EMILY Hartley-skudder

Why pay attention?

Emily Hartley-Skudder has recently returned to New Zealand after an 18-month stint living and working in New York, where her works were selected to feature in several group exhibitions. In the three years since graduating from Ilam School of Fine Arts, Hartley-Skudder's star has continued to rise with a string of New Zealand and international shows. She is represented by Suite Gallery, Wellington.

What does she do?

To seek out and assemble a still life re-imagined is only the beginning for Hartley-Skudder. Her practice is informed by an obsessive collection of sentimental miniature objects, an assemblage, a finely crafted photograph, which she then presents in paintings with chromatic intensity and heightened reality, embracing the deceptive act of representation. Hartley-Skudder's new work also makes a play to the theme of painting-as-decoration.

What's going on?

Hartley-Skudder's work possesses an inherent fascination with the dollhouse, both as a miniature form, or life sized, as emphasised in her observance of uncanny furniture and kitchen showrooms. Her practice responds to the spectacle of perfect artifice.

The artist says...

"It is the representation of the commonplace that fascinates me, the incessant doubling of activity. I have learnt that taking time to contemplate, experiment and make work out of my comfort zone is very important in moving my practice forward."

You can see it at...

Suite, Wellington, presents a new series of Hartley-Skudder works titled *Beauty Small Room* at Auckland Art Fair 2016.

Eloise Hastings

▶ EMILY HARTLEY-SKUDDER SHOWS WITH SUITE, WELLINGTON, STAND B12 AT AUCKLAND ART FAIR 2016.

- 1. // Emily Hartley-Skudder, Flamingo Pink Table Display, 2016. Oil on linen, 33.5 x 22.5cm.
- 2. // Emily Hartley-Skudder, Plastic Oddments Displayed with Pink, 2016. Oil on linen, 22.5 x 33.5cm.
- 3. // Emily Hartley-Skudder, Glass, Shadows and Vases, 2016. Oil on linen, 18.5 x 28cm.
- **4.** // Emily Hartley-Skudder, *Still Life with Kitchenware*, 2016. Oil on linen, 18.5 x 28cm.

COURTESY: THE ARTIST AND SUITE, WELLINGTON







