IMANTS TILLERS THE FLEETING SELF

18 JUNE - 20 JULY 2013





Imants Tillers, On the Mountain, acrylic, gouache on 108 canvas boards, 228.6 x 426.7cm, 2013

ARC ONE Gallery, Melbourne

The Fleeting Self presents the Australian landscape as a meditation on the self. In these, his most recent works, Imants Tillers' subjective and emotive reaction to an esoteric world is evidenced in a grand, painterly atmosphere.

Throughout many of the works in *The Fleeting Self*, we travel through the names and textures of places, framing strangely familiar narratives. Whether it be trekking across outback Australia, or standing upon Mt Kosciuszko - whether through the eyes of Eugene von Guerard, Albert Namatjira or the writer and social anthropologist, Robyn Davidson - Tillers observes, quotes and remasters landscape as we know it. We also see reference to Rosalie Gascoigne, Fred Williams and the symbolist poets that continue to inform Tillers' works as fusions of poetry and paint. In *The Fleeting Self*, the conceptual rigour of repetition and appropriation in Tillers' linguistic landscapes continues in a contemplation of our ever-transitory existence.

Winner of the Wynne Prize for landscape painting for two consecutive years (2012-2013), Tillers has been at the forefront of contemporary art for over three decades. Tillers has been the recipient of numerous awards and commissions, such as the Osaka Triennale Prize (Gold in 1993, Bronze in 1996, and Silver in 2001), and the inaugural Beijing International Art Biennale Prize for Excellence (2003). Major commissions include the Federation Pavilion, Centennial Park (1985 – 87); the Founding Donors Painting, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney (1991), and two key sculptures for Sydney Olympic Park (2002). Tillers has been a trustee of the Art Gallery of New South Wales since 2001. In 2005 he was awarded a Doctor of Letters honoris causa for 'his long and distinguished contribution to the field of arts', by the University of New South Wales.