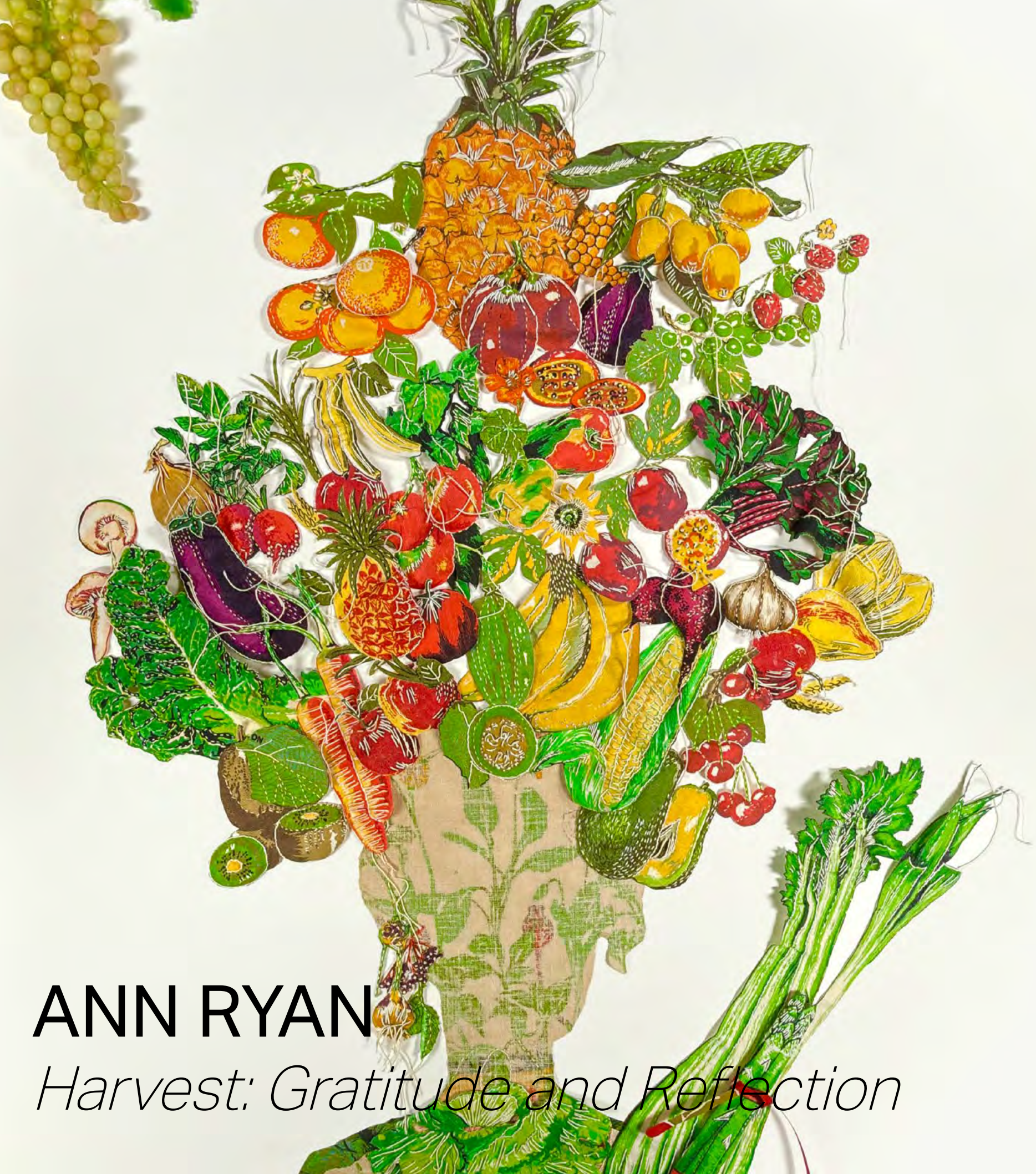




ANN RYAN

Harvest: Gratitude and Reflection

Ann Ryan

Harvest: Gratitude and Reflection

10 MARCH - 1 APRIL 2026

VIEW EXHIBITION ONLINE

Please feel free to contact Claire Harris, Director
with any enquiries or to make a time to view
artworks once they arrive in the gallery.
info@flg.com.au

Meet the artist and celebrate with us at the exhibition opening party on
Saturday 14 March 1-3pm

Light refreshments provided. We look forward to seeing you there.

