# FIGUR

CONTEMPORARY SCANDINAVIAN PORTRAITS

# HENRIK GODSK KRISTIINA HAATAJA JENNY LUNDGREN

A CURATORIAL + CO.

AND FRED COLLABORATION





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#### CONTEMPORARY SCANDINAVIAN PORTRAITS

The Scandinavian art scene has been relatively obscure over the last few decades – overshadowed by its loud European cousins, as well as its own design and architecture prowess. Now new contemporary artists are breaking through, and the world is taking notice.

In collaboration, Fred International and Curatorial+Co. present works by three Nordic artists who represent the new wave of contemporary art from the north, and whose practice engages the 'figure' as muse.

Danish painter, Henrik Godsk, creates powerful androgynous portraits and intimate still life scenes that spark imagination and internal conversation in the viewer. Bold, simplified shapes, that are the antithesis of a human form, flow together with texture and movement in a nostalgic colour palette. Henrik has created work that at once draws from the past and is creating its own artistic future.

Swedish sculptor, Kristiina Haataja, succeeds in combining art and design through her sculptures of figures inspired by both Ancient Greek statues and Cubist forms. The tactility of her materials beckons the viewer to reach out and touch the figures, who each have a story of their own.

Jenny Lundgren's dramatic and painterly figurative works move on the surface, drawing raw emotion from the unsuspecting viewer. They receive much of their energy from the process which Jenny employs in her studio in Sweden, where she is constantly moving, changing her perspective of the piece on the wall or floor. Blurring the line between figuration and abstraction, Jenny Lundgren's works command time to observe at length.

These three artists have successfully taken notes from a rich history of their Nordic nations and spun them into an artistic future all their own. It is an honour to show these three talents to an Australian audience for the very first time.

