

# REBECCA BAUMANN

23rd March - 4th May 2024

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MOORE CONTEMPORARY



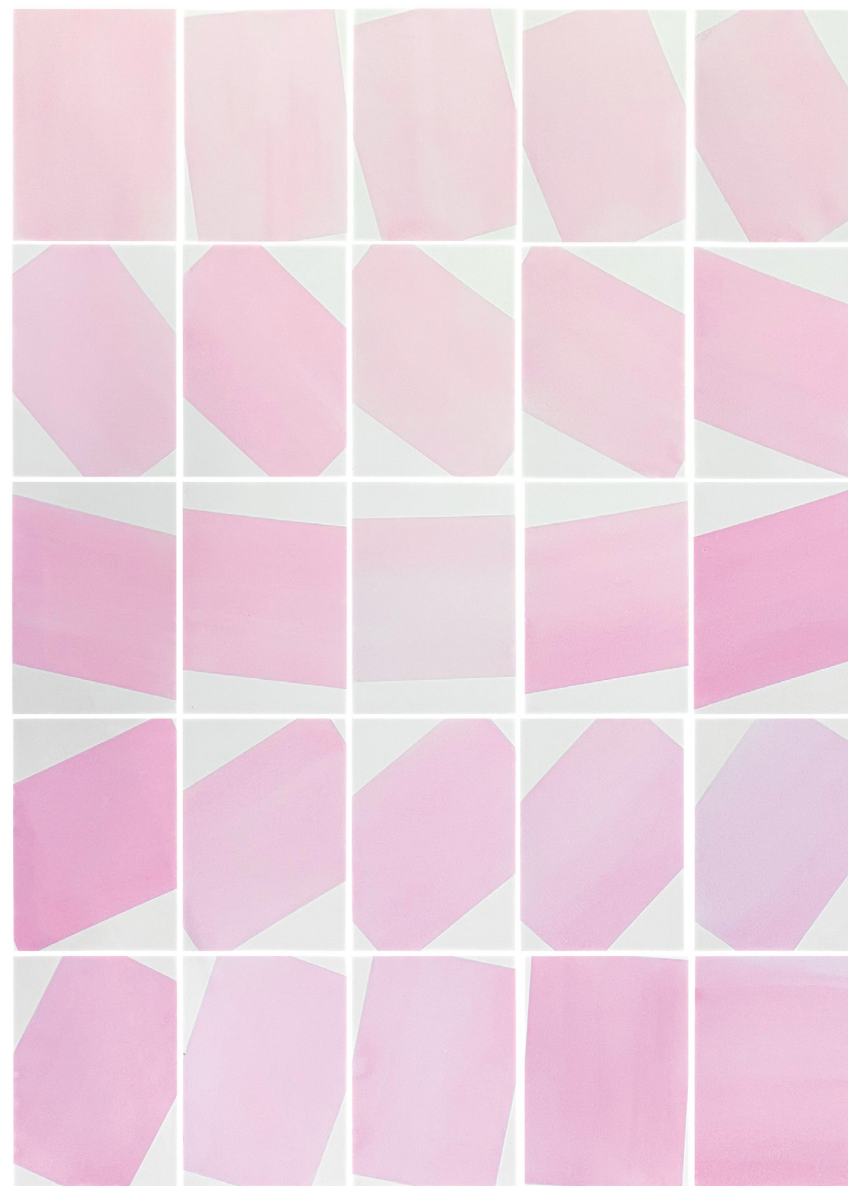
Rebecca Baumann's practice embraces the incidental and encourages the volatility of personal responses. At the same time her willingness for experimentation and a certain intuitiveness in process is also firmly reinforced by a heightened understanding of dimension, geometry and expression. Research and technical enquiry are an important part of her approach and formally she is comfortable working macro and micro. Baumann's curiosity in human interactions, perception, emotional and psychological registers energises her work and an interest in colour is a mainstay.

For the inaugural exhibition in this gallery space in 2017, Rebecca Baumann was invited to work with the glass membrane. She devised a segmentation of multi-colour panels of film to custom fit the upper windows. Over the duration of the exhibition this intervention tracked daily sunlight paths and fleeting variations of light intensity. Sometimes this resulted in a certain hue of colour radiant in the space. At other times it cast an articulated geometric abstraction of colour onto the floor. This kind of subtle, changing, though observable presence conjured from meagre means and coupled with the vicissitudes of nature is emblematic of Baumann's methodology. Her confident command in crafting ambient experiences within volume seems driven by sensitivity and bravado in equal measure.

