



nanda\hobbs

JODY GRAHAM

VOILÀ

2 - 18 MAR 2023

VOILÀ

Throughout history, the act of drawing has been an immediate response to the seen experience. The hand and eye work instinctively moving charcoal, ink, or pencil around paper—the resulting image revealing the essence of a subject in an instant. From the intent laden robustness of Primitivism to the controlled erudition of classical compositions, great drawing has required the artist to scrutinise their subject and eliminate visual assumptions.

The ability to draw is the cornerstone to the act of making pictures. Line and tone are the strata that build the composition of the picture plane, which ultimately ensure the success of later layers of paint. Drawing, however, is much more than a substrate in the act of painting. The medium rewards effusive mark-making, allowing stories to be told and real or imagined worlds created. The artist that pursues a practice of looking and drawing is afforded great insights into the things that most of us pass by unwittingly.

Obsession is often friend of the artist. Jody Graham has dedicated her career to the pursuit of pushing the medium of drawing and indeed, its very definition to the outer limits. Every waking moment is dedicated to the interpretation of what she sees and feels. During her plein air drawing amongst the ancient streets of France, monuments became a particular fascination for Graham—marble and bronze odes to the detritus of civilisation drawn with visceral intent, echoing the act of sculpting itself.

Voilà is an exhibition of many parts yet speaks as one body of work, resulting from the artist's residency in France in the latter part of 2022. Collectively, the installation is a window into the eclectic mind of an artist born to constantly move and draw. Exploration and experimentation have become complicit bedfellows in the creation of a narrative—one that explores beyond the street-based landscapes and into the hidden secrets of the layers of human habitation. Through darkness and light, Graham draws out the personality of the places she worked. Her exhibition's genesis is, in part, a homage to one of the great draftsmen of Australian art history, Brett Whiteley. In his seminal 1990 exhibition, *Paris 'Regard de Cote'*, the catalogue epigraph poignantly says all that needs to be said about an artist's enquiring vision.

*He who sees further renders less
Of what he sees,
However much he renders.*
Jean Cocteau

Jody Graham is an artist who enquires deeply into places that are not her own and through her drawing reveals much about a broader world and the stories that have made us.

Ralph Hobbs
February, 2023.



