

HILL
BRONWYN



FLG



BRONWYN HILL

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 Sydney
Contemporary
11 – 14 Sept 2025
Carriageworks

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Bronwyn Hill is a Brisbane-based artist whose deeply introspective practice explores themes of emotional fragility, societal anxiety, and the psychological complexities of selfhood. Working primarily in oil on canvas, Hill's meticulous technique lends an uncanny realism to her figurative works, each painting acting as a visual diary—chronicling memory, processing personal narratives, and reflecting on human vulnerability.

Hill has developed a practice that merges the precision of classical realism with a highly personal, symbolic language. Her self-portraits capture moments of introspection, often infused with an unsettling tension. Through careful staging and the incorporation of natural motifs, Hill creates compositions that extend beyond mere likeness, offering glimpses into the deeper recesses of the mind. Her paintings resonate with shared human experiences—doubt, melancholy, longing—yet remain strikingly intimate.

IN BRIEF:

Bronwyn Hill is a multi award winning artist, having won the Sylvia Jones Award for Women Artists (2019), the Clayton Utz Launch Art Award (2017), the People's Choice Award at the Kennedy Prize (2018), the People's Choice Award, Manning Art Prize (2015) and the People's Choice Award, Clayton Utz Art Award (2015). She has also been a finalist in the Brisbane Portrait Prize (2024, 2021, 2020, 2019), the Clayton Utz Prize (2020, 2018, 2017, 2016), the Lethbridge Prize (2021, 2020) among others. Hill has been involved in many exhibition showcases throughout Australia, including portrait prizes such as the Shirley Hannan National Portrait Award and the Portia Geach Memorial Award. Hill completed a Diploma of Fine Arts in 2011.

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FLINDERS LANE GALLERY

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1989-2025 Director Claire Harris





Don't Blink 2025
Oil on canvas
122 x 183 cm
\$27,500 AUD SOLD

This new body of work delves into the psychological weight of anxiety, employing insects and invasive plant species as metaphors for intrusive thoughts and emotional unrest. Bees and ants, with their relentless industriousness and hive-minded urgency, represent the persistent undercurrent of anxiety—a constant, humming presence beneath the surface. Meanwhile, the morning glory flower, known for its aggressive, strangling nature, becomes a potent symbol of entanglement and suffocation, reflecting the way anxiety can constrict and overwhelm.



Artwork details

'Don't Blink' unsettles beneath its calm surface. At first, the figure appears peaceful and at rest, yet she fixes her gaze on a garden of sunflowers whose large, lens-like faces seem to stare back. A line of ants marks the passage of time in this silent standoff between figure and flora, hinting at an unease that grows unnoticed. Through this tension, the work conveys feelings of disassociation and detachment, as the figure's suspicion of the world beyond her window reveals a quiet anxiety beneath the stillness.

to scale on wall 3.7m





Mind Game 2025
Oil on canvas
61 x 91cm
\$8,000 AUD SOLD

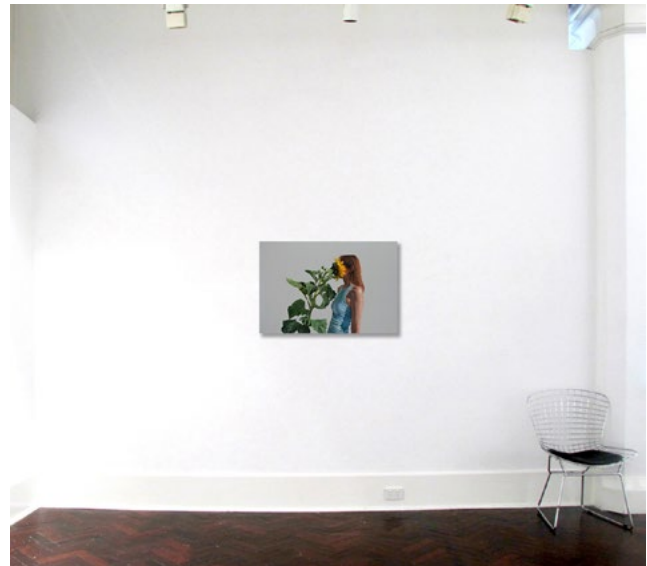
'Mind Game' presents a figure whose face is entirely obscured by that of a sunflower. The encounter feels neither resisted nor welcomed, but simply imposed. The figure's body language suggests a state of mental detachment, reinforcing a sense of disassociation also explored in 'Don't Blink'. For Hill, sunflowers resemble vast lenses—their dark circular centres framed by petal hoods—imbued with a surreal, almost sci-fi presence.



Artwork details



to scale on wall 3.7m





Well Wishes 2025
Oil on canvas
122 x 152cm
\$25,000 AUD SOLD

'Well Wishes' depicts a figure seated indoors, directing a garden hose toward outdoor pot plants. The water, however, strikes the window, unable to reach its intended target, and instead pools uselessly at the figure's feet. The figure watches this unfold, seemingly unable to resolve it—an action carried out simply for the sake of doing something, regardless of effect.

The work reflects on the idea of world guilt: our awareness of global crises and injustices, coupled with the sense of helplessness many feel in their ability to respond. Often, our gestures amount to sending "thoughts and prayers," sharing posts, or donating small sums—well-meaning but ineffectual. The relentless stream of information can be paralysing, yet inaction carries its own weight of guilt.



