

NEXUS

FREE STUDENT MAGAZINE



N.18 / V.49

Political Scandals and You — Page 07

Make The Univeristy Great Again — Page 16

Random Audit: Religion, Superstition & Witchcraft in Early Modern Europe — Page 22

NEXUS ISSUE 18
14TH - 18TH AUGUST 2017

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1 **EDITORIAL**
Double Standards Becoming
the Standard

4 **NEWS**
Scandal
Nexus Talks to Political Youth,
Part One
Dodge, Dip, Duck, Dive and...
Dodge
The Chosen Lunn
TL;LR
News in Numbers
The Diminutive Post
Top Ten



10 **SPORTS**
Killing the Competition

13 **ENTERTAINMENT**



14 **REVIEWS**
TV: Ozark by Netflix
Video Game: Darkest Dungeon
by Red Hook Studios
Food: Two Birds Eatery
Album: Musas by Natalia
Lafourcade

16 **FEATURE**
Make the University Great Again



20 **CENTREFOLD**
Artwork by Dominique Marriott

22 **RANDOM AUDIT**
HIST308



23 **FULL EXPOSURE**
Interview with Kylie Price

25 **STUDENT
EXPERIENCE**
Puppet Master Politics
Interview with Dominique Marriott
FOMO

30 **COLUMNS**
Pass the AUX
Opinionated
The Fashion Critic
Lonely Tarts Club
Yam & Troy the Science Boys
Auteur House



37 **SNAPPED**

39 **BLIND DATE**

40 **PUZZLES**

ART BY DOMINIQUE MARRIOTT
DOMINIQUEMARRIOTT.COM



D. MARRIOTT '17





DOMINIQUE MARRIOTT

Tell us about your upcoming solo show at David Lloyd Gallery.

Well, this'll be my first solo exhibition since receiving my visual arts degree from Unitec, so the whole thing is quite exciting. The show's called Bare Lines, and will feature my latest nude charcoal line drawings. Laree Payne is curating the show. At the moment she's setting up a pop up gallery called Weasel that's opening in September.

The name 'Bare Lines' captures both your art's subject matter and your minimalist illustration style - how did you develop this style?

I decided to concentrate on the figure early on in my degree. I'd been struggling to portray hands and feet in my work for my degree, and I was annoyed about how often they let pieces down. So, to get a better understanding of how to render them, I spent a lot of time looking at figurative art. What started as a mild interest turned into a fascination with the figure in art. I wanted to explore the subject in depth and develop my own style of representation.

I liked artists who portrayed the figure with outlined contours, like Egon Schiele and Alice Neel, because their work had a clear representation of the shapes of the body that was easy to understand. I think my style is also influenced by the initial struggle itself. I'm still striving to improve, and I still treat my work as a study. I think that becomes a part of my work's aesthetic.

The idea to use sleeping nudes as subjects came more recently, while going to life drawing evenings in Raglan. Near the end of the session, when the models were tired and had to hold their poses longer, they'd often find a super comfy position and fall half asleep. There was something so sincere and unguarded about that, and I developed a real fondness for sleeping poses. I think the model's comfort rubs off on the viewer, and I thought that was an interesting notion to explore.

Who are your influences at the moment?

Egon Schiele is the biggest and most obvious influence. Probably less noticeable is the influence of Japanese Ukiyo-e woodblock prints. I think my current style might be influenced by my early study of Rembrandt as well.

How did you begin creating art?

I'd always wanted to do something creative but I wasn't quite sure what. Then, when I was in my last year of high school preparing for my final assessments, I had to work non-stop for two weeks. I was working around 15 hours each day, and it hit me that this was something I could really see myself doing.

Who's someone you'd love to do a portrait of, living or dead?

Egon Schiele for sure. My style is very much in response to appreciating his work, so it seems fit. Plus, his strange sense of movement would make for an interesting image.

If we send nudes, will you draw us? Or do you draw exclusively using live models as references?

Haha. Depends on the nudes. Or how much you're paying. But it's funny you should mention that, because I've toyed with the idea of asking the Reddit community to do just that—send nudes for me to draw. I think I'd probably receive a few pretty grotty images but I am (hesitantly) open to the idea.

Where to from here?

Once Bare Lines finishes, I'll start making new work for my next show at The Framing Workshop on December 1st, and then more for the Raglan Arts Weekend at the end of January. Being an artist certainly isn't a bludge job, there's always work to be done. ♦

BARE LINES: DOMINIQUE
MARRIOTT

OPENING NIGHT 25
AUGUST 5.30-7 PM

EXHIBITION OPEN 26-27
AUGUST 1-4 PM

DAVID LLOYD GALLERY,
78 LAKE CRES.

MORE INFO AT
BARELINES.NZ