

Kate Shaw: *Mirror Matter*

30 July - 22 August 2009

Shaw's paintings function as both abstracts and as landscapes. This latest body of work displays the mastery **Shaw** has over her craft, as she tackles her fundamental interests; form, colour and composition.

As landscapes these works perpetuate the function of romanticism that landscapes have played throughout the history of art. These works are further informed by the past, by landscapes that were commissioned to display a patron's wealth or those that were painted to reflect on the sublime.

Appropriately, these landscapes make a shift from the past and can be interpreted as being a little more sinister. **Shaw's** palette is undoubtedly attractive, however the colours she uses are not those usually associated with the natural world. On the one hand, the colours could be seen as otherworldly but perhaps more significantly the work can be interpreted as commenting on a world gone wrong. These mountain images are often referred to as ice caped mountains and/or glaciers, which is obviously an image that has particular potency in our current climate.

These works reflect a change in the collective conscious. They expose the idiocy of treating the landscape as simply another of mankind's possessions. **Shaw's** works are not a display of mans wealth but rather a reminder of what we can ill afford to lose.

Kate Shaw completed a Bachelor of Arts (Fine Arts) Honours at RMIT University in Melbourne in 1994 before completing a Diploma of Museum Studies at Deakin University. In 2006 Shaw was involved in a number of group exhibitions both in Australia and abroad, including FIAC at the Grand Palais and the Louvre Paris, the Sustainable Living Festival at the BMW Edge at Federation Square, Melbourne. She has held several solo exhibitions in Australian and New York at Luxe Gallery. She was a finalist for the ABN AMRO Emerging Artist Award in 2006 and 2007 and a finalist in the Robert Jack's Drawing Prize in 2005. This is **Kate's** second solo exhibition at Nellie Castan Gallery.

For images and further information please contact
olivia@nelliecastangallery.com

