



Al Munro
AFTER BARCELONA
5 September – 4 October 2026



CIVIC ART BUREAU

Director Adam Bell

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1. *Verdaguer 1* 2026

acrylic paint on constructed
cardboard form

91 x 8 x 6 cm

\$550

2. *Verdaguer 2* 2026

acrylic paint on constructed
cardboard form

91 x 8 x 6 cm

\$550

3. *Verdaguer 3* 2026

acrylic paint on constructed
cardboard form

91 x 8 x 6 cm

\$550



4. *Bari Gotic 1* 2026

acrylic paint on constructed
cardboard form

125 x 20 x 10 cm

\$810

5. *Gracia 2* 2026

acrylic paint on constructed
cardboard form

91 x 20 x 6 cm

\$720



6. *Eixample District 4* 2026

acrylic paint on constructed cardboard form

22 x 14 x 4 cm

\$340

7. *Eixample District 5* 2026

acrylic paint on constructed cardboard form

31 x 14 x 8 cm

\$340

8. *Eixample District 6* 2026

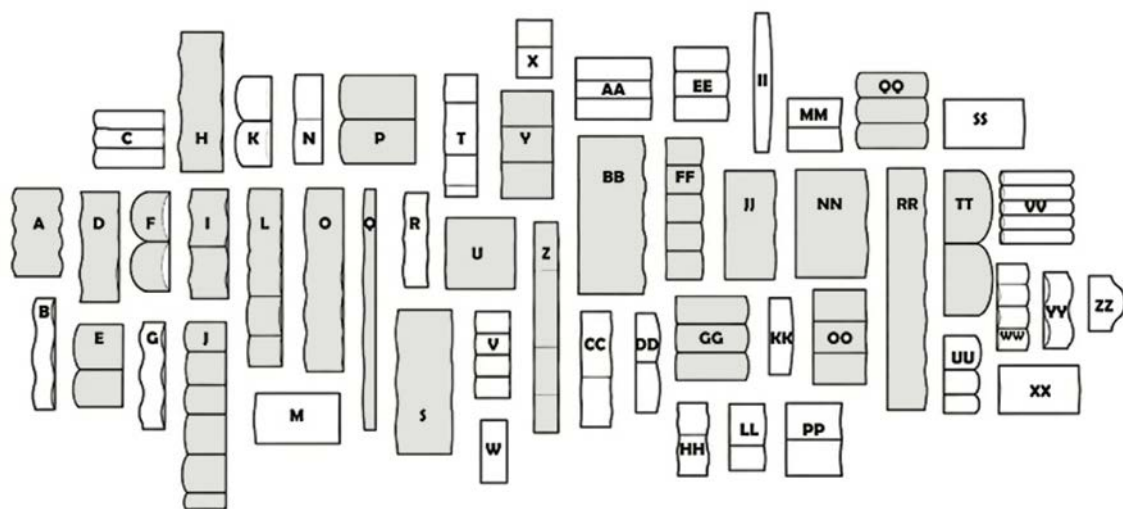
acrylic paint on constructed cardboard form

69 x 4 x 5 cm

\$340



AL MUNRO: AFTER BARCELONA



Small forms - \$250
Large forms - \$350

9. *After Barcelona* 2026

acrylic gouache on 54 constructed cardboard forms

overall dims 130 x 315 cm

Entire work \$4500

Small forms \$250

Large forms \$350



10. *Gracia 1* 2026

acrylic paint on constructed
cardboard form

91 x 20 x 6 cm

\$720

11. *Gracia 3* 2026

acrylic paint on constructed
cardboard form

91 x 20 x 6 cm

\$720



12. *Bari Gotic 2* 2026

acrylic paint on constructed
cardboard form

105 x 20 x 8 cm

\$750

13. *Mont Juic* 2026

acrylic paint on constructed
cardboard form

180 x 10 x 8 cm

\$890



14. *Eixample District 3* 2026

acrylic paint on constructed
cardboard form

60 x 4 x 4 cm

\$420

15. *Eixample District 1* 2026

acrylic paint on constructed
cardboard form

25 x 15 x 7 cm

\$380

After Barcelona is an exhibition of paintings on cardboard forms responding to my recent residency at Casa RARO in Barcelona. The works are a response to place – the colour, architecture and geometries of the city – although they remain rooted in the conventions of non-objective abstraction.

As with previous bodies of work, I am interested in exploring the intersection of pattern, colour, geometry and space in painting. Through the construction of shaped and ‘folded’ painting surfaces I seek to disturb and activate the space of the picture plane and create an experience for the viewer which is more dynamic than viewing a 2D painting.

The works in *After Barcelona* introduce curved geometry and a more sculptural focus to my practice – a direct nod to the architecture and engineering of *fin de siècle* Catalan architects Lluís Montaner and his pupil Antoni Gaudí. Both used curves as structural and decorative elements, often adding to the complexity of their buildings with heavy ornamentation. Gaudí’s use of catenary curves – the shape made when a chain is suspended from two points – was a particular influence on works-on-paper and cardboard constructions made during the residency.