YOU'RE ALWAYS IN MY THOUGHTS – DIONYSUS WINE GOD

2022
Charcoal on paper
76cm x 56cm paper size
86 x 68cm framed





LETTING GO – DIONYSUS THE WINE GOD

2022
Charcoal on paper
76cm x 56cm paper size
86 x 68cm framed

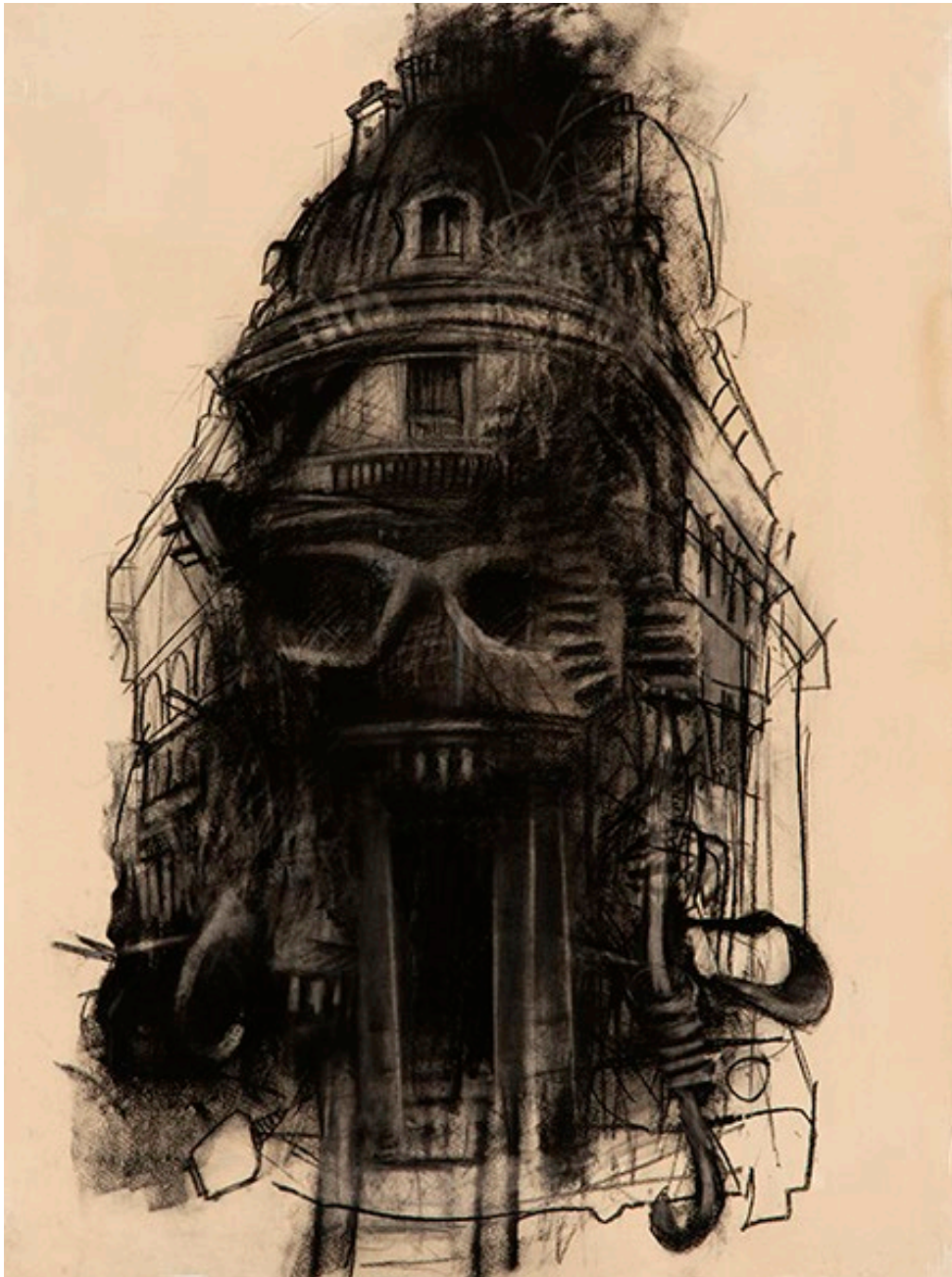




RAT HOUSE

2022
Coffee and charcoal on paper
76cm x 56cm paper size
86 x 68cm framed





HOUSE PATROL

2022
Coffee and charcoal on paper
76cm x 56cm paper size
86 x 68cm framed





SLIPPING AWAY

2022
Acrylic and ink on paper
76cm x 56cm paper size
68 x 86cm framed





HOUSE RAT

2022
Acrylic and ink on paper
102 x 92cm paper size
114.5 x 104cm framed





PREMIER ARMOUR

2023
Acrylic and ink on paper
102 x 92cm paper size
114.5 x 104cm framed





GRACE THALIA BLOOM

2022
ink, acrylic and hand stitching on paper
76cm x 56cm paper size
86 x 68cm framed

