



## “Meet Me under the Clocks”

– an exhibition by Pamela Reid



**media release** – 2 March 2023

Pamela Reid’s latest artworks emerged from her morning walks. *“For many years, I’ve walked around my Port Phillip neighbourhood, observing change, not only in social history, but the growing juxtaposition between heritage listed buildings against a backdrop of high-rise construction.”* said Pamela. Charming buildings are squashed between seemingly looming and swaying architecture, while new buildings can bring fresh colour and character to their classic neighbours. Often a visual ‘mish mash’, but somehow quirky and appealing, this is our urban landscape.

Pamela recalls when The Ritz in Fitzroy St had drag shows, and theatre friends partied Sunday nights at Pokies in The Prince – Victoria’s oldest gay hotel. The George, once one of Melbourne’s grandest hotels, became home to punk music. Nick Cave and the Birthday Party played there, ultimately the venue closed due to its reputation for drug dealing. Restaurant entrepreneur, Donlevy Fitzpatrick brought a whole new food culture, firstly with The Dogs Bar in Acland Street, then later revitalising The George, opening up the Melbourne Wine Room, a European bakery, with apartment living above. As for The Espy, in Pamela’s life, it always rocked!

In Melbourne’s CBD too, dear old buildings huddle beneath an ever-rising background of soaring skylines, bringing similar reminiscences. *“I grew up on the northern side of the city,”* Pamela tells. *“Mum dressed us in our prettiest clothes, with hat and gloves, to ride the tram into town. A talented patternmaker and seamstress, Mum knew her way around Job’s Warehouse and we would wander the beauty of Collins Street’s Paris end.”* When old enough for independent outings with friends, the arrangement was always, *“Meet Me under the Clocks”* at Flinders Street Station.

Wanting to capture the ‘new with the old’ energy, Pamela sketched using ink pen, working freely, intuitively, enabling movement to depict what she calls ‘urban abstracting’, later adding a little colour with pencil or watercolour.

A multi-disciplinary artist, Pamela’s previous solo exhibitions have featured oil painting, printmaking and life drawings created in pastel, charcoal, acrylic and collage. *“Art is usually influenced by a personal connection,”* said Pamela. *“My other exhibitions, particularly those with life drawing, the impact of the human form and movement, have been informed by my professional career (in music/entertainment management industries), along with my love for performing arts and literature. With these latest works, although it was never my intention, I realised along the way that I was recording a history and appreciation of the architectural ‘then and now’ of my home town.”*

Exhibition: **“MEET ME UNDER THE CLOCKS”**

Gallery: fortyfivedownstairs, 45 Flinders Lane, Melbourne 3000

Dates: 21 March–1 April, 2023. Gallery hours: Tue-Fri. 12pm – 7pm, Sat. 12pm-4pm

**OPENING: TUESDAY 21 MARCH, 5-7PM**

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