

Lola Frost

Coming Alive

New works 2007-2011



Untitled, 2010. Oil on canvas. 135 x 140 cm.



Untitled, 2010. Oil on canvas. 156 x 113 cm.



Untitled , 2010. Oil on canvas. 125 x 137 cm.



Untitled , 2010. Oil on canvas. 60 x 140 cm.



Untitled , 2010. Oil on canvas. 86 x 46 cm.



Untitled , 2010. Oil on canvas. 78 x 68 cm.



Untitled , 2010. Oil on canvas. 140 x 130 cm.



Untitled , 2010. Oil on canvas. 140 x 166 cm.

Artist's statement

COMING ALIVE

Something new: immersive, vital, transformative. These paintings deploy a surreal visual vocabulary which mobilises the tensions between three dimensional modelling in painting and its distortion by a force field of eroticised and unconscious energies. Each painting is also the depiction of an action, for example a closing sphincter, an opening slit, a transitional aperture, or a figure in motion. The 'surface fabric' of these paintings consists of an infinitely mutating and repetitive accumulation of marks and motifs which figure partly recognisable spaces, organic objects and visceral figures that seem to be either cosmic or microscopic in scale. This slippery, unstable and irrational visual vocabulary invites and frustrates comprehension and registers a sense of the sublime.

Given that the sublime in art has differing functions at different historical junctures – ranging from the production of the transcendent subject in Romantic art, or the subject-in-disarray in Postmodernism, these paintings invite an inter-relational subject that some feminists associate with the feminine sublime. They do so by drawing the viewer into an inexpressible and relational condition which hovers, for example, between the unspeakableness of aesthetic experience and the unspokenness of unconscious and feminine drives. Each painting's action and energy render it strangely alive, subverting the usual subject/object distinction and figuring a new kind of dilating, excessive and inter-relational experience.

CURRICULUM VITAE

Personal Information

Dr. LOLA FROST

Date of birth: 13 March 1950

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Qualifications

BA Graphic Art; 1971, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa.

MFA Painting 1985, Rhodes University, South Africa.

PhD Visual Arts, 2001-2007, Goldsmiths College, University of London, United Kingdom.

Teaching Posts

Art History lecturer, Fine Arts Rhodes University, 1986.

Drawing tutor, Department of Architecture, University of Natal, 1987-1989.

Art Theory lecturer, Fine Art department, Technikon Natal, 1990-1995

Part time Art Theory Senior Lecturer, Fine Art department, Technikon Natal, 1995-2002

Visiting lecturer, Historical Context of Art and Design, Working Men's College, London, 2007 -2011

Solo Exhibitions

1820 Settlers Museum, Grahamstown, South Africa, 1981

Natal Society of the Arts, Durban, South Africa, 1987

Thompson Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa, 1993

Technikon Natal Art Gallery, Durban, South Africa, 1993

Rhodes University Art School Gallery, Grahamstown, 1996

NSA Gallery, Durban, South Africa, 1996

Keynes College Art Gallery, University of Kent at Canterbury, United Kingdom, 2000

Goldsmiths College Visual Art Department, University of London, PhD Degree Show, 2007

Group Exhibitions

Sud del Mundo, Cape Town and Johannesburg, 1990

Cape Town Triennale, Cape Town, 1991

Royal Academy Summer Exhibition, London, 1997

Student Exhibition, Goldsmiths College, London, 2002

Iziko South African National Gallery, Cape Town. 1910 – 2010: From Pierneef to Gugulective. 2010.

Collections

Durban Art Gallery
Johannesburg Art Gallery
Tatham Art Gallery, Pietermaritzburg
King George V Art Gallery, Port Elizabeth
Carnegie Art Gallery, Newcastle, Kwa Zulu Natal
Rhodes University Alumni Collection
University of Stellenbosch Collection
University of Natal Collection

Publications

Checking one another's credentials in Grey Areas: Representation, Identity and Politics in Contemporary South Africa. eds. Brenda Atkinson and Candice Breitz. Chalkham Hill Press. Johannesburg 1999.
Jeremy wafer Artist's Book. David Krut Publishing. Johannesburg 2001.
PhD Thesis: Negativity in Painting, Senate House Library, University of London. London 2007.
Aesthetics and Politics. Global Society, Vol.24, No3, July 2010. Routledge, London.

Papers and Lectures

Art and the Political. 'Challenge' Workshop, Luberon, France. 2008
Art's Double Politics. Visual and Performing Arts Department, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa. 2009.
Aesthetics and Politics. Workshop for Aesthetics and International Relations: Exploring the Frontiers of Visual and Cultural Politics. Birmingham University, UK. 2009
Compassion and Politics. Joint paper at workshop on Compassion and Politics. Monash University, Prato, Italy. 2009.
The Political Life of Art. Symposium: Aesthetics and Politics, University of Jyväskylä, Finland, June 2010.
Toward New Global Imaginaries: Feminist Thinking on Creativity and Imagination as Social Resources. Aesthetic Free Play and Becoming. ISA Conference, Montreal, Canada, March 2011 and also at the Critical Political Theory Conference, Essex University, June 2011.
Free Play and Becoming. Lecture at the Michaelis School of Art, University of Cape Town, South Africa. 2011.

Reviews

Jeremy Wafer Exhibition at Goodman Gallery in Art South Africa Vol.07, Issue 4, 2009