[RSVP appreciated to assistant@flg.com.au](mailto:RSVP%20appreciated%20to%20assistant@flg.com.au)



Harvest: Gratitude and Reflection

Catalogue Essay by Kate McAuley 2026

In *Harvest: Gratitude and Reflection*, Ann Ryan gathers the world the way one might pick from a garden - patiently, attentively, piece by piece. Pineapples, corn and citrus rise into exuberant headdresses. Parrots cluster along stitched branches. Dragonflies hover in open space, their threads trailing like faint lines of breath. These works feel abundant, but yet considered - as if each element has been chosen, handled, and placed with care.

Ryan describes her compositions as “pieces of a puzzle.” She does not draw in the traditional sense, but she assembles. Found and gifted textiles - fabrics that already carry memory in their weave - are cut, repositioned and stitched until disparate fragments come together as a whole. She approaches each work with a loose plan, then revisits and reworks it until an equilibrium emerges. It is, in many ways, a practice grounded in the art of repair - returning to the hand, to revision, to staying with something until it feels resolved.

These new works open outward. Silhouetted figures no longer merely contain pattern; they host ecosystems. In one work, native lorikeets, budgerigars and other native birds gather along a stitched branch against a quiet horizon of fabric, a nod to Ryan’s aging mother and to shared memories of birdlife that tether past to present. In another, a cockatoo perches beside a profile, its presence both decorative and deeply personal. Nostalgia is a gentle through-line here in this body of work, meaningful though careful to never tip into sentimentality.

The language of harvest is literal, grapes, celery, pumpkins and berries crowd into floral constellations reminiscent of Carmen Miranda headdresses, yet it also suggesting something more foundational: what is grown over time. Gratitude here is not abstract. It is embodied in repetition, in colour, in the steady return to the needle.

Although Ryan is not trying to be political, politics seeps into the work all the same. A flexed arm - drawn from a vintage image in *Pix* magazine - interrupts one silhouette with unmistakable strength. The gesture inevitably recalls Rosie the Riveter, the World War II icon who came to symbolise women’s industrial labour and capability. In Ryan’s version, however, the arm is stitched into patterned fabric, both ornamental and muscular, quietly challenging inherited ideas about femininity. Strength here does not shout. It is woven into the surface.

There is joy in these works, in the riot of citrus and rosellas, in the humour of insects tethered by thread. But the search for beauty and escapism is not naïve. It is, perhaps, an act of resistance. To choose colour. To choose whimsy. To stitch patiently in an age of speed and rupture. To believe that fragments can hold together.

Harvest: Gratitude and Reflection honours the slow accumulation of care. It celebrates the resilience of women not through spectacle, but a canny use of colour and pattern, memory and meticulous assembly, offering both abundance and sustenance.





Ann Ryan
The Banawah Gang are Ok, 2025
mixed media, unframed 80cm x 100cm
framed 84cm x 104cm x 4 cm
\$5,500 AUD





