

Crossing the Line2: Drawing in the Middle East
'Location', Dubai and Melbourne

The exhibition 'Location' brought together artists and designers who were either living or working in the Middle East, or who asked to choose a work related to their own 'location' – psychologically, physically or emotionally. Some explored physiognomy, texts related to belief, material, fluidity, geo-patterning, voice and poetry, architecture, intimate spaces, drawing machines, nature, diaries, fine ink worlds, mythologies and print.

These works were exhibited for the 'Crossing the Line 2' conference in Dubai, UAE, during September 2014 at the Jam Jar galleries, and subsequently at gallery Langford120 in Melbourne, Australia during December 2014.

The title of the Conference 'Crossing the Line...' is an umbrella for a sequence of conferences on 'drawing' globally, in mega and micro urban hubs. The Global Centre for Drawing, an arm of Metasenta®, the international research 'senta' established in Australia [www.metasenta.com.au and www.metasenta.com] is linking with international Universities and Arts organisations for this project over the next four years.

Roles for orchestrating the conferences are: Dr Irene Barberis (Aust) International Chair, Dr Marcelo Guimaraes Lima (Brazil) Chair of Publications, Professor Julia Townsend (Dubai), Chair Middle East, and colleagues of the Institutions and organisations who are and will be our collaborators.

The results of the exhibitions and papers are published in an ejournal being constructed now (TBA) and the Metasenta Small Book Publication which includes papers from the first and second conferences in Dubai.

For this iteration of CTL, the second of the sequence, Metasenta® and The Global Centre for Drawing collaborated with the American University in Dubai, including the Virginia Commonwealth University who participated with their programs of workshops and exhibitions titled " Geometric Aljamiah' - a version of which was exhibited in Melbourne at Gallery Langford120 in 2013.

'Crossing the Line'...what actually does this mean?

Various dictionaries say that 'Crossing the Line' or 'to cross a line' 'is to go too far, step over the line ...move into uncharted territories, cross from one location to another, or more literally physically 'to cross a line'.

The force in the meaning propels us to think sometimes in a negative sense – "you have 'crossed the line'"! or in a more positive sense – "we are crossing the line – moving forward...we WILL go into uncharted territories...."

As artists, designers, scientists, in fact in any creative domain - we desire or aspire to/cross the line or 'a line' – to go further, think deeper, wider more incisively...to push against the boundaries and enlarge our understandings, locations, our knowledge, and experience as human beings.

Drawing in the Middle East – Here is a twofold expression, a double entendre – it is either – 'Drawing in the Middle East' – a pulling inwards toward a centre or point – or a geographical location of 'Drawing in the Middle East' – the title was meant to do both – a call for attention through dialogue – in this case through the visual language of drawing throughout the Middle East – and it is also a 'count', a type of basic audit of 'drawing' made in the Middle East – a gathering of artists, ideas, perceptions and projections.

'Location'

Dr Irene Barberis

Crossing the Line 2: Drawing in the Middle East Exhibitions Dubai/Melbourne.



JAM JAR Galleries Exhibition: Sept 12-15, 2014
Crossing the Line 2: Drawing in the Middle East

- 1 Amie Oliver
- 2 Jorge Benitez
- 3 Reni Gower
- 4 Sarah Duyshart
- 5 Keef Winter
- 6 Hedy Ritterman
- 7 Godwin Bradbeer
- 8 Carole Robb
- 9 Godwin Bradbeer
- 10 Jen Rae
- 11 Julia Townsend
- 12 Irene Barberis – 'location – installation packaging
- 13 Irene Barberis (corner work)
- 14 Keef Winter
- 15 Darren Allcock
- 16 Phillip Davenport
- 17 Tony Trehy
- 18 Jan Hogan
- 19 Valerie Hird
- 20 Miriam Sturdee
- 21 Brian Dougan
- 22 Venantius J Pinto
- 23 Julia Townsend – performance with AUD students
- 24 Stefan Messam
- 25 Hendrik Wahl
- 26 Joe Graham
- 27 Dr. Marcelo Guimaraes Lima
- 28 Hetty Baiz
- 29 Anne Lydiat
- 30 Julia Townsend
- 31 Janet McKenzie
- 32 Toma Gabor