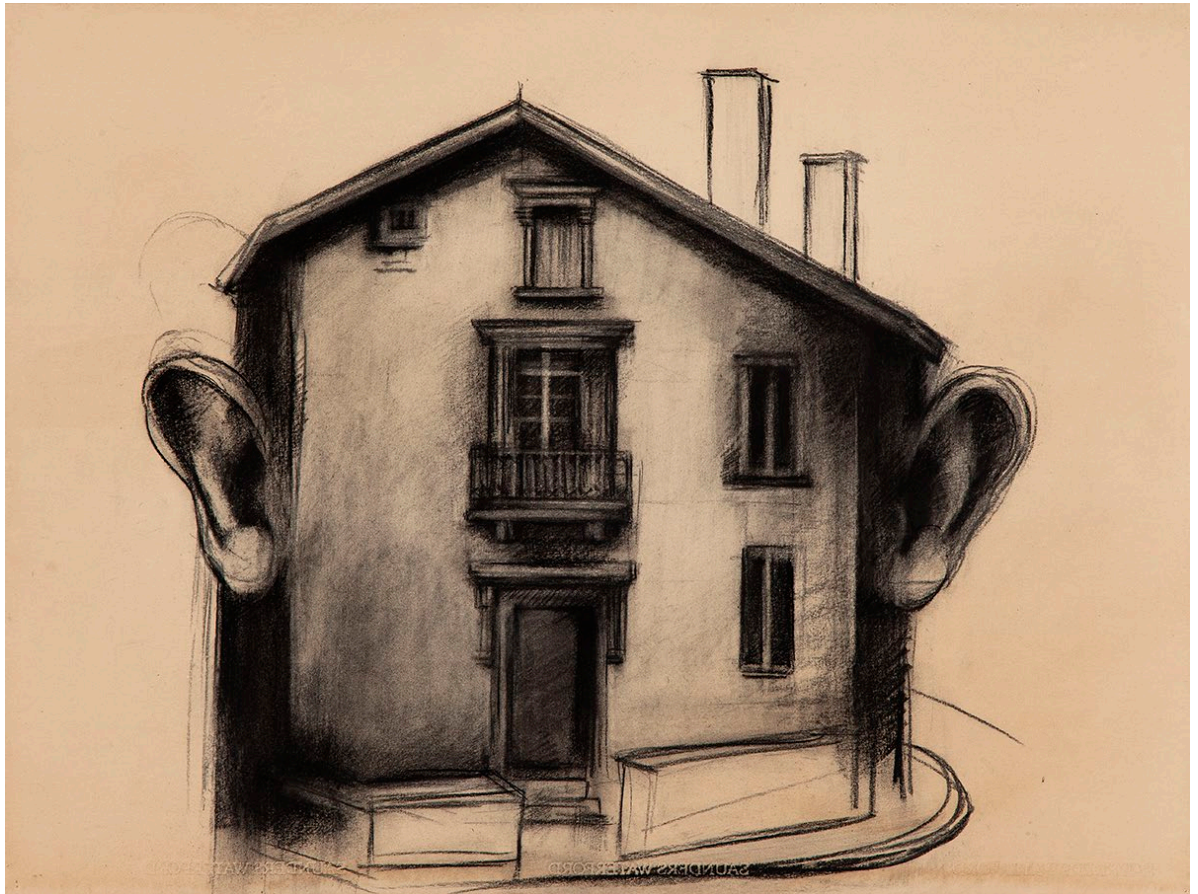




LACAPELLE-LIVRON, TARN ET GARONNE, FRANCE

2022
pen and ink, ink, coffee and hand stitching on paper
76cm x 56cm paper size
unframed





THE WALLS HAVE EARS

2022
coffee and charcoal on paper
56 x 76cm paper size
86 x 68cm framed





DRINK UP!

