

CONTAINANTS

Lauren Lethal - Jane Zusters

Until 5 June

Contain, *kon-tān'*, *v.t.* [L. *contineo*—*con*, and *teneo*, to hold, seen also in *attain*, *retain*, *tenant*, *tempt*, &c.] To hold within fixed limits; to comprehend; to comprise; to include; to hold or be capable of holding; to comprise, as a writing; to have for contents.—*To contain one's self*, to restrain one's feelings or prevent them showing themselves. — *Containable*, *kon-tā'na-bl*, *a.* Capable of being contained or comprised. — *Containant*, *Container*, *kon-tā'nant*, *kon-tā'nér*, *n.* One who, or that which, contains.

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McDOUGALL ART ANNEX

Christchurch City Council

JANE My first art memory is when I was four, sitting under the kitchen table, drawing on the table legs. You have a similar memory.

LAUREN At the age of four, I would spend hours outside my parents' shop, drawing on a brick wall with coloured chalks. I have now gone through that brick wall.

Containants

JANE Although our work is totally dissimilar in this show we are both working with containers. My containers are cardboard boxes that have been flattened out then painted in such a way I preserve fragments of the labels. Your containers are brief cases that have taken in unexpected cargo.

LAUREN You have emptied out the container and I have filled it. We have both taken as a starting point an existing container.

JANE For me the use of the cardboard box underlines the connection between art and daily life. I earn my daily bread by making art and my daily life is the stuff of my art. As a response to living it seems appropriate to recycle the cardboard containers which package our days; hence this work - from the "Garbage of Our Days".

LAUREN My brief cases are open and shut cases, extreme cases, bad cases and sometimes not necessarily the case. The capsules are a panacea? A reminder? A farewell?



Lauren Lethal, Crone Case 1989

I found this "old lady" mask in the horror section of a toy shop!! I am reclaiming her - this is my tribute to the Crone.

LAUREN LETHAL (LYSAGHT)

- 1983-84 Social worker/therapist at Richmond Fellowship, a therapeutic community. Work included art and drama therapy with clients.
- 1985-90 Became full-time artist, working with fabric and furniture, illustrative work, cartooning.
- 1986-89 Teaching art at Arohata Women's Prison.
- 1986 Artwork for State Services Commission
Sexist Language booklet.
Publication of *Monthly Periods*, a feminist calendar.
- 1987 Publication of a series of political cards.
Nest of Labels, commissioned work.
Dressing Fable, commissioned work.
Exhibition at Dowse Art Gallery: *Out of the Woodwork*.
- 1988 Teaching at Vincent's Art Centre for chronic psychiatric patients, (included workshops on mask-making, etching, etc).
The Birth of Janice, commissioned work.
- 1989 Illustrations for Trade Union booklet,
Basic Organiser Skills.
Eye-con, commissioned work.
Mural project, a 6 week residency at Arohata Women's Prison.
The Art of Seeing, Wellington Civic Centre mural in conjunction with Jane Zusters.

Lives in Wellington.

JANE ZUSTERS

Born 1951 Christchurch.

- 1970-72 University of Canterbury, graduating B.A.
- 1974-75 Studied Ilam Art School.
- 1975 Included in **Six Women Artists**
McDougall Art Gallery
- 1978 Moved to Auckland
- 1979 Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council Grant
- 1984 First Prize Montana Art Award:
Lived and worked in Italy for six months
- 1986 Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council Grant
- 1986 Included in **Content/Context**, Shed 11,
National Gallery, Wellington
- 1988 First Prize Tokaroa Art Award
- 1975-90 Exhibited in group and solo exhibitions
Art works are held in the following public collections:

National Art Gallery
Robert McDougall Art Gallery
Centre Gallery, Hamilton
Victoria University
Auckland University
Suter Gallery, Nelson
Sargeant Gallery, Wanganui
Manawatu Art Gallery

Lives on Waiheke Island.



Work in progress, Photography by Zusters

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