

# YOUR TURN FOR THE MOON

JASMINE MANSBRIDGE



19 KAREN

contemporary artspace

If there is a set of guidelines recommending a traditional path to an artistic life, then it is clear that Jasmine Mansbridge missed the memo. Jasmine is the daughter of a Pentecostal 'the energetic religion' Minister - whose parish in the Northern Territory included several Aboriginal communities. The mother of five has been a paint mixer, a parole officer, a teachers' assistant and a published author. She grew up in the remote ochre-coloured outback world of Katherine, then she threw all her belongings into a horse-float and made off for NSW and the rich black-soil plains of New England, she now lives in the ordered green fields of Victoria's Western District.

Living in the inner city, wearing black and arguing over theory at art school were not for Jasmine.

Jasmine jokes that it is her naivety that has allowed her to dive into jobs, ideas and experiences that others would be too afraid, or maybe too savvy, to entertain. But there is nothing naïve about Jasmine's art; it has a precise sophistication that, on first glance, would seem to have no roots in her 'real life.'

But is this really the case? Does the ordered geometry of her work obscure the dreamer who created them, shutting out our chance to ask questions, or are we in fact seeing portals – doors, windows, openings – into the artist's mind?

Terri Lew, owner of 19 Karen Contemporary Artspace on the Gold Coast, was intrigued from first sighting of Mansbridge's work. "I saw Jasmine's work several years ago at Scott Livesey Gallery, Melbourne. It was her minimalist, geometric clean lines and colour palate that I found so striking. I constantly search and research artists and there is no doubt that Jasmine's architectural, graphic style grabbed my attention and held it."

Jasmine's latest work is an exploration of time. "If you really think about time, it is the thread that underpins our entire human existence. Time is everything. Everything time gives, it takes away." She says.

Mansbridge's new show for 19 Karen Gallery is titled 'Your Turn for the Moon.' In the body of work - 14 acrylic on Belgium linen paintings - Mansbridge says, "I have used my geometric and architectural devices, to think about time on a global scale. We humans compartmentalize how we perceive and break down time based on the rising and the setting of the sun. But perhaps it can be thought of differently. When one is pinned to a singular location, time feels static, a day following a night, but my travels have changed how I feel about time. Global time, 24-hour time and the thought of sharing time in motion, not the separate days it had once seemed to be for me."

Jasmine has determinedly taken herself back in time to create this show. “Time in Katherine is different; people there know the importance of a less Westernised, sitting around time. Art is a meditative process, I must not go too fast, I force myself to slow down.” She says.

Art commentator, author and friend, Adrian Newstead opened Mansbridge’s exhibition at the Hamilton Gallery in 2015, where he offered the following insight into Mansbridge’s painting impetus. “A few special people like Jasmine have an innate inner understanding of the way Aboriginal people Dream about ‘country’. Special places are sacred to us as long as we hold the memories of our time with loved ones. These places of shared memories are the true bedrock of our lives. As we move from place to place we carry with us the shards that act as memento mori. Just as Aboriginal people created sacred objects that they used to evoke the memory and sacredness of places. Jasmine believes in the power of art. She understands that paintings can be the most powerful artefacts of all because they bring memory and sacred associations to life.”

Jasmine Mansbridge draws on her life and experiences to take the viewer with her, as she explores the realities and the theories that drive all humans.

Words: Helen McKenzie



# 'YOUR TURN FOR THE MOON' A SOLO SHOW BY JASMINE MANSBRIDGE

## ARTIST STATEMENT

"No-Time is-never/never but also everywhere/everywhere is forever/no-time is forever" Josef Albers.

"If you really think about time, think of it as the thread which underpins our entire human existence. Time is everything. Everything time gives, it takes away.

The show title, Your turn for the moon, references the passing of time. If you think of time on a global scale, i.e. the rising and setting of the sun, then you get the feeling that our lives are actually just one long day. That we humans compartmentalised time like this, it is how we have chosen to perceive and break down time.

When one is pinned to a singular location, time feels static, a day following a night, but my travels over the last little while, have changed how I feel about time and my notion of it.

Time changes, hours back and forward, speaking to people who are waking, while I am preparing for bed.

Global time, 24 hour time. The thought of sharing time in motion, not the separate days it had once seemed to be for me.

In this body of work I have explored some of these themes and ideas. I have used my geometric and architectural devices, portals and stairs and the like, as metaphors to tell my own stories about time.

Additionally, the descriptions for the paintings are written in prose. This was the result of the overflow of ideas in note form, which formed the basis for the show.

Some of my thoughts on time I have examined are; time and love, time and love lost, time and loss, time past, time present, lost time, time and distance.

