

John Bokor

Ness & Lizzie's Lounge Room 2015 Charcoal and watercolour on paper 80 x 100cms





Edge of the Park 2014 Oil on linen 25 x 30cms



Under The Trees 2014 Oil on linen 25 x 30cms



The Front Porch 2014 Oil on linen 25 x 30cms

Full CV on John Bokor available on:
kingstreetgallery.com.au

King Street Gallery on William

10am – 6pm Tuesday – Saturday
177 William St Darlinghurst NSW 2010 Australia
T: 61 2 9360 9727 art@kingstreetgallery.com
www.kingstreetgallery.com.au
Directors: Robert Linnegar and Randi Linnegar



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Published by King Street Studios P/L 2015
ISBN: 978-0-9875540-7-9

Essay: Glenn Barkley
Design: Sam Woods
Photography: Bernie Fischer

John Bokor

Close to home



Myer House Interior 2014
Ink and watercolour on paper 35.5 x 28cms



In the Studio 2015 Oil on canvas 90 x 120cms



The Kitchen Bench 2015 Oil on linen 137 x 152cms



The distance between the backyard and town:

Close to Home

*...For love, all love of other sights controls,
And makes one little room an everywhere.
Let sea-discoverers to new worlds have gone,
Let maps to other, worlds on worlds have shown,
Let us possess one world, each hath one, and is one.*

The interior space is a world to which artists return again and again. As Donne tells us it can be an everywhere and in the micro, there is a macro view of the world.

The way light cuts across a space, the window open, a seepage between the natural and the cultural; the familiar with the universal. For some artists it is their lives' work to show us the domestic world recast as a site of wonder and potential.

In John Bokor's drawings and paintings the home is a space in which the artist exists, lives and creates. I know these spaces, mostly around the northern suburbs of Wollongong. I never lived there but I know people who did. The artworks have a bucolic late-afternoon, late-summer feel to them. In the 'North' people are drawn to the drama of the landscape, sea in front mountains at back, but in this body of work the landscape is mostly implied.

The landscape exists out there away from the comforts of the home front – family, tea, dinner, reading the paper. There is beauty in these things and Bokor captures it. His spaces look well lived and well used, relaxed and comfortable, a place for a nap or gentle discussion.

There is a term used in anthropology – reflexivity – that defines the affect a form of study may take on the subject. These drawings and

paintings are like that. I wonder how these rooms sit before they become pictures. How does the artist edit what's in front of him? What to leave out, what to heighten, what to include what to extract, what to simplify and what to make the focus of a room?

When Bokor does takes us outside it is to humdrum sites around Wollongong from which he has managed to suck a sad poem – the fruit barn, the service station – what's the anthropological reflexivity here? Does it become reversed?

Some of these works like Wollongong Under Construction have a quality of being surreptitious and hand held – made to be put away quick and easy – or built up from sketches. And the title itself could be a sub-title for a city constantly being wiped out and made anew. The humdrum subject matter being protection enough from most busybody passer-bys there is much nicer places down by the lighthouse after all...

After all who but an artist of insight would even notice these magical, prosaic sites monuments to the car, shopping and the distance between the backyard and town.

Glenn Barkley 2015

Glenn Barkley is an independent curator, writer, artist and gardener based in Sydney and Berry, NSW.

He is Co-Director of The Curators Department.

1. John Donne *The Good Morrow*

2. Apologies to Jack Kerouac, Introduction to Robert Franks 'The Americans'



Robbie & Meg's Kitchen Oil on canvas 60 x 50cms



Clarice & Herb's Table 2015 Oil on canvas 60 x 50cms



Black Jug



The Green Jug



Porch



Kirstin Reading



The Matisse Catalogue



The Red Bottle



Bottles and Bowls



Studio



Beside the School



Turpentine and Medium



The Easel



Two Lounges

All works oil, sizes vary starting from 20x16cms

All works oil, sizes vary from 20x23cms



Hendrik & Julianna's Sitting Room 2014 Oil on linen 137 x 152cms



Lizzie & Ness' Lounge Room 2014 Oil on linen 137 x 152cms



Meg's Kitchen 2015 Oil on canvas 120 x 90cms



Elisabeth's Dining Table 2014 Oil on canvas 50 x 60cms



Two Teapots 2014 Oil on linen on board 30 x 25cms



Teapot and Bowls 2014 Oil on linen on board 30 x 25cms



Messy Dining Table 2014 Oil on canvas 50 x 60cms



The Cleared Table 2015 Oil on canvas 80 x 105cms



Wollongong C.B.D. Under Construction 2014
Oil on canvas 60 x 50cms



The Dining Table 2014 Oil on canvas 50 x 60cms



Vicky and Vinnie's Kitchen 2014 Oil on canvas 50 x 60cms



Sallie's Table 2014 Oil on linen 52 x 66cms



Elisabeth's Studio 2014 Oil on linen 107 x 122cms



Good Neighbours 2014 Oil on linen 25 x 30cms



The Fruit Barn 2014 Oil on linen 25 x 30cms



The Bathroom Cabinet 2014 Oil on linen 25 x 30cms



The Classroom 2014 Oil on linen on board 30 x 35cms



Corrimal Garage 2015 Oil on linen 107 x 122cms



The Red Rug 2015 Oil on canvas 80 x 105cms



Mother in Law's Kitchen 2014 Charcoal on paper 56 x 76cms



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