Sparks and Seams: An Interview with Morag Fraser

Greg Manning

Abstract

Morag Fraser visited James Cook University in August 1998 at the invitation of The Foundation for Australian Literary Studies and the School of Humanities. She delivered the Colin Roderick Lecture on her chosen topic: "Substance and Illusion: Crosscurrents in Australian Landscape Painting and Australian Literature."

For the last seven years Morag Fraser has edited Eureka Street, a magazine of public affairs, the arts and theology published by the Australian Jesuits. In that time she has also co-edited Save Our ABC: The Case for Maintaining Australia's National Broadcaster (with Joseph O'Reilly, Hyland House, 1996) and collected Seams of Light: Best Antipodean Essays (Allen & Unwin, 1998). Much in demand as a commentator on cultural and political affairs, she is deeply committed to informed public debate and to the institutions which make such things possible—the journals, the Universities and the ABC. But her work as an editor is impelled also by pleasure in bringing ideas, arguments and insights together, to produce what she calls "abrasion," "sparks," the creative energy of dynamic juxtaposition. "Substance and Illusion," the lecture to the Foundation for Australian Literary Studies printed also in this volume, reflects these preoccupations. She explored them further the morning after the lecture, in conversation with Greg Manning.

Refbacks

- There are currently no refbacks.

Big, bold and effervescent, Morag Myerscough's work is an antidote to the moody grey slab that is so often London. Studio Visit: Morag Myerscough. "I think it's very flattering that people want to put my pictures on their wall, but I see it that I'm making these big things, they are public." Big, bold and effervescent, Morag Myerscough's work is an antidote to the moody grey slab that is so often London. Words by Robert Urquhart. Harking perhaps back to her graphic design education, Morag Myerscough's work often orchestrates type. Her use of colour: solid, chunky, with a rhythmic click of textile influence. She has caught a moment. Actor Brendan Fraser has added his voice to the #MeToo movement, alleging he was sexually assaulted by a former president of the Hollywood Foreign Press Association. In an interview with GQ, the '90s star says that the HFPA's Philip Berk assaulted him at the Beverly Hills Hotel in 2003. "His left hand reaches around, grabs my ass cheek, and one of his fingers touches me in the taint. And he starts moving it around," the actor said. Brendan Fraser, in a still from The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor, says he was assaulted by a former president of the Hollywood Foreign Pre