Detail



The Banawah Gang are Ok, 2025
mixed media, unframed 80cm x 100cm
framed 84cm x 104cm x 4 cm
\$5,500 AUD

to scale 3.7m wall

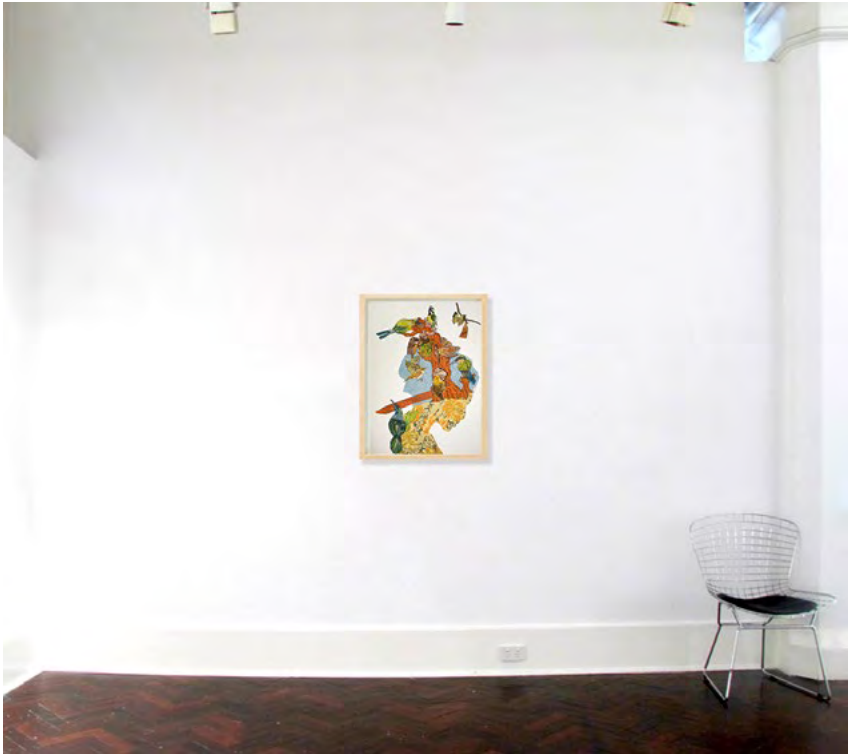


Anne Ryan
Harvest: Gratitude, Reflection and Abundance, 2026
mixed media, unframed 100cm x 80cm
framed 104cm x 84cm x 6cm
\$5,500 AUD





Detail



Harvest: Gratitude, Reflection and Abundance, 2026
 mixed media, unframed 100cm x 80cm
 framed 104cm x 84cm x 6cm
 \$5,500 AUD

to scale 3.7m wall





Ann Ryan
A little birdy told me I, 2025
mixed media, unframed 75cm x 56cm
framed 79cm x 60cm x 4cm
\$2,750 AUD