In this 2024 exhibition Baumann works with the walls of the gallery and her project again serves to underpin the enduring principles of her practice. On scale, *Refracted Field*, 2024, is an installation of multiple acrylic panels with dichroic film that offers a vast field of possibility. A commitment to a grid and angles sets up a tableau to catch and reflect light and movement. The apparent stasis of the material is activated by its surrounds, its repetition of placement, its reflectiveness. The experience of the work is ever-changing and inherently reliant upon the viewer's point of view.

In a dramatic contrast in proportion and media, new watercolours offer an intimate insight into Baumann's pure and poetic shaping of form by hand. *Moments in Movement II* and *III*, 2024 each capture the rotations and shifting planes of a rectangle in a single colour. While these are also framed to honour the grid in correspondence with the wall installation, the properties of water colour shifting between opaque to translucent is lyrical and nuanced. Baumann's art is always arresting, always affecting.

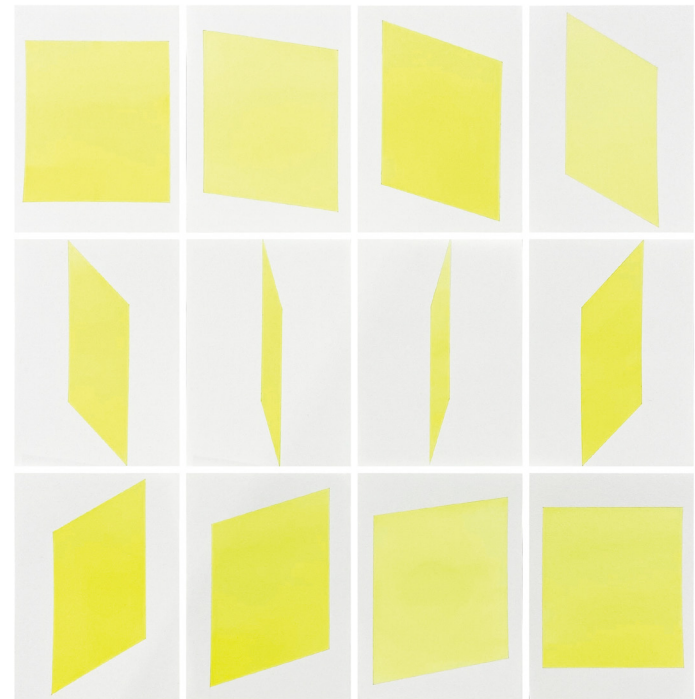
Margaret Moore  
Director



*Moments in Movement II*, 2024  
watercolour on Fabriano 300gsm cotton rag paper  
109 x 82 cm (framed)



*Refracted Field, 2024*  
dichroic film, acrylic panels  
each unit 30 x 23 cm  
dimensions variable, site dependent



*Moments in Movement III, 2024*  
watercolour on Fabriano 300gsm cotton rag paper  
72.5 x 69 cm (framed)

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**REBECCA BAUMANN** is an artist based in Boorloo / Perth, who works across sculpture, installation and performance. Her practice explores relationships between colour, time, space and materiality, and the emotive potential that exists when these elements converge in different ways. Often kinetic or ephemeral, Baumann's work has employed a wide range of playful and experimental materials, including confetti, balloons, vinyl, streamers, smoke and tinsel. Her work questions notions of temporality and permanence – bringing her audiences into changing, affecting and performative spaces that respond in different ways to changes in light and movement.

Recent solo exhibitions include *Light Event*, Perth Festival (2024); *Light Interference*, Dunedin Public Art Gallery (2022); *Radiant Flux*, Carriageworks, Sydney (2020); *Window work (intersections and notations)*; National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne (2018); and *WA Focus: Rebecca Baumann*, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth (2016). Her work has been included in a range of group exhibitions including *State of Abstraction*, Art Gallery of Western Australia, (2023); *Dreaming, after all, is a form of planning*, 1301PE, Los Angeles, USA (2021); *Autoluminescent*, La Trobe Art Institute, Bendigo, Victoria (2019); and *Kaleidoscope: Abstract Aotearoa*, Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa (2018). Baumann's work is held in collections across Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand including Art Gallery of Western Australia; Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney; Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art; Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki; Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa; and Dunedin Public Art Gallery.

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