Susan Schuld (performance)

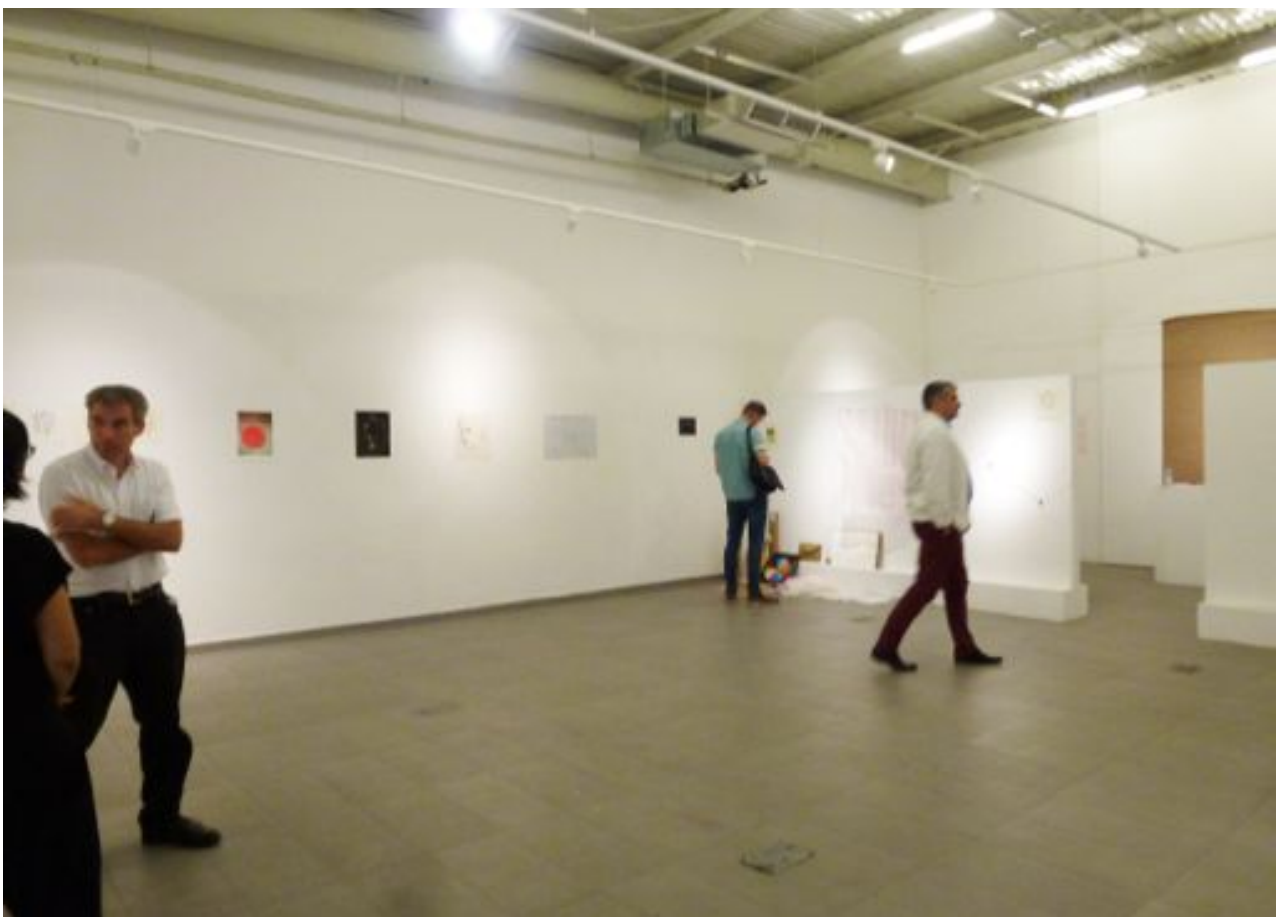


Entrance to Crossing the Line 2 Conference at American University in Dubai with artwork by AUD Students.





