

Tim Silver at Ten Cubed

by Dylan Rainforth | 03 Sep 2013



Tim Silver, *Untitled (Rory Grown Up)*, 2013, Pigment prints on etching rag 310gsm, 89 x 89 cm (unframed). Courtesy of the artist and Ten Cubed.

Ten Cubed is a new private gallery that is free and open to the public. Located in the Melbourne suburb of Glen Iris it has a unique mission statement, one hinted at in its title.

Something of a family affair, the gallery is owned by its director, philanthropist Dianne Gringlas, who runs it with the help of her sister-in-law Ada Moshinsky, Ten Cubed's curator. As well as managing the gallery Adam Siddaway looks after the initiative's education program – aimed at high-school students this has already seen a collaboration with the nearby Monash University Museum of Art, with students visiting both spaces in scheduled tours.



Tim Silver, *Untitled (Object)*. 1., 2011, pigment prints on etching rag 310gsm, 80 x 200 cm.
Courtesy of the artist and Ten Cubed.

Could you explain the concept of Ten Cubed?

Ada Moshinsky: The first part of the concept was we would only buy from galleries. We wanted artists who had runs on the board, and also we respected the galleries as a filtering system and as an aid for us.

The second part of the concept was that rather than buy a number of, what I call a smorgasbord collection, of lots of artists – as one might for a private show – we would buy in depth so we could have solo exhibitions of the artists; and so that we could give meaningful support to artists. So, for an artist selected by us, we hoped that that artist will be supported by us buying his or her work for ten years. And in this way, at the end of ten years, we would have a collection that meaningfully represents a limited number of artists.

Ten by ten by ten. It is a ten-year project: at the end of ten years we envisage we will review it. Ten artists: that actually means we buy art from more than ten artists but we end up with ten artists. And ten works: ten exhibitions but

basically in-depth rather than one work. Ten here is mainly a reference to in-depth, so there are at least ten works in each artist's show.

It's a collaborative effort, we work with the gallery and the artist and each of our shows is curated by the gallery and the artists. We've done two shows since we opened this year. Alisdair McCluckie: [his gallerist] Murray White and Alisdair curated his show. The last show was Daniel von Sturmer and Anna Schwartz Gallery curated his show. For the current show by Tim Silver, Sally from BREENSPACE and Tim flew down from Sydney to curate the show.



Tim Silver, *Untitled (Rory Grown Up)*, 2013, Pigment prints on etching rag 310gsm, 89 x 89 cm (unframed). Courtesy of the artist and Ten Cubed

You've said you're collecting contemporary artists working in various media –sculpture, painting, video art, photography and more. But perhaps you could talk a little about what kind of contemporary art moves you?

Well, basically, when we choose an artist it's a physical response. Right, we walk in – we walk in to the Primavera in Queensland [the MCA Australia exhibition travelled to QUT Art Museum in 2011] where we saw Alisdair's work,

we looked at it and we said we like it. So Step One is we have this response to the work. Step Two is: do we like it enough to buy a lot of his works? It's one thing to go in an exhibition and buy one painting but do we like this artist enough to buy him in depth? Do we like this artist enough to support the work for a number of years? Now, and here's the distinction between buying for private or for public, is how does it fit into the collection? So there are a lot of good photographers, we have two photographers. There are a lot of video artists but we have two video artists. Because we're now starting to work in the space where we have to exhibit. So we want each exhibition to have a wow factor. We want each exhibition to be different from the previous exhibition. So this year we had Alisdair and Daniel and now Tim. Alisdair, who is 26 years of age and is a VCA graduate and is emerging. And then we've got Daniel who is established. We want a complete mix. Both as to medium and as to seniority. We have Tim Silver who is emerging and then we have Pat Brassington – our first exhibition next year – who's established. But we don't want all photography, we don't all video art, we don't want all young artists. We want a mixture.



Tim Silver, *Untitled Sleep*, 2013, cast pigmented polyurethane, dimensions variable. Courtesy of the artist and Ten Cubed.

Tim Silver

Ten Cubed, Melbourne.

3 September - 7 December 2013.