The colours of buildings in Barcelona are also referenced in the exhibition. Colour is central to my work and often appears in patterns comprising sets of four colours. I chose these to conform to various tones – light, light medium, dark medium and dark. This tonal use of colour creates the illusion of space in my surfaces, and works both with and against the physical form or shape onto which I am painting. I begin each work by choosing colours which feel, to me, slightly uncomfortable. I then work to resolve the set of four colours in a way that feels balanced. In this way, each work sets me a challenge – a problem to solve – and the resolution doesn’t reveal itself until the last colour is in place. As a result, I don’t know the outcome of a single work until it’s finished which is both surprising and satisfying.

Acknowledgments

Thanks to CAPO for supporting my residency through the Waldren Constructions Award, and for Casa RARO for being such great residency hosts.

AL MUNRO : Biography and selected CV

Al Munro is an Australian artist working on the unceded lands of the Ngunnawal and Ngambri traditional Custodians. Her interests span painting, print and drawing-based practices and she draws on diverse fields including artistic abstraction, geometry, textile patterning and architectural structures to explore the relationships between visual art, design and mathematics. Al has exhibited widely throughout Australia and internationally, and her work is held in public and private collections.

Selected solo exhibitions

- 2025 *Colour/Space/Form*, ANCA Gallery, Canberra
- 2024-25 *Pattern/Colour/Space*, MATDOT Art Centre, Bangkok
- 2023 *Colour Fold*, M16 Artspace, Canberra
- 2022 *Pattern Pleat*, M16 Artspace, Canberra
- 2021 *Pattern Fold*, May Space, Sydney
- 2019 *Disturbing the Grid*, May Space, Sydney
- 2018 *The Structure of Things*, M16 Artspace, Canberra
- 2017 *Pleated Logic*, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney
- 2016 *Systems of the Infinite*, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney
- 2014 *Art + Science*, Chiang Mai University Art Centre, Thailand
- 2013 *Patterns from an Invisible World*, Brenda May Gallery
- 2011 *Crystallography*, Craft ACT, Canberra
- 2010 *New Work*, M16 Artspace, Canberra

Selected group exhibitions

- 2026 *The Cardboard Works* (with Gayle Stockley), M16 Artspace, Canberra
- 2025 *Patternmakers*, Tuggeranong Arts Centre (curator Ann McMahon)
- 2024 *Pattern Recognition*, Canberra Contemporary, Canberra (curators Janice Falsone & Jodie Cunningham)
- 2023 *Zig Zag*, Mixing Room Gallery, Canberra (curator Waratah Lahy)
 Round, Wollongong Regional Gallery (curator Lisa Jones)
- 2021 *Dobell Drawing Prize*, National Art School Gallery, Sydney
- 2020 *Square II* (curator Lisa Jones), Five Walls Gallery, Melbourne
 Thread (curator Brenda May) May Space, Sydney
- 2019 *Square* (curator Lisa Jones), May Space, Sydney
- 2017 *Fourteen*, May Space, Sydney
 Paper Work, Baan Tuek Gallery, Chiang Mai, and 9 Gallery, Chiang Rai, Thailand

- 2016 *Holding*, Newcastle Regional Gallery (curator Anne Kempton)
Op Art, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney (curator Megan Fizell)
- 2015 *Chat 2: Australia/Thai Art Exchange 2015*, Chiang Mai University Art Centre, Thailand
Patternation, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery
Vice Chancellor's Fellowship 2014, ANU School of Art
- 2014 *In Tandem*, (curated by Olivia Welsh) Brenda May Gallery, Sydney
Chat: Australia/Thai Art Exchange 2014, ANU School of Art Gallery
Ordinary/Extraordinary, Sturt Craft Centre, Mittagong
- 2013 *Wangaratta Contemporary Textile Award*, Wangaratta Regional Gallery
- 2012 *Petite Public Art*, Canberra Museum & Gallery (Curator Yolande Norris)
Art + Food, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney (Curator Megan Fizell)
M16 Drawing Prize, M16 Gallery, Canberra
- 2011 *Imitation of Life*, Canberra Museum and Gallery, Canberra, ACT (Curator Deborah Clark)
Natural Digression, University of Technology Gallery, Sydney (Curator Yolande Norris)
- 2010 *Green*, Brenda May Gallery, Sydney (Curators Anna Lawrence and Brenda May)
Natural Digression, University of Victoria, Melbourne (Curator Kirsten Rann)

Residencies

- 2026 Casa R.A.R.O, Barcelona
- 2024 MATDOT Art Center, Bangkok
- 2019 Royal School of Needlework, University of the Creative Arts, London
- 2018 Painting Department, Chiang Mai University
- 2015 Creative Australia Tokyo Studio Residency
- 2014 Megalo Print Studio, Canberra
- 2014 Department of Applied Mathematics, ANU
- 2003 Creative Australia London Studio Residency

Education

- 2023 PhD, ANU School of Art & Design
- 2003 Master of Arts (Research), ANU School of Art
- 1997 Bachelor of Visual Arts (Hons 1) ANU School of Art