

## MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April

### *JME POOL*

#### **Solo Exhibition:**

The Poison of the Honey Bee

30<sup>th</sup> April – 28<sup>th</sup> May 2011

Opening Night: Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April

6-8 pm 19 Karen Contemporary Art Space



*My Own Worst Enemy – 2011*

*Oil on canvas*

*80 x 80cm*

In the dark of the night a small girl escapes out of her window into dense bushland ready to explore the adventures of nature.

'The Poison of the Honey Bee' is JME Pool's memory of herself as a child; sneaking out at night onto her 7 1/2 acre property unbeknownst to her parents with all the spontaneity and naivety of childhood innocence.

Pool's body of work is an exploration of our detachment from nature and her belief that we are so far removed from our environment that we no longer have a strong understanding of natural processes.

The vibrancy and starkness of Pool's works parody this disconnection with nature and reflect our bleak existence as a 'fish out of water'.

Jean-Maree says having lived in the city since her early teens she has become detached from the thing that brought her so much joy and freedom as a child.

"It is this relationship with nature and memory that I am exploring in the work I have produced for The Poison of the Honey Bee, a line from a poem by William Blake. The paradox of this line is of particular relevance as the sweet honey is made bitter by my allergy to the bees' sting," she said.

Pool is known for creating works imbued with a gentle vulnerability. Her sometimes unsettling imagery evolves from a place that is neither adult nor childlike, where creatures of the night creep menacingly from the woods to threaten the viewers own subconscious memories

The Brisbane based artist graduated from the University of Tasmania in 2010 with a Distinction in the Master of Contemporary Art (Visual Art). In 2009 her work was featured in the international art book 'The Garden of Eye Candy'. In 2010 she was featured in numerous international publications including The Flaneur (UK), Park Magazine (Portugal) and the Jakarta Post (Indonesia) where she was listed 3rd in the Top 10 up-and-coming artists. In 2011 her career is quickly gaining international presence with her participation in group exhibitions in Brazil and New York.

Join us and the artist on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April from 6-8pm to explore 'The Poison of the Honey Bee' by JME Pool.

#### **ENDS**

**CONTACT:** For media enquiries, artwork images or artist interviews please contact Jade Stroud-watts on 0431053822 or email [jade@19karen.com.au](mailto:jade@19karen.com.au)