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MEAGHAN COLES

KALEIDOSCOPE — A SOLO EXHIBITION

OPENING — TUESDAY 7th JUNE, 5-7pm

Exhibition continues 7-18th June 2016

fortyfive downstairs, 45 flinders lane, Melbourne

Adelaide artist, Meaghan Coles presents 'Kaleidoscope', a solo exhibition at fortyfive downstairs, Melbourne. Please join us for a drink & meet the artist to celebrate the opening on Tuesday 7th of June between 5-7pm.

Graduating in 2010 from UniSA's South Australian School of Art with a Bachelor of Visual Art (Honours), Meaghan Coles has since exhibited extensively in group & solo exhibitions in Adelaide & overseas.

Meaghan's unique practice explores how the female face is objectified within popular advertising. Her paintings are an investigation into the painted, fragmented face, questioning the concept of ideal beauty as portrayed in popular imagery. She uses the female face as her muse-capturing poses that are enchanting & dreamlike. The women stand still, seducing the viewer with their emotive, romantic poses. A nostalgic push/pull is created between reality vs fantasy, realism vs abstraction in not only the subject but also her painting application & technique.

Their identity is unknown, however their emotive, eye-catching poses and painterly depiction create an expressive statement in itself. Meaghan symbolically restores and invests them with individual identity by painstakingly reworking them as unique paintings.

Meaghan states, "I'm fascinated by the way the female face is portrayed in advertising, reduced to a sexualised, superficial object. My work examines the concept of ideal beauty advertisers promote in order to sell their products. My works result as a mere superficial representation of an ideal female beauty that reflects the beauty and fashion industry. The viewer is asked to consider how these faces function when they are taken out of the environment of mass-production and transferred into a fine art context?"

'Kaleidoscope' at Forty Five Downstairs is a collection of old & new works that represents Meaghan's unique style & combination of mediums. Meaghan primarily uses oil paint & mixed media to push boundaries between realistic & abstract techniques. Expressive mark making is created with spray paint, lush contrasted oil paints make up the fragmented skin tones & the high gloss is created by her use of layered resin.

https://www.facebook.com/events/544989055662358/ More information, price list & images available on request

HOURS:

Tuesday – Friday 11am to 5pm, Saturday 12pm to 4pm admission: Free