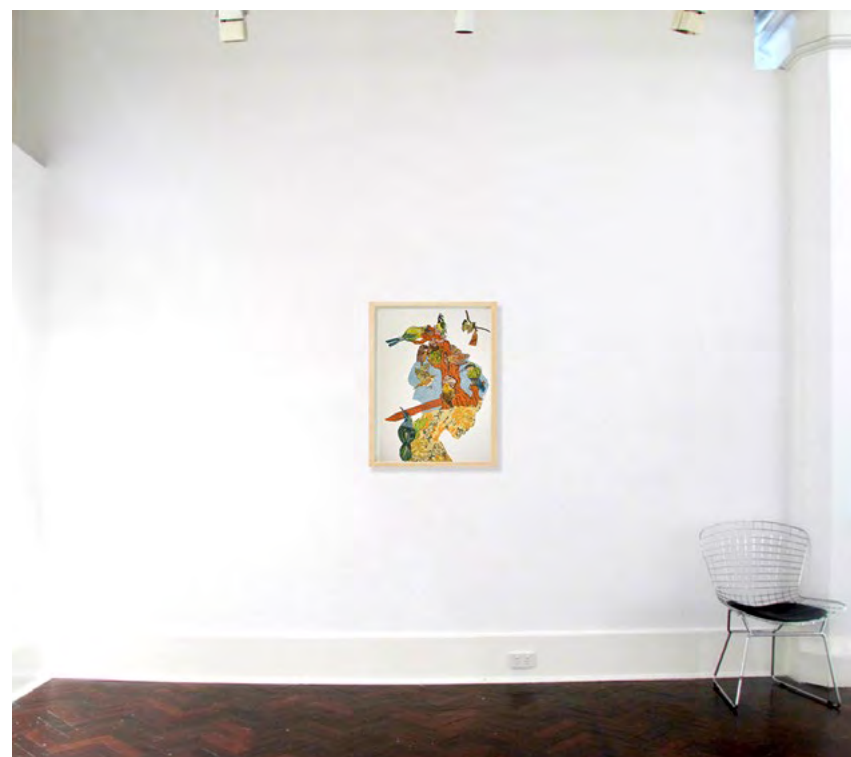




Detail

A little birdy told me I, 2025
 mixed media, unframed 75cm x 56cm
 framed 79cm x 60cm x 4cm
 \$2,750 AUD

to scale 3.7m wall





Ann Ryan
The Dragonfly and Me, 2025
 mixed media, unframed 87cm x 54cm,
 framed 91cm x 58 cm x 4cm
 \$3,200 AUD

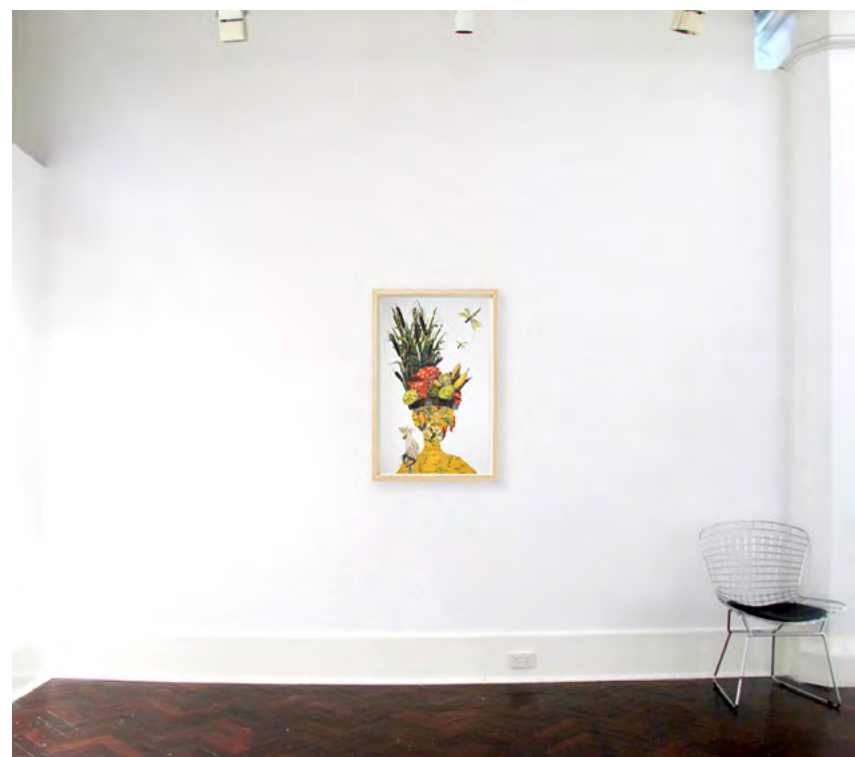




Detail

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framed 91cm x 58 cm x 4cm
\$3,200 AUD

to scale 3.7m wall





Ann Ryan
A little birdy told me II, 2025
mixed media, unframed 75 cm x 56 cm
framed 79cm x 60cm x 4cm
\$2,750 AUD

