

PRESS RELEASE

Famous contemporary artist exhibits in the Wakatipu for the first time.

Nadene Milne Gallery in Arrowtown will be bringing to Queenstown one of this country's most treasured artists - Séraphine Pick.

Séraphine Pick is the most important female contemporary painter of her generation in New Zealand.

God Helmet (name of the exhibition) is Séraphine Pick's first solo exhibition with Nadene Milne Gallery Arrowtown & Christchurch; it is her first ever exhibition in Central Otago, and her first in Christchurch since 2010 (due to the earthquakes).

"She's highly collectible, one of the leading artists of her generation," says Nadene Milne, who represents Séraphine Pick exclusively in the South Island.

Milne describes her paintings as being *"at once disarming, in their canny depictions of human character, and entertaining for their surface level frivolity. They are meditations on the interminably curious affair of human experience, and are the continuation of a decades-long exploration of painterly technique and style."*

When asked what initially attracted her to Pick's work, Milne says she was *"drawn to her particular lens on the human condition, which is current and very focused on the now. But her work is hugely driven by process and it stands on the shoulders of the history of painting."*

"Good art records history as it is unfolding – that's the kind of art that holds its value. Séraphine's work isn't fashion. She's the real deal; a painter that has to paint." Nadene Milne

Early in her career, Séraphine Pick was considered alongside other Ilam graduates Tony de Latour, Shane Cotton, Peter Robinson, and Bill Hammond to be a representative of the 'Pencilcase Painters', who shared a propensity for evocative yet seemingly whimsical painting style.

'A graduate of the University of Canterbury's School of Fine Arts, where her peers included Shane Cotton and Tony de Lautour, Pick first came to the attention of the art world when she received the Olivia Spencer Bower Award in 1994. Since then she has steadily built a reputation as one of New Zealand's most highly regarded painters, and her work is now represented in all the country's major collections'. Jenny Harper, former Director of The Christchurch Art Gallery

God Helmet: Séraphine Pick

06 September – 06 October 2018

Opening:

Nadene Milne Gallery Arrowtown, Friday 07 September 7pm. Artist attending.

Nadene Milne Gallery Christchurch, Saturday 08 September 6pm. Artist attending.

For further information please contact:

Nadene Milne (027) 440 1665
Jacinta Byron (03) 4420 467
info@nadenemilnegallery.com

BIOGRAPHY

S raphine Pick was born in Kawakawa, Bay of Islands, in 1964. She graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Canterbury in 1987 and gained a Diploma of Teaching from Christchurch College of Education in 1991. In 1994 she received the Olivia Spencer-Bower Foundation Art Award, followed in 1995 by the Rita Angus Cottage Residency in Wellington. In 1999 she was a Frances Hodgkins Fellow at the University of Otago, Dunedin. She has received grants from the Arts Council of New Zealand (1995) and its successor Creative New Zealand (1997). From 1997-1998 Pick lectured in painting at Elam School of Fine Arts, the University of Auckland. Pick has exhibited extensively in New Zealand and abroad, including solo exhibitions at the Dowse Art Museum, White Noise 2015, City Gallery Wellington, Christchurch Art Gallery, and the Dunedin Public Art Gallery (Tell Me More 2009, 2010). She currently lives and works in Wellington, New Zealand.