Artwork details



to scale on wall 3.7m





These organic elements creep across the surfaces of her paintings—crawling over figures, emerging from within folds of fabric, or entangling limbs—blurring the boundaries between self and environment. This interplay between the body and the natural world highlights the inescapable entwinement of our internal states with the external pressures of modern existence. In doing so, Hill continues her ongoing examination of the tension between human fragility and resilience.

Hill's paintings are characterised by an extraordinary stillness, where time seems suspended. Her figures, though realistic, exist in a state of quiet contemplation, their interactions with insects and flora intensifying the psychological atmosphere. The clarity of her rendering, with its delicate interplay of light and shadow, enhances the ethereal quality of her compositions, reinforcing the idea that these scenes exist both in reality and within the mind.



Guard 2025
Oil on canvas
122 x 122 cm
\$18,500 AUD SOLD

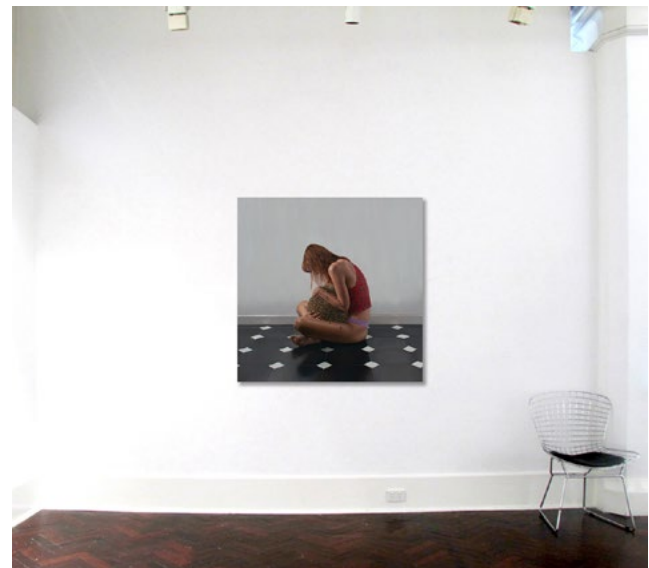
'Guard' portrays a figure cradling a ball of bees, the swarm gathered protectively in her hands. Bees, symbols of tireless productivity, embody for Hill the nature of her artistic practice—appearing busy and chaotic from the outside, yet driven by an internal order. The figure's gesture suggests both determination and care, as if shielding this fragile system from the external world, much like a swarm encircles its queen when she is exposed. The pose carries an unmistakably maternal quality, merging protection with devotion.



Artwork details



to scale on wall 3.7m





Crowd Control 2025
Oil on canvas
152 x 122cm
\$25,000 AUD



Artwork details



'Crowd Control' depicts a figure sweeping up a scattered cluster of butterflies. With their fragile wings, easily caught in a breeze or startled into flight, the butterflies serve as symbols of ideas, motivation, and positivity. The figure's effort to gather them reflects the often-futile task of holding onto such fleeting, delicate forces.

to scale on wall 3.7m





Chair Study 2025
Oil on board
61 x 45cm
\$4,800 AUD SOLD



Artwork details

to scale on wall 3.7m





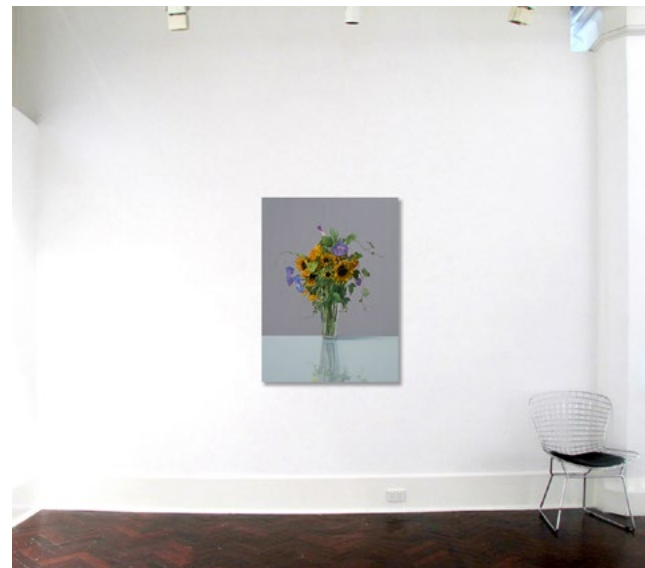
Strangle 2025
Oil on canvas
122 x 91cm
\$9,900 AUD **SOLD**



Artwork details

'Strangle' presents a bouquet of sunflowers—traditionally symbols of happiness and optimism—entwined with the creeping tendrils of a morning glory vine. While the vine's purple blooms are striking, the plant is invasive, known for overwhelming its environment and threatening ecosystems. The work reflects on how anxiety infiltrates our lives, ultimately suffocating the optimism it entwines.

to scale on wall 3.7m





Morning Glory Study 1, 2025
Oil on board
40 x 30cm
\$2,900 AUD SOLD



Morning Glory Study 2, 2025
Oil on board
40 x 30cm
\$2,900 AUD SOLD



Morning Glory Study 3, 2025

Oil on board

40 x 30cm

\$2,900 AUD SOLD



Artwork details



to scale on wall 3.7m





This work continues to push the boundaries of figurative painting by embedding emotional and symbolic depth within its hyperreal surfaces. Hill's ability to translate complex psychological states into exquisitely painted, tactile forms ensures that her art remains both compelling and profoundly relatable.

Bronwyn Hill offers viewers a deeply personal yet universally resonant meditation on anxiety, resilience, and the intricate interplay between the self and the world around us.



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