

Artist and Model

This important exhibition, two years in the making, reworks the convention of the artist model.

Sharpe's evocative paintings, with dazzling colour and dramatic lighting, invite the viewer in to a private and intimate world. Although painted from life they take us far beyond life painting. They are compelling and poetic, interwoven with intriguing and ambiguous imagery, such as heads and floating pictures appearing and disappearing. Are they reflections? Are they thoughts? Are they real or imagined?

It is up to the viewer to complete the story.



*Art critic John McDonald wrote:
“ ... the major theme of her (Sharpe's)
work is to collapse the discreet decorous
space between Artist and Model.”¹*

Photograph of Marina Finlay modelling with Wendy Sharpe in the background.

These images are about female experience and could not be painted by a man. There is an unspoken understanding and trust and between the artist and her model. The women in these paintings are not stereotypes but clearly real people with their own lives and concerns... There is a sense of fun and camaraderie, a world of women unselfconsciously being themselves.

¹ John Mc Donald in The Sydney Morning Herald 'Serious Fun' 10 may 1997

MARS invites you to join the artist for the launch of

ARTIST AND MODEL by Wendy Sharpe

Opening remarks by Lucinda Schmidt,

Wednesday 27 July, 6-8 pm

Exhibition - 27 July till 21 August 2011

The launch will celebrate the Melbourne launch of the 128 page, Monograph Book “Wendy Sharpe”

RSVP by July 20 to irina@marsgallery.com.au or 03 9681 8425

[MARS] MELBOURNE
ART ROOMS

418 Bay St Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
www.marsgallery.com.au
Gallery Hours: Tues-Sun 10am-5pm



Kate in burlesque costume 2011, oil on canvas, 100 x 125cm



Two women with beer can and stripes 2011, oil on canvas, 100 x 125cm



Two women with Max and coffee cup 2011 oil on canvas 125 x 100cm



(top left)
Grace and wine 2011 oil on linen 30.5 x 25.5cm



(top right)
Grace on her stomach 2011 oil on linen 30.5 x 25.5cm



(above)
Grace with sequined bra 2011 oil on linen 25.5 x 30.5cm



(right)
Grace with train tracks 2011 oil on linen 30.5 x 25.5cm



Woman with Trident 2011 oil on canvas 145 x 184cm