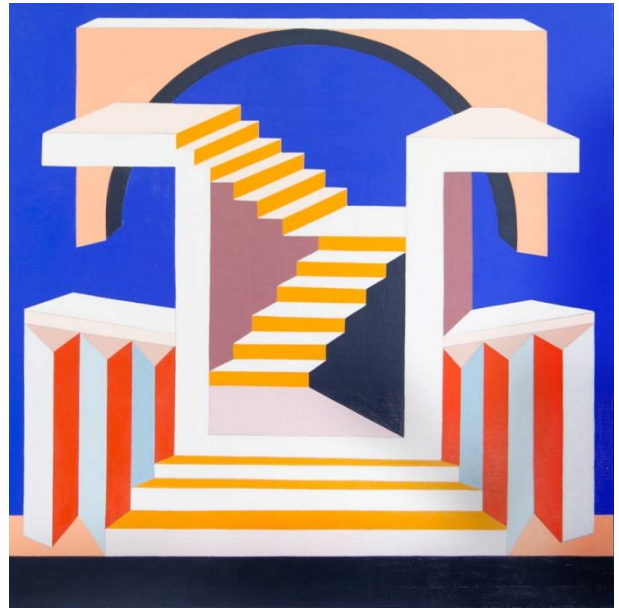
Acrylic on linen

40 x 40 cm

\$1800

Catch time

A stitch in time
Could of saved mine
My heart
Bound in cloth
Not one though
For prevention
Seeing stars above
Not the ground below
So I trip often
Tearing stitches
Not mending when
And as
I should
Hand me time
Time to wind back
Time to undo
Time to go slower
But I know me
Give me more and
I will want more
More stitches
More cloth
More stars
More time.



CATCH TIME

Acrylic on linen
102 x 102 cm
\$3300

All of this time.

It's only a matter of time.

Before this flame in me

is

extinguished.

It's only a matter of time

Before

this day

becomes night.

Before this feeling

is gone.

A new one arrives and this minute

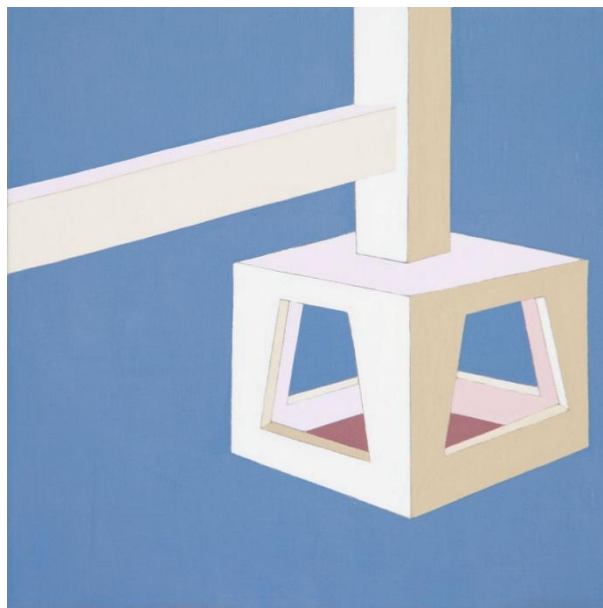
is

Forgotten.

It's only a matter

of

time



ALL OF THIS TIME

Acrylic on linen

40 x 40 cm

\$1800

YOUR TURN FOR THE MOON

JASMINE MANSBRIDGE

Time vs Earth

Is it ignorant to print this
This poem about the earth
Running out of time
Running out of space
Running out of everything
But you wipe your ass
With paper
Freshly milled
And so why not add
To that, with something
And least somewhat literary
And kind of beautiful.

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