

MITCH CAIRNS
Born 1984, Camden,
New South Wales
Lives and works in
Sydney

Geranium pots (adjacent garden square) 2016
oil on linen
153.0 x 167.0 cm
[p.57]

Geranium pots (art fair painting) 2016
oil on linen
61.5 x 76.5 cm
[p.56a]

Geranium pots (combine painting)
2016
oil on linen
153.0 x 167.0 cm
[p.55]

Geranium pots (panadol painting)
2016
oil on linen
61.5 x 76.5 cm
[p.56c]

Geranium pots (piano advert) 2016
oil on linen
61.5 x 76.5 cm
[p.56b]

Geranium pots (swan classic) 2016
oil on linen
61.5 x 76.5 cm

Courtesy the artist and
The Commercial, Sydney

Mitch Cairns' paintings are characterised by a deft and economic handling of line and tone that demonstrates a sophisticated visual literacy and an inimitable sense of humour. The angular planes and flatness of his forms combine the influence of Synthetic Cubism and vernacular graphic illustration. In *Geranium pots* 2016, Cairns unifies a series of paintings of varying pictorial content and size with bands of painted bricks that drawing our attention to their display, frame and ground the image. Referencing personal items and magazine advertisements, the range of subject matter in these works are rendered as if vignettes, bound together by a unifying structure and yet loosely connected, Cairns' *Geranium pots* suggest a visual equivalence to concrete poetry, another of the artists' interests. SB/HM





