



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CULTURAL PRECINCT



SELF PORTRAIT AS SHARED DREAM

CRUTHERS COLLECTION OF WOMEN'S ART

LAWRENCE WILSON ART GALLERY
AT THE DR HAROLD SCHENBERG ART CENTRE
18 OCTOBER - 13 DECEMBER 2014

MEDIA RELEASE

Self Portrait as Shared Dream plays on the Cruthers Collection of Women's Art's strong thematic focus on self-portraiture.

The exhibition presents a collection of works in which, rather than expressing the individuality or presenting a realistic likeness of the subject, figures are anonymous, collective constructions forged from common histories, pop culture references or institutional memories. When these shared experiences are then combined with dream states, visions and imaginings, representations of identity and the self become fluid and complex assemblages.

A mural by local artist Anna Dunnill will connect paintings, prints, and drawings by revered Australian artists including Joy Hester, Vivienne Binns and Susan Norrie. Dunnill's practice combines drawing, sculpture and creative writing, seeking an embodied, universal language that works where rational certainty fails. Linked by her dreamy, abstract mark-making, individual works become part of a greater whole.

As our attempts to define and represent our individual selves reach fever-pitch online, *Self Portrait as Shared Dream* speculates instead on the nature of empathy and collectivity, blurring the boundaries between internal and external worlds.

CONTACT

For further information, interviews and images, please contact Gemma Weston, Curator, The Cruthers Collection of Women's Art, on 08 6488 1837 or gemma.weston@uwa.edu.au or Clare McFarlane, Assistant Marketing, Cultural Precinct, The University of Western Australia, on 08 6488 7806 or at clare.mcfarlane@uwa.edu.au

Vanessa Milner, *Happiness*, 2000, coloured pencil, 31 x 41.8 cm. CCWA 693 © courtesy the artist

LAWRENCE WILSON ART GALLERY
DR HAROLD SCHENBERG ART CENTRE
OPEN TUES - SAT 11AM - 5PM

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