

## John Stevens

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**From:** Arts Project Australia <info=artsproject.org.au@mail251.atl121.mcsv.net> on behalf of Arts Project Australia <info@artsproject.org.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 19 July 2017 6:30 AM  
**To:** John Stevens  
**Subject:** Say Hello To Abi Crompton of Third Drawer Down

**ARTS  
PROJECT  
AUSTRALIA**



**ABI CROMPTON, FOUNDER & DIRECTOR OF THIRD DRAWER DOWN.**

# COLLECTOR'S CORNER

## ABI CROMPTON

Collector's Corner presents a series of conversations with avid art collectors, searching for the rich stories and ideas we chat with show a boundless support of contemporary art, with their ever-growing enthusiasm entwined with the For our second edition of Collector's Corner we caught up with Abi Crompton, founder and Director of [Third Drawer Down](#) specialises in creating limited edition art products, featuring the works of Australian and international artists and dealers ([Cannon](#) among *many* others).

We recently had the great fortune of collaborating with Third Drawer Down (alongside the [National Gallery of Victoria](#) Project artists, creating everything from Sidney Nolan-inspired [hip flasks](#) to *Hey Hey It's Saturday!* [cooler bags](#). Read below as Abi tells us about her current "art crushes", collaborating with [Louise Bourgeois](#) and how collecting



ABI CROMPTON POSING AS A BANANA FOR ARTS PROJECT'S 2014 EXHIBITION '6 DEGREES OF SEPARATION'.

**Thanks for taking the time to talk with us. Can you tell us about how you first met Arts Project Australia?**

I was introduced to Arts Project when Bronwyn Johnson [President of Arts Project Australia] was the Director of Me went to the Arts Project stand and fell in love. Later, while eating sushi on the stairs at the Melbourne Art Fair and p be sitting next to Sue Roff [Director of Arts Project Australia] who was stuffing envelopes. We started to chat and a

**We're curious as to how you first became interested in art? And how did this interest link with founding Th**

I become interested in art while studying psychology in my early twenties. I completed this degree and then put tog brain' than 'right brain'. I do feel like I use all parts of my brain now though, especially as working with artists to dev

**How would you describe your approach to collecting art? Or, even better, what kind of collector are you?**

I collect art the same way I work with artists: visual impulse and appreciation of an artist's values. My collection is n my story, and the story of Third Drawer Down.

**Generally speaking, which contemporary artists do you most admire and why? Is there someone in particu**

I have so many artists I admire. If I had to pick them today, I'd say David Shrigley, Yayoi Kusama and Guerrilla Girl current times. It's the 'right now', either through politics, humour or beauty. My dream collaborations include Cindy

**Can you describe your best art experience for us? Or perhaps a great Third Drawer Down moment?**

My favourite collaborations... hmm. Well, there are a few and they all carry amazing stories as I've met such remar story a few times, it still remains vividly in my mind: I have always had a major "art crush" on Louise Bourgeois and together on projects. The day before the meeting, I walked around Tate with my notebook listing all the artists I hav sitting in the meeting the following day and the Tate opened the dialogue with the forthcoming Louise Bourgeois pr personal list being headed by Louise Bourgeois. My meeting folk looked at each other and slid a folder across the t is that! I was so buzzed out, she so rocks my world and I couldn't believe my fate in this scenario. This was the first [Studio](#). During the fantastic project, I met Louise while in New York and she signed the prototype handkerchief we ' TELL YOU IT WAS WONDERFUL".

**Describe the artworks you have collected from Arts Project. Is there a pride of place where they sit or hang**

I have collected works by [Paul Hodges](#), [Lisa Reid](#), [Terry Williams](#), [Alan Constable](#), [Patrick Francis](#) and [Peter Cave](#) entrance hall and lounge room. My most cherished is the painting Peter Cave created of me dancing in a banana s

**In 140 characters or less, distil for us what it is you like about being a collector and friend of Arts Project?**

I love everything Arts Project stands for – the artists and the team that make the magic happen, and the community

**If you were to purchase another Arts Project artwork right now, which artist would you look at and why?**

I would buy more Laura Sheehan. Her [recent solo exhibition](#) at Arts Project was so wonderful. Her lively, colourful : fighting over them at work when the invite was sent!

**And finally, what pearls of wisdom would you give a first-time collector?**

Buy from the heart. Art should be about your experience to it, not what others tell you to feel.

