

The little art show that could...

In Tim Burton's first Batman film, the Joker goes 'where does he get those toys!?' –the answer of course is that Batman makes them himself.



David Clayton



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Curated by David Clayton

The Kiosk (cnr Manchester & High St, opposite Java cafe)

The line works because in Batman, crime, violence and mayhem are all displaced into the currency of escapism, a currency where gadgetry runs supreme. This veneer of innovation allows the film to be condensed into meal-like portions of narrative. This episodic convention that permits us to bite small hooks of closure is more than apparent in the Kiosk's new show *The little art show that could...*

We see it in Jacqui Greenbank's 'Pharlap' or perhaps in Erica van Zon's 'Greatest Hits'. 'Pharlap' in wool is a kind of shaggy donkey who stands so uneasily he wouldn't run so much as wobble off stage. The same happens with van Zon's 'Greatest Hits', whose packaging manages to fit the mandatory little diamond sparkle that every such package requires. Most of the pieces in the little art show carry this kind of conceptual chuckle. They're not inconsequential though - far from it. It's great to see such works because scale is one of the things we are still learning to manipulate and understand better. Anyone wanting to see the work on a more conventional scale though, only needs visit it in virtual land where the photos convert it back to real life gallery size, which is a trick all to itself.

Hamish

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