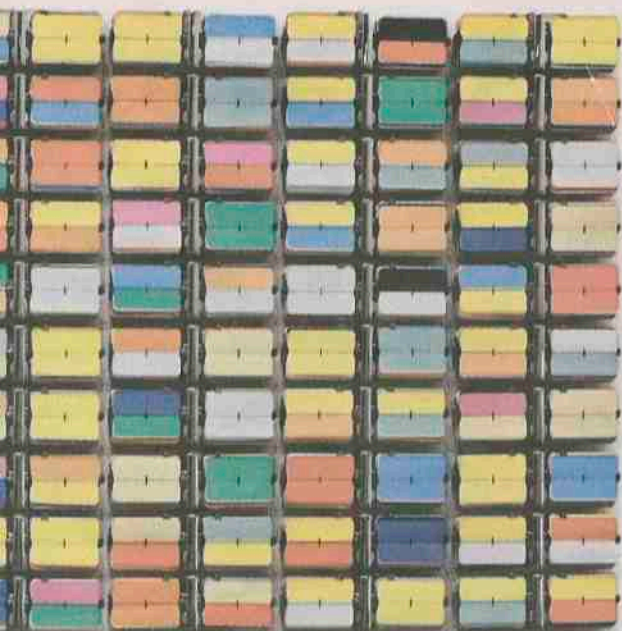


The Sydney Morning Herald



From above) *Automated Colour Field* (2011) by Rebecca Parish Stapleton, Andrew Curtis



names, reputations, or the avowed significance of works. What counts most of all is the overall effect on the viewer, assuming that viewer is not an art-world insider but a person with a genuine desire to see the best art of our era.

The new MCA has a much-improved building and the chance to make a fresh start with its audience. It is up to Macgregor and her colleagues to forget the hype and seize the day.

johnmcdonald.net.au

## Open gallery

### COLOUR AND LIGHT

The bold orange triangles of Helen Eager's *Tango* tumble down the entrance steps of the new Museum of Contemporary Art. See how the artist reached this pinnacle of pure abstraction in a mini-retrospective tracing Eager's steady development from late 1970 interiors to a 1989 abstract lamp and beyond. Includes *On the Edge P21* (2000), detail pictured. *Until April 28. Tuesday-Saturday, 10am-5pm, Utopia Art, 2 Danks Street, Waterloo, 9699 2900.*

### ANIMAL

Adriane Strampp's superb charcoal *Hare* is reason enough to see this show devoted to feathered and furry beasties. Other enticements include a pair of meerkats by Elisabeth Cummings and Meg Williams's cheeky corn eater. Opens today at 3pm. *Until April 28. Tuesday-Saturday, 10am-6pm, King Street Gallery on William, 177 William Street, Darlinghurst, 9360 9727.*

### PLUS

#### Salon des Refuses

The alternative selection of the Archibald and Wynne Prize entries, this year includes Rodney Pople's portrait of Edmund Capon. *Until May 20. Tuesday-Sunday, 11am-5pm, S.H. Ervin Gallery, Watson Road, Observatory Hill, The Rocks, \$7 entry, 9258 0173.*

#### Four Years in Cape York

Elizabeth Johns paints sequences of luminous circles inspired by tropical climate patterns. *Until April 14. Thursday-Saturday, 1pm-6pm, Office Project Space, Factory 49, 49 Shepherd Street, Marrickville, 9572 9863. Lynne Dwyer*

