OUT OF HER WINDOW



So Dominiek (and Saskia) are off for a stroll through Europe and I find myself seated behind HER desk and equipped with HER pen - thus at least saving me the pain of translating HER scribble into decent type - but charged with the tricky task of writing HER column.
Well,an excellent exercise in humility it is to find out after only a few lines that my style really is a far cry from hers!
So let's see what's been happening at the studio over the last few weeks.

On Monday the 17th of April there was the official opening of a Muka Studio outlet at the Regent which inspiredT.J.McNamara to a triumphant headline in Thursday's art column in the Herald : " Once again Muka Studios sets the pace."We feel really flattered.After all,though we don't especially want to set the pace,we are just working (too) hard and always trying out some new ideas...but dear friend you should know that there is only one single and singular Muka Studio.

On Friday the 21th Anna Miles,Liz Thompson and a dozen or so senior Elam printmaking students visited the workshop and on Monday the 24th of April we met here Don Binney and about 20 Elam students who take Don's Art and Society Paper.Makes us dream about the delights of teaching especially when it comes to salaries!
On Thursday the 27thNeil Roberts from the Robert Mc Dougal Gallery in Christchurch came to see us ,a show of Muka prints will be held there in June and we have arranged an " Art for Young People " show and sale to be held there on the 30th of June under the same conditions as the show we had here in Auckland just before Xmas.We're really wondering if we'll have the same kind of enthusiastic crowd in Christchurch as we had in Auckland.It would be a dream come true to make real work of art available and affordable to all youngsters in the country ... one day.

This month tooa collection of lithographs by Jenny Dolezel,Pat Hanly ,Rodney Fumpston and Richard McWhannell have been send to Lubljana (Yugoslavia) as an official New Zealand representation at the Lubljana Print Biennale.
Yet another major project: we made at last,and with the help of Real Pictures, a full colour catalogue of all the work on sale at the studio.
And Muka Studio is now definitely afloat...since the "Seaflight" multihull in the Hauraki Gulf is carrying a small rotating display of recent prints together with brochures inviting visitors to see the whole collection at Chamberlain Street or at the Regent.And when it comes to the Regent,dear friends and "faithfull readers of this column" it IS a nice place,so overcome your threshold fear and have a look at our Gallery at the Lobby Bar.Seeing the prints there feels so different,it's definitely another environment and we feel that it was right to take the works of art out of the specialised space of our (even humble it might be) GALLERY and into a more casual context -believe it or not- closer to the working place,the office or the home.

Frans Baetens

MUKA STUDIO NEWSLETTER

MUKA STUDIO 17 CHAMBERLAIN STREET GREY LYNN PH.765 323

MUKA STUDIO PRESENTS

NEW LITHOGRAPHS BY

PHILIPPA BLAIR

AND

MARGARET FEENEY

MAY 13 - JUNE 16

PREVIEW SATURDAY MAY 13 , 4 - 6 pm

Hours Monday - Friday 11 am -6 pm

Saturday by appointment.

NEW LITHOGRAPHS

BY PHILIPPA BLAIR

Three new works only this time: "Il Volo Alitalia","Crossing Borders" and "Throw a Ladder to the Sky".But these prints which have travelling as a common theme are definitely the most colourfull lithographs we did with Philippa so far.
For every image we started with a monoprint in black which was been transfered to the stone as a base for further work.Five to six colours were then printed over the black,often requiring the double drop technique in order to obtain a bright colour overlap.As a result we can now show three large lithographs which can compete with Philippa's most vibrant and most dynamic paintings...

PHILIPPA BLAIR

1945 Born in Christchurch.
1967 Diploma in Fine Arts
Canterbury University.

Lives in Auckland.

