

# MEDIA RELEASE



1 Art Gallery Way  
Mosman NSW 2088 AUSTRALIA  
02 9978 4178 [mosmanartgallery.org.au](http://mosmanartgallery.org.au)

11 July 2019

## **Brenda Samuels: *Hats and other things***

Mosman Art Gallery is pleased to present the work of Mosman artist Brenda Samuels from **17 July – 1 September 2019**. The exhibition titled *Hats and other things* will be exhibited in the Gallery's In Profile space, which is dedicated to showcasing the work of artists living or working in Mosman.

In the exhibition, Samuels presents a series of recent still life paintings which refer to the glossy worlds of advertising and fashion as well as industries of mass production. Her works reference our contemporary culture which is both aspirational and utilitarian; Samuels places images of high end, desirable, designer luxury goods alongside humble objects from our everyday 'throw away' consumerist culture.

With a compellingly playful, hyper real, fluorescent colour palette, Samuels skilfully paints each individual subject with great care and attention, regardless of their apparent cultural status. In doing so, she monumentalises each item, essentially levelling the playing field of her various subjects. Samuels focuses on the aesthetic appeal, rich imagery and the seductive qualities of the objects, their branding, marketing and packaging across the spectrum. This approach raises questions about the validity of the objects themselves, the advertising images that promote them, as well as the consumerist culture that such industries manifest.

Samuels' 'low-brow' subjects such as the humble coffee cup, refer to the impact of mass production and the insurmountable amount of waste associated with society's throw-away culture. In contrast her paintings of luxury goods, refer to the assumed cultural value of such designer items and the complex value they are assigned as markers of identity.

In 2015, Samuels had her first solo exhibition at Airspace Projects in Marrickville, and recently participated in a group exhibition at Gaffa Gallery, Sydney. She has been a regular exhibitor in Mosman Art Gallery's *Artists of Mosman: 2088* annual exhibition. Samuels has a professional background in the industries of advertising and copy writing which has inspired and informed her art practice over the past two decades.

### **Brenda Samuels: *Hats and other things***

Where: Mosman Art Gallery, 1 Art Gallery Way, Mosman NSW 2088  
On view: 17 July – 1 September  
Open: 7 days, 10am – 5pm (Wednesdays 10am-8pm). Closed public holidays.  
Ph: 02 9978 4178  
Information: [www.mosmanartgallery.org.au](http://www.mosmanartgallery.org.au)



#### **Media contact**

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COUNCIL**