'Location' JAM JAR Galleries Exhibition: Sept 12-15, 2014. Crossing the Line 2: Drawing in the Middle East: Intersections of Transdisciplinary Practice.





Amie Oliver USA.

Susan Schuld, Jorge Benitez and guest [performance]



Toma Gabor UAE.





Toma Gabor and guests – Interactive work/ UAE.

Julia Townsend and American University in Dubai collaborative work .





Artist Dr. Jan Hogan and Keynote speaker: Dr. Janet McKenzie

Susan Schuld and Jorge Benitez [performance]





Exhibition: *'Location'* Langford120

Catalogue List: 22 November -24 December 2014
 All works NFS.

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| 1 Amie Oliver | (USA) |
| 2 Jorge Benitez | (USA) |
| 3 Reni Gower | (USA) |
| 4 Sarah Duyshart | (AUST) |
| 5 Keef Winter | (UK/IR) |
| 6 Hedy Ritterman | (AUST) |
| 7 Godwin Bradbeer | (AUST) |
| 8 Carole Robb | (USA/UK/IT) |
| 9 Jen Rae | (AUST) |
| 10 Joe Graham | (UK) |
| 11 Irene Barberis | (AUST/UK) |
| 12 Phillip Davenport | (UK) |
| 13 Tony Trehy | (UK) |
| 14 Jan Hogan | (UK) |
| 15 Valerie Hird | (CAN) |
| 16 Miriam Sturdee | (UK) |
| 17 Venantius J Pinto | (USA) |
| 18 Julia Townsend | (UAE/USA) |
| 19 Julia Townsend | (UAE/USA) |
| 20 Stefan Messam | (UAE/USA) |
| 21 Hendrik Wahl | (UAE.DE) |
| 22 Toma Gabor | (UAE/USA) |
| 23 Marcelo Guimares Lima | (UAE/BZ) |
| 24 Hetty Baiz | (USA) |
| 25 Anne Lydiat | (UK) |
| 26 Janet McKenzie | (UK/AUST) |
| 27 Brian Dougan | (UAE/USA) |



Joseph Graham 2014



Jennifer Rae 2014



Anne Lydiat [UK]



Installation view Langford120 Passage Gallery



Hedy Riterman [Aust] 2014, Godwin Bradbeer [Aust] 2014, and Carole Robb [USA/UK] 2014



Julia Townsend [UAE/USA] 2014.....Hetty Baiz [USA] 2014



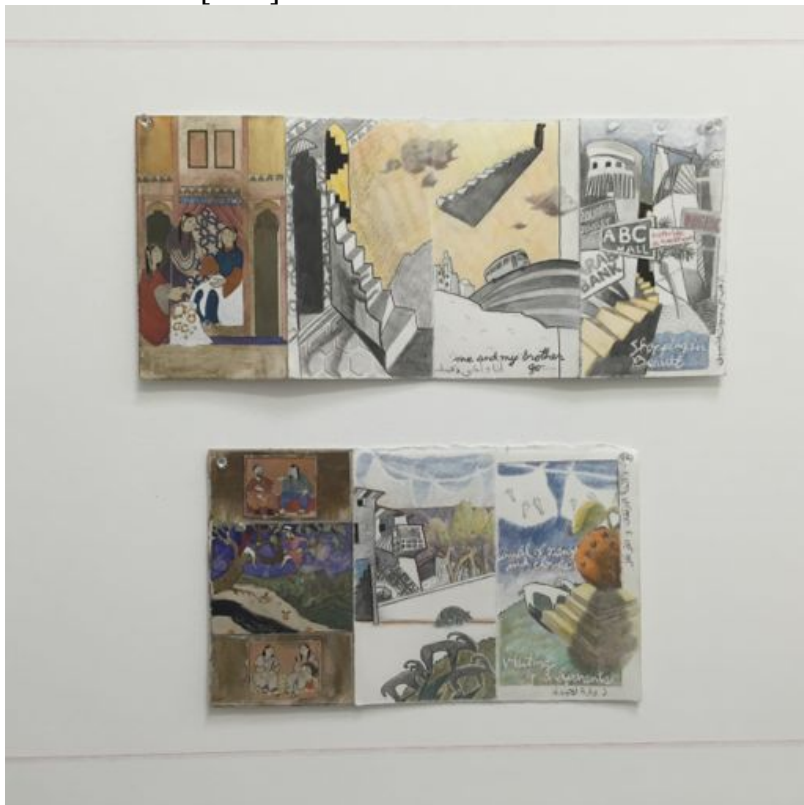
'Location'; Installation view: Passage Gallery, Langford120, [AUST] December 2014.



