

## **'Appetite'**

Hill-Smith Fine Art Gallery, Adelaide  
21 October – 6 November 2005

Chris Chun's paintings move between intense patterns of colour and soft, spacious moods. Their subject matter is drawn from within the culinary world, in all its many facets – the cultural and historical, the symbolic and personal.

Chun says "I am fascinated by our emotional connection to food. I think food means different things to us in various stages of our lives. We associate feelings, special places, and significant moments in our life [with culinary experiences]". The theme of cuisine, its preparation, the utensils arranged and readied, not only bear witness to one of Chris's passions but also form part of his memory and the history of his childhood and family.

The selection of objects, that Chris owns and loves, things found or family heirlooms, are at once carefully placed, yet remaining free. They are symbols of his personal journey. The space in which they exist is not based in the perspectival vision of the Italian Renaissance but is more Eastern, with multiple points of view that allow the viewer's gaze to range around the objects and scenes.

Chun's work can be youthful and playful, but, like Henri Matisse, Pablo Picasso or David Hockney, this is the result of a very developed sense of placement, colour and line. In his work Chun also utilises texture in subtle ways. The works might incorporate stitching and embroidery; sand and wax also are utilised to enhance the painted imagery, lending a quiet tension and sense of discovery for the close observer. Chris says that this use of stitching 'is symbolic of our chi – a flowing energy of life that is always exploring... and moving in its own unique direction".

The exhibition Appetite will be held at Hill-Smith Fine Art, Adelaide, from Friday 21 October until Sunday 6 November. This will be his second solo exhibition. Chris's work was selected as a finalist in the 2004 Fleurieu Peninsula Biennale and the 2005 Jaques Cadry Memorial Art Prize. Washhouse Gallery in Sydney will host a solo exhibition of Chris's work in November 2005.