

AUTUMN 2014

# write mind



Supporting mental health recovery

The newsletter by clients, their families and friends

## Making a Scene

When artist Adam Knapper drives around Melbourne, he sees streetscapes differently to most. He can quickly tell whether the walls of the buildings he's passing are right for turning into fabulous murals.



"I am always looking at where to do murals," Adam, a Mind client, says. He recently completed the mural, pictured, along with some other artists, including Guler Altunbas, at the encouragement of the Dax Centre at the University of Melbourne. It's part of his new solo exhibition at the centre which started in early February.

Adam and the other artists were filmed while they worked on his design for the wall at 80 Scotchmer St, North Fitzroy. The video of the mural's painting is also part of his show.

The Dax is one of the world's largest collections of art by people living with mental health challenges and the gallery is on the ground floor of the still-new Melbourne Brain Centre on Royal Parade.

FIGHT OR FLIGHT BY ADAM KNAPPER,  
ACRYLIC ON WALL.

>> IMAGE BRENDAN FINN, FOLDED BIRD

And while it is a perfect space for Adam's exhibition, which as a retrospective of his last 25 years' work includes oils, illustrations, sculpture and design, it would be just as at home in a commercial gallery or the National Gallery of Victoria.

Adam's work does not come directly from his mental health challenges. "The label of mental health shouldn't matter in today's day and age," he says. And indeed his art is an expression of his creativity, not any diagnosis. It functions mainly as a visual diary of his life.

"Some people write in a diary, for me art is a record of my life. I've always loved the idea of documenting my life through pictures."

Imaginarium: Works by Adam Knapper February 6 to May 9 at the Dax Centre, 30 Royal Parade, Parkville. Open Wednesday and Friday 10am-5pm, Thursday 10-8pm entry by donation, small or large. Call 9035 6258 or visit [www.adamknapper.blogspot.com](http://www.adamknapper.blogspot.com) for more info.