*This is Arts Project Australia's second edition of Collector's Corner, which you can also [find our site](#), alongside our editions (coming very soon!) and feel free to gander through our [art collections](#), as well as find out more about Arts*







"MY MOST CHERISHED IS THE PAINTING PETER CAVE CREATED OF ME DANCING IN A BANANA SUIT." PETER CAVE, *ABI IN A B*

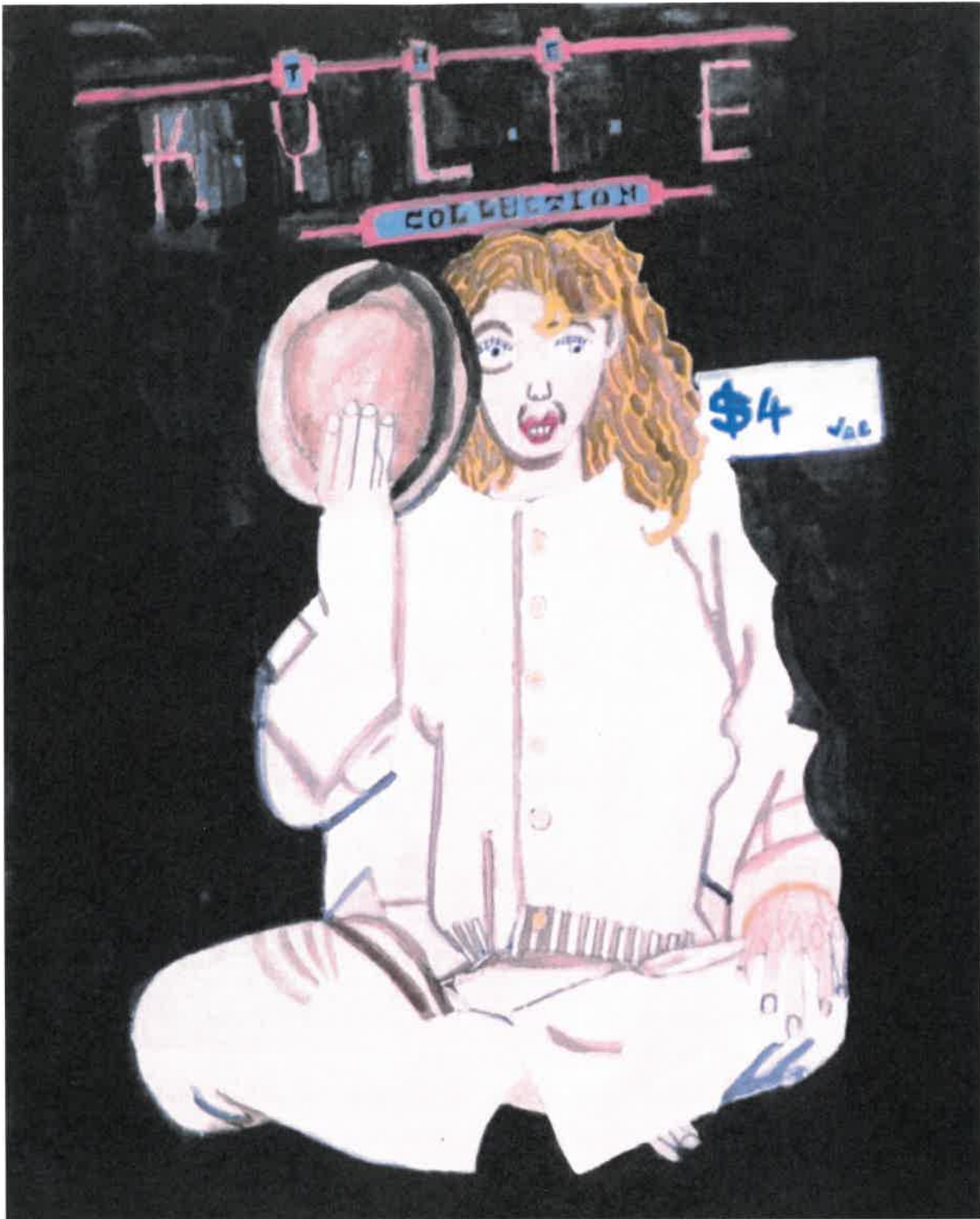


ARTIST PETER CAVE CREATING HIS ABI-CROMPTON-DANCING-BANANA MASTERPIECE.



"HER [LAURA SHEEHAN'S] RECENT SOLO EXHIBITION AT ARTS PROJECT WAS SO WONDERFUL. HER LIVELY, COLOURFUL AND  
SHEEHAN, *THE SONG TIL THE END*, 2015, WORK ON PAPER, 39.5 X 54 CM.





ANOTHER ONE FROM ABI'S ARTS PROJECT COLLECTION: LISA REID, THE KYLIE COLLECTION, 2003, WORK ON PAPER, 34 X 28.



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