And, another thing about time, if you have a painting of mine on your wall, then you have my time, captured forever on a surface. Art making is an exchange of time for creativity.

## Your turn for the moon

I looked at my sun  
And thought of you and the moon  
Your side of the world asleep  
But then like a child  
I thought of my sun  
Reflecting on the moon  
An epiphany  
The moon is mine too  
The day is not separate  
It is circular  
It goes around  
I have both the sun  
And the moon  
Even though my eye  
Has lost sight of it  
And you  
You are still mine  
As the sun is mine  
And the moon is mine  
It is just your turn  
For the moon.



## YOUR TURN FOR THE MOON

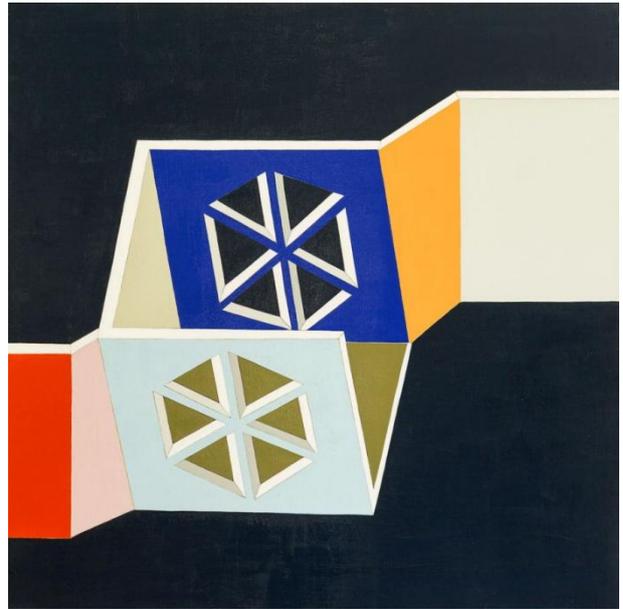
Acrylic on linen

102 x 102 cm

**\$3300**

## Night becomes day becomes night

I am fond of that  
in between space  
When day becomes night  
and night becomes day  
The bridge between times  
When the world is quiet  
It is a place for painters  
And writers  
And crack heads  
and dealers  
A place where  
the bills are paid  
The kids are asleep  
The dishwasher hums  
I imagine I am alone  
Alone with my work  
In that time  
that is the time  
When night becomes day  
And day becomes night.



## NIGHT BECOMES DAY BECOMES NIGHT

Acrylic on linen  
92 x 92 cm  
**\$3100**

### **My memory twists and turns**

I try to think of a thing  
And another thing appears  
The soft spot on your neck  
Or the smell of your hair  
Long ago memories  
Blended with shopping lists  
Blog posts I should write  
Things I should paint  
And then more to recall  
Bright lights and baby cries  
Reminders why I am alive  
Feelings lost deep inside  
Why I run but I can't hide  
Why I laugh but I can't cry  
My memory twists and turns



### **MY MEMORY TWISTS AND TURNS**

Acrylic on linen  
102 x 102 cm  
**\$3300**

## The divide of thoughts and time

Your thoughts

In your space

In your time

My thoughts

In my space

In my time

Divided

So near

Yet so far

Can I cross your line?

Can I ask you to cross mine?

We could

Share thoughts

Share space

Share time

So far and

Yet so very near

We share

a divide

of thoughts and time



### THE DIVIDE OF THOUGHTS AND TIME

Acrylic on linen

92 x 92 cm

**\$3100**

### When time collides

The turn of a dime  
Or so they say  
How fast things can change  
Something happened  
Time collided  
With a thing  
And now nothing  
Will ever  
Be the same  
Again  
A beginning  
And an end  
When fate and time  
Collide.

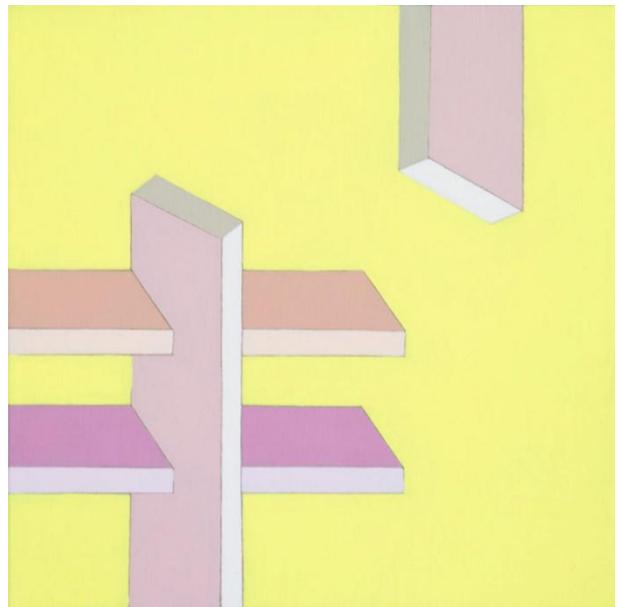


### WHEN TIME COLLIDES

Acrylic on linen  
92 x 92 cm  
**\$3100**

### The light behind

You stand  
Illuminated  
The light behind  
Setting you aglow  
Streetlight  
Night light  
Neon light  
Sunlight  
Light light  
I just don't want  
That light  
to go.