Jan Hogan [Aust] 2014

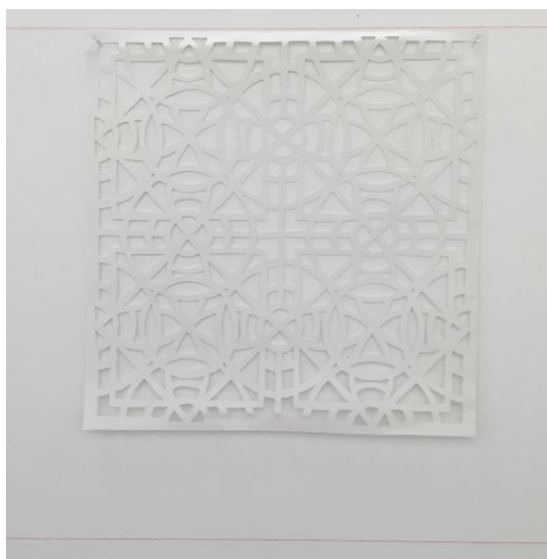
Miriam Sturdee [UK]2014

Valerie Hird [CAN] 2014





Keef Winter [UK/IRE] 2014



Reni Gower [USA] 2014



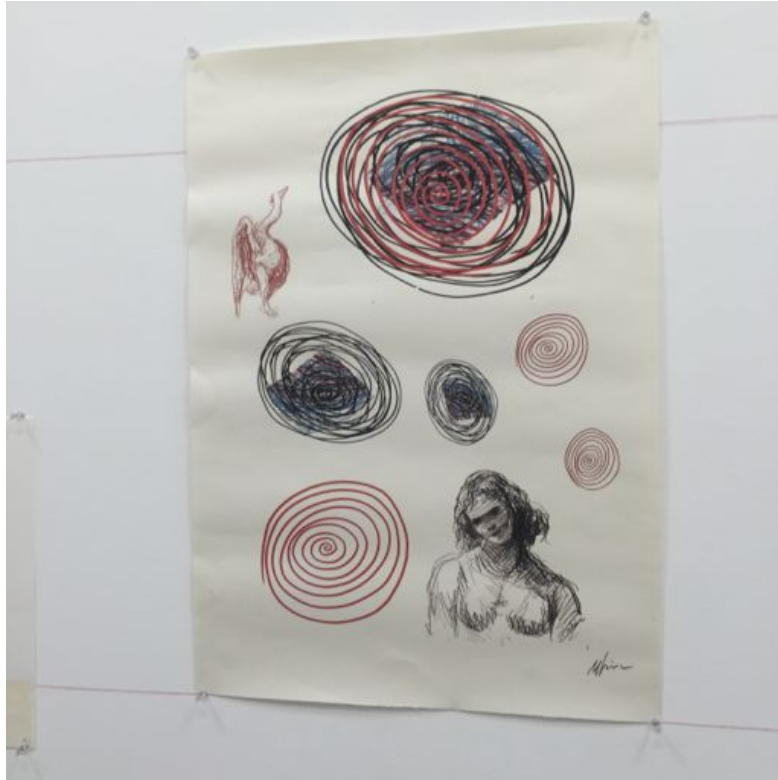
Janet McKenzie [Aust/UK] 2014



Sarah Duyshart [Aust] 2014



Stefan Messam [USA/AUE] 2014



Marcelo Guimaraes Lima [Brazil] 2014



'Location'; Installation view: Passage Gallery, Langford120, [AUST] December 2014