

June 7 2012

## IN THE GALLERIES

### RACHEL COAD: FRONTIER

THE human movement at play within Rachel Coad's vastly scaled, astutely painted oils might be mistaken for that of contemporary dance or performance. The beautiful young woman who assumes the role of the painter's model is captured in various contortions and phases of vigorous physical activity. The body - rendered via intricate details and rough-hewn strokes - is taut and tense rather than graceful and deliberate. A dramatic gesture is, in fact, a frantic dive to the ground. Two of the largest works lie flat and unframed on the floor of the space. They picture a Harrier Jump Jet and Panavia Tornado GR4. Our protagonist's movements are not aesthetic or performative motions. They are survival techniques.

### DAN RULE

Tues to Sat 11am-5pm, until July 21, Gallerysmith, 170-174  
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gallerysmith.com.au