

**IN THE
GALLERIES****Dan Rule****MAN**

The title of this group show featuring contemporary female painters can be read in a few different ways. But the interpretation that tends to come to the fore is one relating to the predominantly male-dominated discourses that frame the female painter (and how acclaim seems to mysteriously escape her). If this exhibition of diversely realised paintings by early to mid-career artists - think Kate Tucker, Yvette Coppersmith, Diena Georgetti, Kirsty Budge, Julia Gorman and Laura Skerlj - suggests one thing, it's that the "problem" is with the patriarchal "lens" that still informs our reading of art and female artists in general. In spending time with these paintings - and considering them as such - gender most certainly has very little to do with it. There are Budge's busy paintings in traditionally masculine tones of brown and grey, skipping between abstraction, architecture and the figurative; there are Coppersmith's vibrant arrangements of neo-cubist forms in cool muted tones; and there are Gorman's worm-like abstractions, slithering in form and searing in colour. This group show of various abstract paintings - some good, a couple great - addresses a significant issue.

Until April 4; Tristian Koenig, 19 Glasshouse Road, Collingwood, 0498 694 715, tristiankoenig.com

