Pia Larsen - Artist Statement

This exhibition presents work created over a period of 4 years. The theme explores how discourses create the way we think about bodies, in particular through gender. I reconfigure the language around bodies focussing on its mutability and corporeality, seeking to create new ways to think about bodies and forms of representation, utilising the materials of metal and print media, sculpture and high relief objects.

In my current work, “Print Objects”, I use anatomical fragments of bodies as associated triggers to draw the viewer into the work and establish a connection between the familiar and invented forms. The shapes and colours refer to internal organs, genitalia and other parts of bodies, and their function. I have installed the high-relief print objects so that they appear to emerge from, and define the space in which they are situated.

The Sine Waves brooches were originally installed as a wall piece of 170 pieces in my solo show at the Damien Minton Gallery in 2007.

The designs deconstructed the language of science: specifically X and Y chromosomes, into amorphous shapes and other imagined forms into stainless steel and sterling silver.

The old technology of the LP record has morphed into corporeal “LP’s” on customized turntables. Each “LP” constituted from a recycled etching plate that has been cut and etched with parts of the body such as the female breast, finger print and hair whorl, each spinning new grooves.

Out of order, 2004, re-configures symbols and signs from the discourse of gender as a means of disrupting notions that gender is immutable. The addition of symbols, X and Y chromosomes, numbers and other tokens of gender, appear at various points in this marginal discourse on conception of bodies.

Bullrushes is a cluster of phallic-like forms, each on a flexible metal rod that sways with the passage of air around the work. The work presents male bodies as durable, delicate and vulnerable despite the norms of the masculine discourse. The work questions the notion that gender is a product of nature.

All of Pia Larsen’s artwork are exhibited courtesy of the Damien Minton Gallery.