2022
Gouache on paper
56 x 76cm paper size
68 x 86cm framed

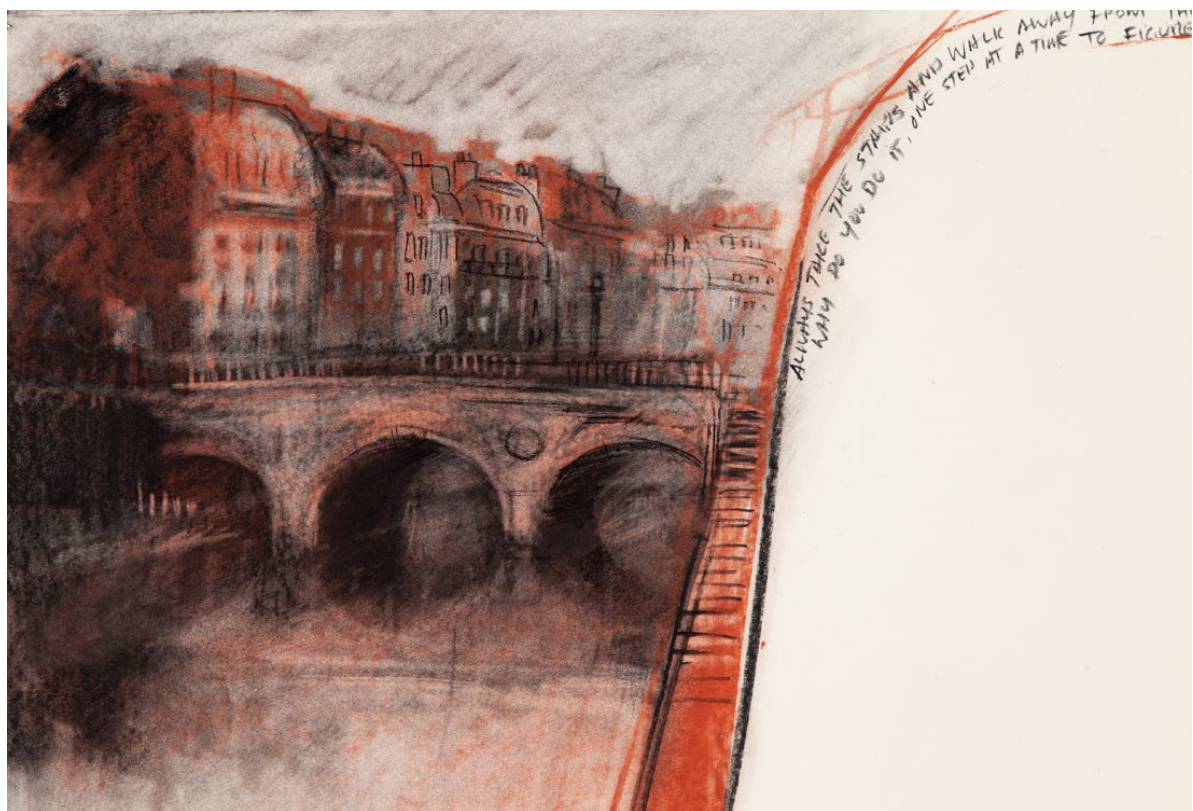




GOSSIP HOUSE

2022
acrylic, ink, marker pen, pencil on paper on board
50 x 72cm paper size
unframed





