

GODWIN BRADBEER

Godwin Bradbeer's work reflects an enduring inquiry into depicting the human figure. In doing so he draws upon the primitive, the classical and the contemporary aesthetics of many cultures and disciplines. Bradbeer has been exhibiting since the early 1970s, and whilst he has substantial experience as a photographer and a painter, his most definitive practice is in various modes of drawing. As such, this Melbourne based artist is an acclaimed virtuoso draftsman and the recipient of many major drawing awards in Australia including the prestigious Dobell Prize for Drawing. He creates compelling figurative imagery that seeks to establish credible descriptions of human beauty, physical ordinariness and individual and collective tragedy. In a significant respect his work also examines the viability of hand rendered imagery in an age of electronic media.

On paper the high degree of finish, a combination of carbon and waxy Chinagraph pencils with their sfumato smoky edges and sgraffito scratched and eroded surfaces will stun you with their anatomical precision. It is a vision that sometimes takes the gaze beneath the skin as an X ray negative does. The human image is realised slowly, as is evident in each of these examples of his works.

Godwin Bradbeer is represented exclusively by James Makin Gallery.