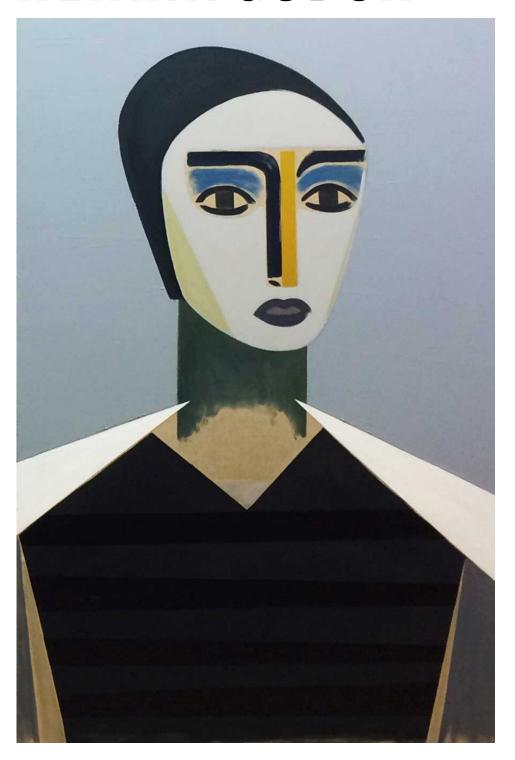
Presented by



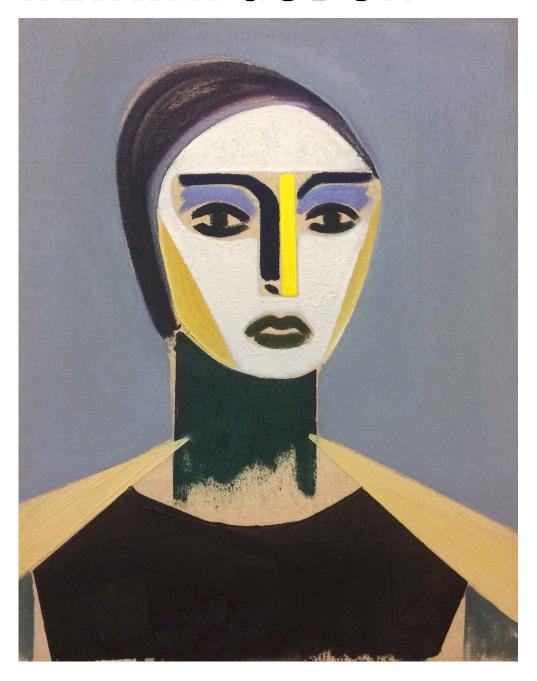




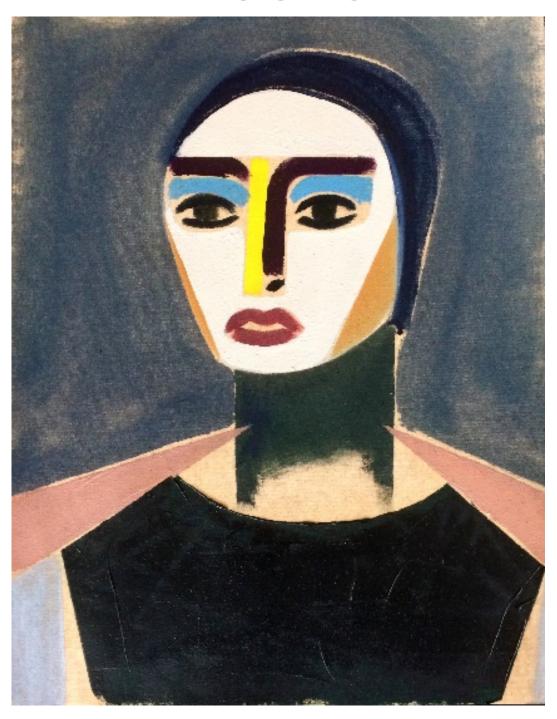
Drifter I (2017)
Oil on canvas
155cm x 105cm
Framed in oak
\$8500



Matriarch (2017) Oil on canvas 155cm x 105cm Framed in oak \$8500



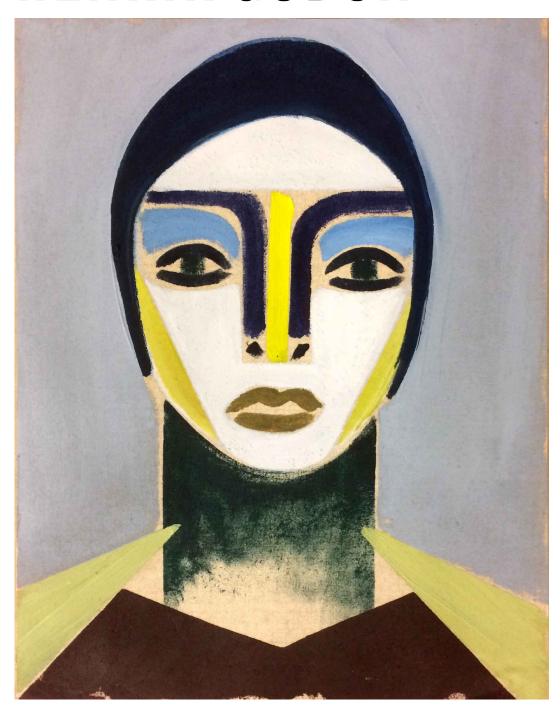
Drifter (2018)
Oil on canvas
29.5cm x 23.5cm
Framed in oak
\$1400



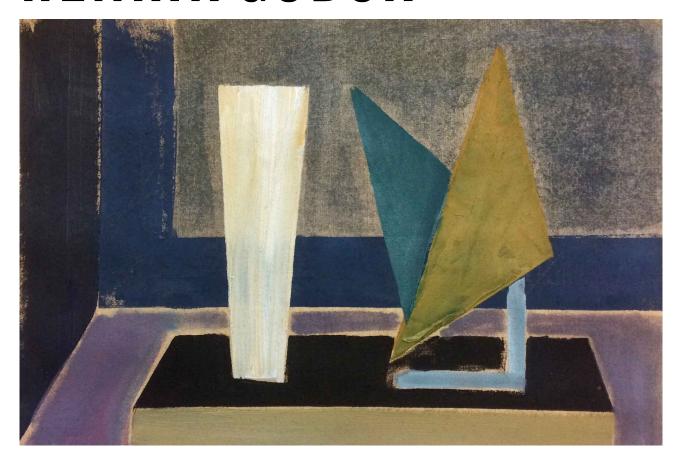
Judge (2018) Oil on canvas 29.5cm x 23.5cm Framed in oak \$1400