### THE LIGHT BEHIND

Acrylic on linen  
40 x 40 cm  
**\$1800**

**The future is bright**

The future is bright  
With Leonard Cohen's light  
My cracks and yours  
My world and yours.  
The future is bright  
As fluoro night light  
My heart and yours  
My word and yours.  
We're like fools with fire  
Drunk with a half full cup  
Optimism and blind love  
Out of time and out of luck.  
The future is bright  
With Leonard Cohen's light  
My cracks and yours  
My world and yours.  
{While these columns  
stand upright  
and while we live  
let's live alive  
We can deflect dark  
and spray light  
It's good for them  
and good for us}.



**THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT**

Acrylic on linen

40 x 40 cm

**\$1800**

### Faith/Time

We have faith  
More than we first thought  
Faith the world  
Will turn  
Faith that time goes on  
Faith that love  
Can be found



### THE EPIPHANY (FAITH TIME)

Acrylic on linen  
40 x 40 cm  
\$1800

### Somehow

Somehow we got here  
Sharing space  
Sharing time  
Somehow  
Somehow  
Through tears  
Through fog  
Through past and present  
We got to here  
Somehow  
To hope is to love  
To love is to hope  
To live is to wonder  
About  
Somehow.



### SOMEHOW (WE STACK UP)

Acrylic on linen  
40 x 40 cm  
\$1800

### One long day

Child I said  
go to sleep  
It has been a long day  
Then I went and started work  
A new day  
Within a night  
Not a night  
Just one more  
long day.



**ONE LONG DAY**  
Acrylic on linen  
40 x 40 cm  
**\$1800**

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### Homage to Time (Josef Albers)

I sat in front of Autumn Leaves  
Where your hand worked  
I sat and thought  
of your thoughts  
I felt them right before my own  
I felt tears at the passing of time  
Your art left  
to do the talking  
Your homage to the square  
A homage to colour and form  
And an Homage  
to time.



**HOMAGE TO TIME (JOSEF ALBERS)**  
Acrylic on linen  
40 x 40 cm  
**\$1800**

### Cleopatra's Portal

I painted a portal in your floor  
For you to escape forever more  
The tyranny of men and  
your own ambition.  
I wake some days  
Not wanting to be me  
And I wonder if you  
thought the same  
To give up your throne  
for a babe  
on your breast.  
And I should  
put down my brush  
and pick up  
The washing  
I should love best.  
A portal for you  
And a portal for me  
An escape from duty  
And domesticity.



### CLEOPATRA'S PORTAL

Acrylic on linen

40 x 40 cm

**\$1800**

### Catch time

A stitch in time  
Could of saved mine  
My heart  
Bound in cloth  
Not one though  
For prevention  
Seeing stars above  
Not the ground below  
So I trip often  
Tearing stitches  
Not mending when  
And as  
I should  
Hand me time  
Time to wind back  
Time to undo  
Time to go slower  
But I know me  
Give me more and  
I will want more  
More stitches  
More cloth  
More stars  
More time.



### CATCH TIME

Acrylic on linen  
102 x 102 cm  
**\$3300**

**All of this time.**

It's only a matter of time.

Before this flame in me

is

extinguished.

It's only a matter of time

Before

this day

becomes night.

Before this feeling

is gone.

A new one arrives and this minute

is

Forgotten.

It's only a matter

of

time



**ALL OF THIS TIME**

Acrylic on linen

40 x 40 cm

**\$1800**

# YOUR TURN FOR THE MOON

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# JASMINE MANSBRIDGE

## **Time vs Earth**

Is it ignorant to print this  
This poem about the earth  
Running out of time  
Running out of space  
Running out of everything  
But you wipe your ass  
With paper  
Freshly milled  
And so why not add  
To that, with something  
And least somewhat literary  
And kind of beautiful.

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Enquiries:

**19 Karen Contemporary Artspace**

19 Karen Avenue, Mermaid Beach QLD 4218

[www.19karen.com.au](http://www.19karen.com.au) | [info@19karen.com.au](mailto:info@19karen.com.au) | 07 555 45019

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