

**MEDIA RELEASE - for immediate release**

# Liz Coats

## *Streaming*

**22 February - 15 March 2014**

Utopia Art Sydney  
2 Danks Street, Waterloo NSW 2017

**Opening Saturday 22 February, 3 - 5pm**

**For further information, including interview requests and high-res images:**

**contact Chloe Watson**

02 9699 2900

utopiaartsydney@ozemail.com.au

Walking alone one morning whilst on a field research trip at Glenborg State forest in south-east NSW, Liz Coats came upon a flooded creek and the inspiration for her latest series of paintings:

Looking for a place to cross, I followed the creek downstream for a short distance to a rocky ledge where I clambered down to a pool below. Strands of foam and tiny bits of detritus stirred up by the pressure of falling water were circulating in the current with a continuous visible pulse. I watched streaks and tiny whirlpools of bubbles form and re-form, break apart around a protruding rock, or cut by a floating leaf into lateral threads, then gather speed before releasing through the narrow gap downstream. I knew then, that I was seeing the basis for a new group of paintings.

The Streaming series' forms and patterns draw upon those Coats found in the pool of running water, and her immersion in the landscape at that moment. The textural surfaces and rich colours of these works, built up over many layers of paint, also evoke shapes and sensations that are universal, or at least transcend the particular - from patches of shifting light to leaves on a forest floor. In this sense, they are resolutely abstract paintings.

Liz Coats is represented in many of Australia's state and federal collections, including the Art Gallery of New South Wales, National Gallery of Australia and National Gallery of Victoria, along with many significant private collections. She was awarded a PhD from the Australian National University in 2011.



Liz Coats, Streaming #9, acrylic media on polycotton canvas, 109.5 x 88.5cm