Warrior (2018) Oil on canvas 27cm x 21cm Framed in oak \$1350



Virgin (2018) Oil on canvas 27cm x 21cm Framed in oak \$1350



Collector I (2018)
Oil on canvas
19cm x 27.5cm
Framed in oak
\$1350



Collector II (2018) Oil on canvas 27cm x 21cm Framed in oak \$1350



Black Vessel Stoneware 27cm \$1550



Brown Vessel Stoneware 25cm \$1550



Dreamer 9
Papier maché with sand surface
40cm
\$1550



Ikaros Sand clay 28cm \$1550



Kaleb Sand stoneware 25cm \$1550



Olsen Stoneware 23cm \$1550



The Healing Vessel Clay 28cm \$1550



White I Sand stoneware 20cm \$1250



To Know What to Want (2018) Acrylic on canvas 85cm x 75cm Framed in oak \$3800



Let It Rain (2018) Acrylic on canvas 125cm x 105cm Framed in oak \$6500



Always Another (2018) Acrylic on canvas 125cm x 105cm Framed in oak \$6500



Speak the Truth (2018) Acrylic on canvas 125cm x 105cm Framed in oak \$6500



All or Nothing (2018) Acrylic on linen 135cm x 105cm Framed in oak \$6600



Holding Breath (2017)
Acrylic on paper
116cm x 86cm
Framed in oak with art glass
\$3400



Whenever She Wanted (2017) Acrylic on paper 116cm x 86cm Framed in oak with art glass \$3400



Henrik Godsk is a Danish artist who lives and works in North Jutland, Denmark. His powerful works of androgynous portraits and still life interiors are distinctive in their assembly of bold yet simplified forms, that come together to create an emotional response. Nostalgic colour palettes in textured oil, together with positive and negative space, further engage.

A style that is beyond time – drawing both from modernist ideals and creating his own place in art history – Henrik's characters take on expressive personalities that encourage a dialogue, tension and response to their beauty.

Henrik Godsk holds a MA (Art and Literature) from Aalborg University, Denmark. He is a Member of The Danish Association of Visual Artists, and recipient of The Danish Art Council grant.

His work is represented in private and public collections worldwide.



From her Stockholm studio, sculptor and designer, Kristiina Haataja, developed a style all her own titled Ancient Cubism – a hybrid of Ancient Greek sculpture and Post Modern Cubist form. "My aim is to keep the lines and shapes simple, to show a fragile expression that can also be sublime for the spectator. I want the different characters' positions and extensions of their figure to give a feeling of calm and peace," explains Kristiina.

By creating expressions of the human body through clay, sand and papier maché, Kristiina taps into the Cubist style of working with rough, tactile serfaces, deleting details so that the natural textures follow the form creating a desire to touch the figures, explore their surfaces, as one would a body.

"Since I am a believer, thinker and dreamer, my art is quite inspired of these subjects and I categorise my sculptures by these characteristics: dreamers, daydreamers, thinkers, listeners, lovers, and their names are of Italian, Greek or Hebrew origins so that they have symbolic meaning."

Kristiina Haataja holds Masters in Arts and English from Umeå University, Sweden. She is represented in collections in Finland, Norway, Italy, France and Sweden.



Swedish artist, Jenny Lundgren, creates moody, semi-abstract portraits that draw on the viewer's emotions with her painterly, purposeful mark-making.

"These portraits deal more with emotions and moods than with actual people or objects," says Jenny. "I am not at all interested in details when I paint; I work with big gestures, I try to be fearless, I reduce and distill.

I strive to find a form for each painting that is at the same time simple but also powerful, to find some kind of essence."

Moving between figuration and abstraction, Jenny uses the human form as a boundary meant to be broken with the freedom of abstraction, where she uses her intuition to move paint on canvas or paper.

"My painting process is quite physical and as I paint I move the canvas between wall and floor, over and over again. These changes of perspective and working position helps me in a very concrete way not to get stuck in some idea, but to find and see other, new possibilities for each and every painting."

Jenny Lundren attended Ålsta Art School, Fränsta, Sweden and holds a Master of Fine Arts from University of Applied Arts, Vienna, Austria. She has held a number of solo and group shows in Sweden, Austria and Denmark, with her works in collections worldwide.

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Enquiries to Sophie Vander Curatorial+Co Phone 0400 477 484 sophie@curatorialandco.com curatorialandco.com

Fred International Melbourne
The Apartment
10/79 Oxford Street
Collingwood VIC 3066



