

Artist Statement: Bec Watson

STILL TOGETHER

Having spent a few years mountain biking, I am always fascinated by the metaphors for life that this sport illustrates. For instance, you learn not to look 'at' the obstacles before you... but to look past your 'obstacles' to where you need to be.

You learn...what goes up, must come down... though to be honest... it's more what goes down...must go up again! You also learn... don't let fear and commonsense stop you. I could go on. What has particularly come to my mind for this exhibition is the idea of giving 'all' for 'all'.

To provide a little context, for the past 3 years, I have been able to go to the Red Bull Hard Line (the extreme mountain biking event), held in Maydena. This event fills my fascination for moments where people come together and out of this gathering arises an atmosphere... a new thing... called 'us... here...now'. It also fills my fascination for those who risk loss and limitation, for the idea of freedom and success as they see it. The Red Bull Hard Line riders risk it all, they must give all that they have and must be 'all in' to be even able to ride the track in its extreme nature. We the spectators come there, not just to be thrilled by the sheer skill but also to support the 'all in' regardless of the outcome.

I focus on the 'Us' of these events, the relationships and the moments, for this is where I see 'us' risking it 'all for all'.

To stand beside another, a stranger or even a friend and not judge them or label them, can feel like a risk but to be there together and to join in, to our biggest commonalities, life and death, risk and limitation, freedom and non-judgement, through our 'being'.

I see this as our privilege, our true right and potentially our true purpose in this experience on the stage of life.