DIFFICULT ROADS LEAD TO BEAUTIFUL PLACES

2022
Conte and charcoal on paper
56 x 76cm paper size
unframed





CROSSING BRIDGES - ALBI, FRANCE

2023
Charcoal on paper
57 x 66cm paper size
67 x 78cm framed size





CROSSING BRIDGES - TOULOUSE, FRANCE 1

2023
Charcoal on paper
57 x 66cm paper size
67 x 78cm framed size





CROSSING BRIDGES - TOULOUSE, FRANCE 2

2023
Conte and charcoal on paper
57cm x 66cm paper size
67 x 78cm framed size





PROMENADE

2023
Charcoal on paper
130 x 114cm paper size
142 x 127cm framed





SENTINELLE

20223
Charcoal on paper
130 x 114cm paper size
142 x 127cm framed





ÉVEIL AWAKENING

2023
Charcoal on paper
130 x 114cm paper size
142 x 127cm framed





APOLLO AND FOLLOWERS

2023
Charcoal on paper
130 x 114cm paper size
142 x 127cm framed





AMOUR PARIS

2023

Charcoal on paper
130 x 114cm paper size
142 x 127cm framed





DIONYSUS FRENZY 1 - BERBIE PALACE GARDENS, ALBI, FRANCE

2022
Charcoal on paper
130 x 114cm paper size
142 x 127cm framed





DIONYSUS FRENZY 2 - BERBIE PALACE GARDENS, ALBI, FRANCE

2022
Charcoal on paper
130 x 114cm paper size
142 x 127cm framed





ANDROGYNOUS BEAUTY - DIONYSUS, BERBIE PALACE GARDENS, ALBI, FRANCE

2022
Charcoal on paper
130 x 114cm paper size
142 x 127cm framed





DARK QUEEN

2023
Charcoal on paper
130 x 114cm paper size
142 x 127cm framed





ARCHITECTURE OF SUBLIMINAL COERCION - CAYLUS, FRANCE

2022
Charcoal on paper
131 x 150cm paper size
unframed





WHAT NEXT?

2022
Pen, ink, gouache, charcoal on paper
50 x 65cm paper size
61 x 76cm framed





RESTING PLACE

2022
Pen, ink, gouache, charcoal on paper
50 x 65cm paper size
61 x 76cm framed





SMUG - PIGEONNIER, ROAD TO CASCADE PÉTRIFIANTE

2023
ink, acrylic, coffee, collage, bitumen paint on paper
75 x 59cm framed size



HOLIDAY HOUSE LE PIGEONNIER

2023
ink, acrylic, coffee, collage, bitumen and shellac on paper
75 x 59cm framed size



MAISON DE THÉ – TEA HOUSE

2023
ink, acrylic, coffee, collage, bitumen paint and shellac on paper
75 x 59cm framed



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH 1

2022
ink, acrylic, coffee, collage, bitchmen paint and shellac on paper
65 x 44cm
unframed





NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH 2

2023
Ink, acrylic, coffee, collage, bitumen and shellac on paper
62 x 42cm
unframed





CAYLUS, FRANCE

2022
pen and ink on paper
48 x 64cm paper size
61 x 76cm framed

\$2,800





CROSSING BRIDGES STUDY 3

2022
pen and ink on paper
61 x 49cm framed size

\$1,500





PIGEON WATCHING 2

2022
pen and ink and watercolour on paper
56 x 76cm paper size

\$2,500





PIGEON WATCHING 1

2022
pen and ink and watercolour on paper
67 x 85cm framed

\$2,800





HOUSE RAT

FRAMED EXAMPLE



Previews

Notable exhibitions to be staged this quarter across the region.

WORDS | ROSE OF SHARON LEAKE

JODY GRAHAM

Voilà

NANDA\HOBBS, SYDNEY |

2 TO 18 MARCH 2023

Comprising drawings made in France and more than 20 larger charcoal artworks inspired by French architecture, bridges, and statues, **Jody Graham's** upcoming show at Nanda\Hobbs, Sydney combines architecture and history with the contemporary everyday. In her charcoal sketches, we are confronted with a sense of movement while the detritus of the French cultural landscape provides a constant thread throughout the work. In Graham's streetscenes, feats of architecture are shadowed by the city's other inhabitants – rats and pigeons. "The challenge for me," says the artist, "was to work on a series of drawings that challenged my skill as a draftsman, creating a body of work that exhibited my creative vision of France. I wanted to explore the range of drawing approaches and mediums – and how the act of creation could influence the essence of my vision for a place so steeped in history."

RIGHT: Jody Graham, *House Rat*, 2022.
Charcoal on paper, 92 x 92cm.
COURTESY: THE ARTIST AND
NANDA\HOBBS, SYDNEY.





Gallery wall installation photo



Gallery wall installation photo





Exhibition installation photo





Studio photo





Studio photo





Jody Graham drawing en plein air, Pont Neuf, Paris

JODY GRAHAM

VIEW CV



VOILÀ

2 – 18 MARCH, 2023

Opening Drinks

Thursday 2 March, 6 – 8pm

Artist Talk

Saturday 4 March, 2pm

Nanda\Hobbs acknowledges the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation as the traditional owners of the land upon which our gallery stands, and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture.

12-14 Meagher Street
Chippendale \ Sydney

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