One-Woman Shows.
1969 Kennigo Street Gallery
Brisbane Australia.
1972 CSA Gallery Christchurch.
1975 New Vision Auckland.
CSA Christchurch.
1976 New Vision Auckland.
1978 New Vision Auckland.
1979 CSA Christchurch.
Northland Arts Society.
New Vision Auckland.
1980 New Vision Auckland.
Elva Bett Gallery Wellington.
Barry Lett Gallery Auckland.
1981 RKS Art Auckland (US collages)
Elva Bett Gallery Wellington
1982 WaikatoArt Society.
RKS Art Auckland.
Louise Beale Gallery
Wellington
1983 Gingko Christchurch (Prints)
RKS Art Auckland.
Louise Beale Gallery
Wellington.
Red Metro Auckland (Prints)
1984 Red Metro Auckland,Survey show.
CanberraSchool of Art Australia"
Shippee Gallery New York USA.
Louise Beale Gallery Wellington.
1985 RKS Art Auckland.
Centre Gallery Hamilton.
Squaw Valley Creative Art Centre
San Francisco,USA.
Brooke Gifford Gallery Christchurch
1986 Robert Mc Dougall Gallery
Christchurch:"A Tree has its Heart in its Roots"
RKS Art Auckland.
Brooke Gifford Gallery Christchurch
Janne Land Gallery Wellington.
Press Gallery Dunedin.
Gingko Gallery Christchurch.
Muka Studio Auckland.
1987 Carnegie Gallery Dunedin.
North Gallery Whangarei.
Janne Land Gallery Wellington.
Fisher Gallery Auckland (Survey)
RKS Art Auckland.
Shippee Gallery New York USA.
1988 Ilona Jung ,Heidelberg W.Germany.
RKS Art Auckland.

WORKING WITH

THE GIRL FROM NEXT DOOR

Well not exactly next door...She is Margaret Feeney,and her parents live at 21 Chamberlain Street; therefore I believe that inthis case a bit of a story might do better than just a curriculum vitae.

Margaret herself actually lives in Wellington, but we knew her work and were intrigued by it from seeing it occasionally at her parents' place.Better still, we had been intrigued by her work for some time without knowing it been done by the girl from number 21. It went like this...Each time we go to the Victoria St.carpark we seem to end up on the top floor. We resist the easy option of the lift for esthetical,hygienic and paradoxically,time-economical reasons,preferring to stumble down the stairs.On the way we have always enjoyed the company of that strange bunch of painted,city-unhappy people,not knowing that the mural was Margaret's.

Margaret wanted to try her hand at lithography and we were happy to have her here.She is a natural talent, one of those people who will never fit into the confines of an art school,and so will never need half a lifetime to get rid of the tutors' influence.

We enjoyed her ability to translate ambiguous feelings and a very personal philosophy into haunting images.

Each lithograph -we did eight of them -tells,in a purely visual way a series of overlapping and underlaying stories -and they are beautifully done...



This will be Margaret Feeney's third show after a one woman show "Mixed Media and mixed Themes" at City Limits in Wellington in 1987, and another one woman show " A Series of Still Lives and four Portraits" at the Cupboard Space also in Wellington in 1988.

WE ALSO PRESENT

NEW LITHOGRAPHS BY

DICK FRIZZELL

MAY 15 - JUNE 11

at

the Regent AUCKLAND

FATU FEU'U IN THE USA

A six-storey wall of the Pathfinder building in Greenwch Village New York will be adorned by a mural featuring portraits of major political political figures whose work has been published by Pathfinder and a crowd representing the peoples of the world and some of the most popular heroes who gave their lives in the struggle for social justice,leaders like Steve Biko,Martin Luther Kingand Emiliano Zapata.Four New Zealand artists, John Walsh,Sally Griffins,Para Matchitt and Fatu Feu'u have been invited to take part inthe execution of this project.
So in June Fatu Feu'u will be off to New York where he will paint the Samoan contribution: a portrait of Tamasese the leader of the Mau independence movement who was killed by New Zealand soldiers in 1929.
We are proud to see our friend involved in this important international project.