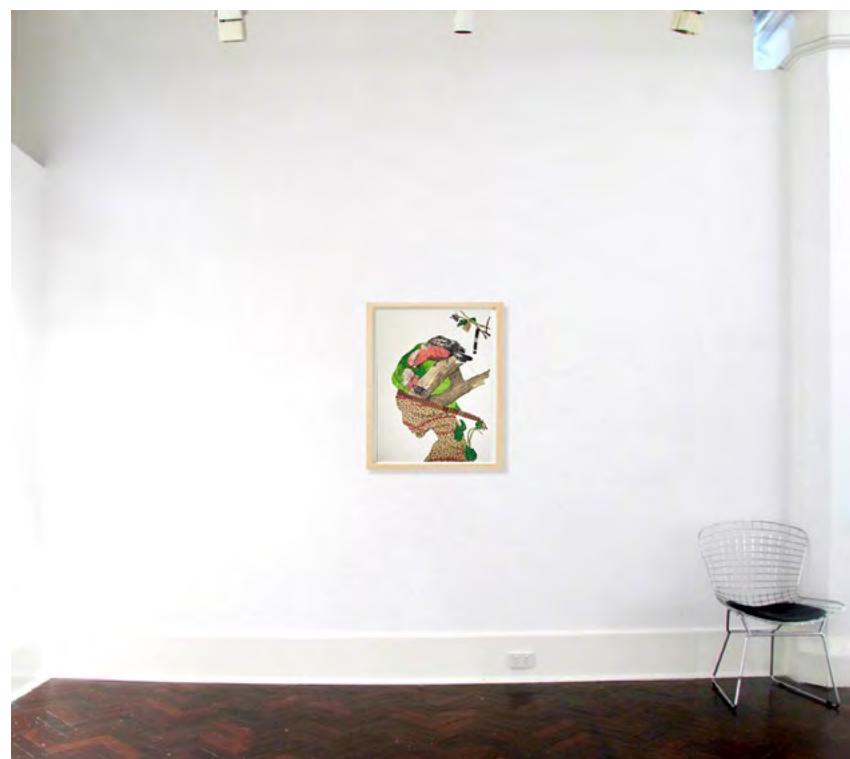




Detail

A little birdy told me II, 2025
 mixed media, unframed 75 cm x 56 cm
 framed 79cm x 60cm x 4cm
 \$2,750 AUD

to scale 3.7m wall





Ann Ryan
Pretty Good for a Girl I, 2025
mixed media, unframed 75cm x 58cm
framed 79cm x 62cm x 4cm
\$2,750 AUD

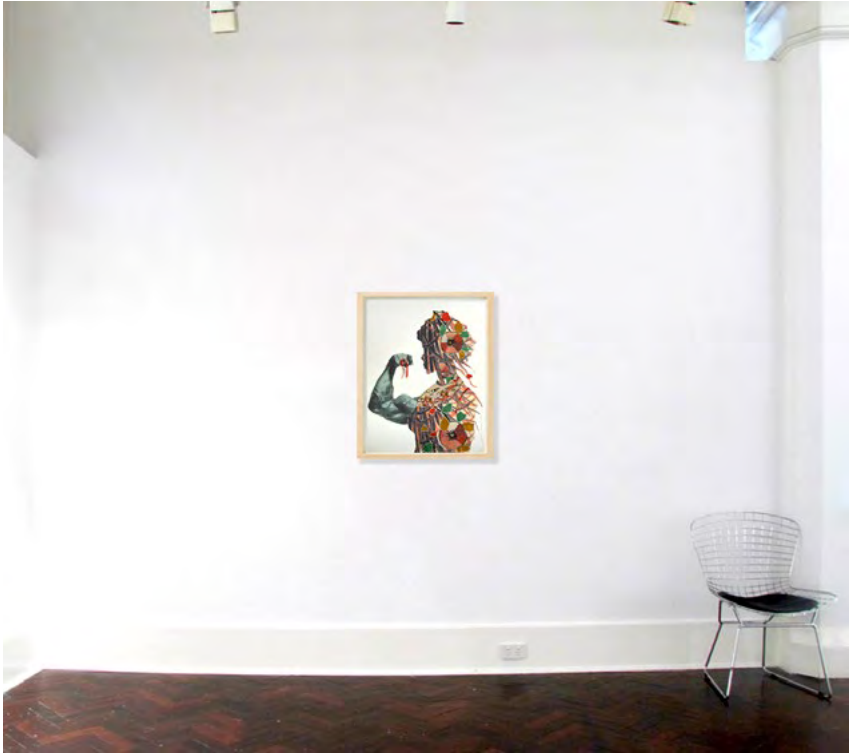




Detail

Pretty Good for a Girl I, 2025
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\$2,750 AUD

to scale 3.7m wall







Ann Ryan
Pretty Good for a Girl II, 2025
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\$2,750 AUD





Detail



Pretty Good for a Girl II, 2025
mixed media, unframed 75cm x 58cm
framed 79cm x 62cm x 4cm
\$2,750 AUD

to scale 3.7m wall





Ann Ryan
The Orchid Whispers, 2025
mixed media, unframed 67cm x 55cm
framed 71cm x 59cm x 4cm
\$2,500 AUD

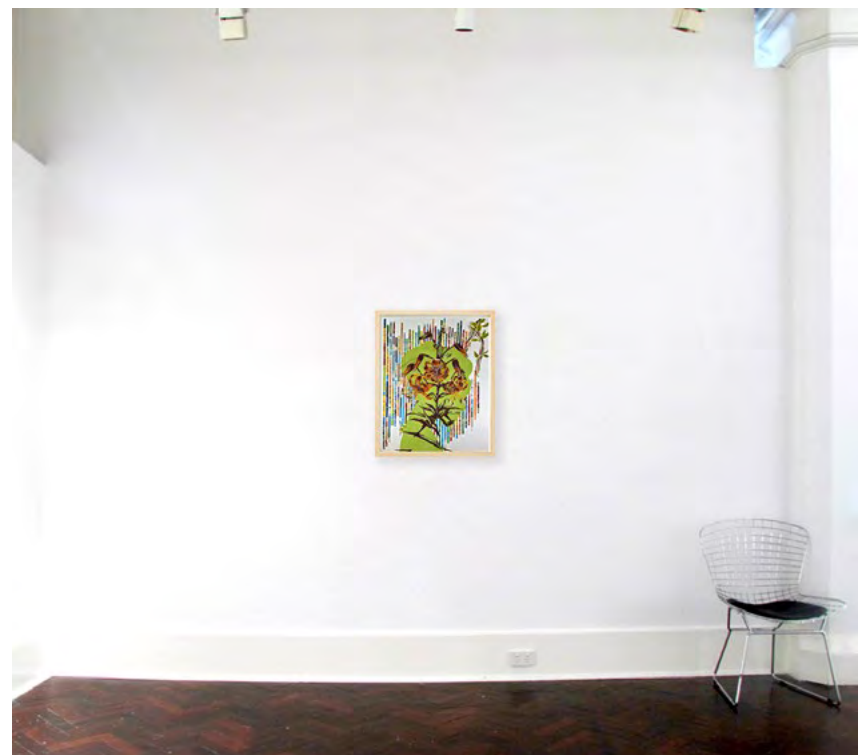




Detail

The Orchid Whispers, 2025
mixed media, unframed 67cm x 55cm
framed 71cm x 59cm x 4cm
\$2,500 AUD

to scale 3.7m wall



ANN RYAN

ARTIST PROFILE:

Ann Ryan is a Melbourne based emerging artist with a background in retail fashion, having been a head buyer for Georges Department Store in the 1980s. More recently Ann has dedicated herself to developing a practice that unifies her interest in fashion and sustainability, completing a Diploma of Visual Art from Victoria University in 2011. She has exhibited in a number of solo and group exhibitions since graduating.

ARTIST STATEMENT:

My work continues to express my love of colour and whimsy. This exhibition is a nod of gratitude to the kindness and strength of womankind.





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