

HURLEY

Painter
Collage Artist

Impatient for the sun to set, this collage luminary is always ready for a quick escape thanks to his piggy bank. His first zephyr of freedom led him to a treasure trove of dusty, vintage books. But he even finds inspiration in hirsute patterns when not bothered by his serenading pet. Instead of long explanations, he stays hushed and lets his images have the last word.

01. WHERE DO THE IDEAS
COME FROM?

Old books are where it all begins for me - the information starts off the investigation and the paper from the book is also used as part of the process.

02. HOW DOES THE SUN SET?

I'm not patient enough to watch the sun setting, I prefer the sun rising.

03. WHEN IS IT HAPPINESS?

When I'm resolving something and moving on to the next thing.

04. WHAT ACTUALLY REMAINS?

The things that can't be taken away, and dust.

05. WHAT COULD WE

STILL LEARN?

We could learn to exercise more gratitude for the ones that support our existence.

06. WHEN WAS LIFE SWEETEST?

Probably a lot of times in retrospect. The first year at art school was a year of great freedom.

07. COINCIDENCE OR FATE?

A copy of AORTICA arrived the day that I was answering this question, before then I would certainly have said fate.

08. IS THERE ANYBODY
OUT THERE?

Yes.

09. WHERE DO WE GO WHEN
IT'S OVER?

It starts again.

10. WHY HERE?

My friends are here.

11. WHAT DOES HOME
FEEL LIKE?

Home feels like where you have everything around you that you want and need.

12. IS THERE ANYWHERE NICER?

Maybe. Here suits me right now.

13. WHAT HAVE YOU FALLEN
IN LOVE WITH HERE?

A diverse community.

14. WHAT DOES THE CITY
STILL NEED?

I think the city needs cheaper rent for interesting businesses that have something to offer.

15. WHAT IS NOT ALL
THAT IT SEEMS?

I can only think of people being not what they seem.

16. WHY DO YOU DO
WHAT YOU DO?

Because I don't want to be doing anything else.

17. WHAT'S THE OPPOSITE
OF YOU?

Currently the opposite of me is someone who would do anything without overthinking it first.

18. WHAT HAVE YOU
ALREADY FOUND?

That trying to explain something can often make it more confusing.

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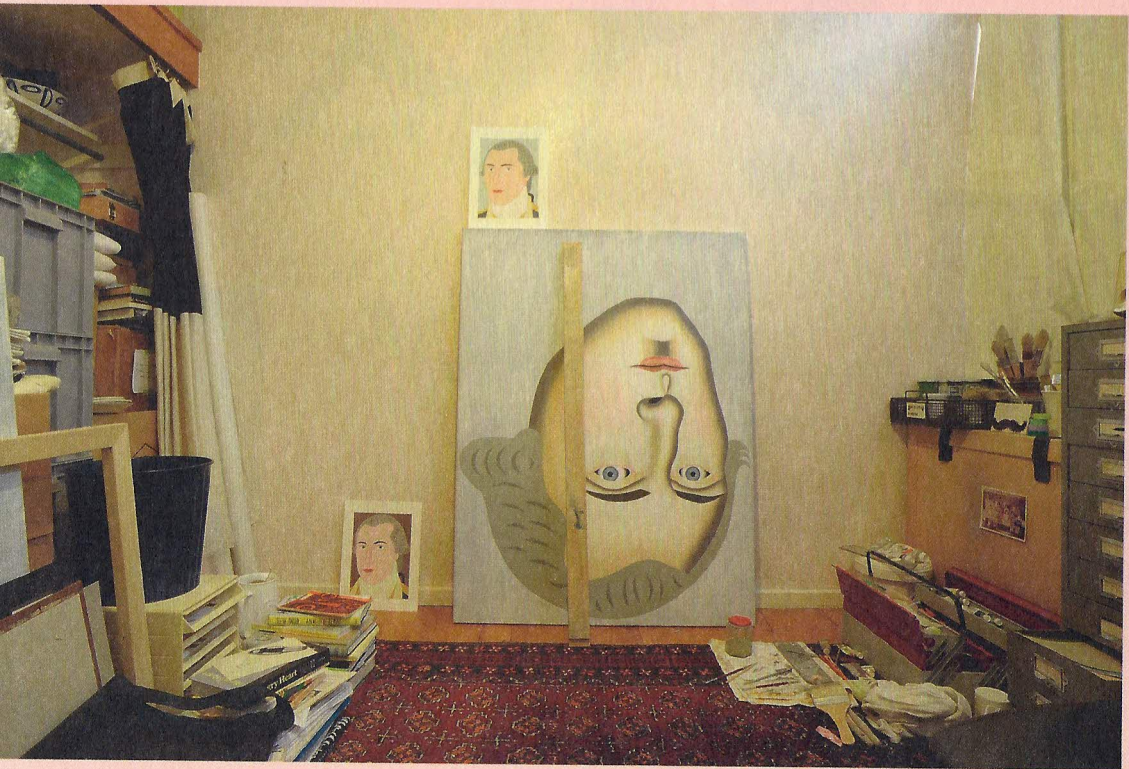
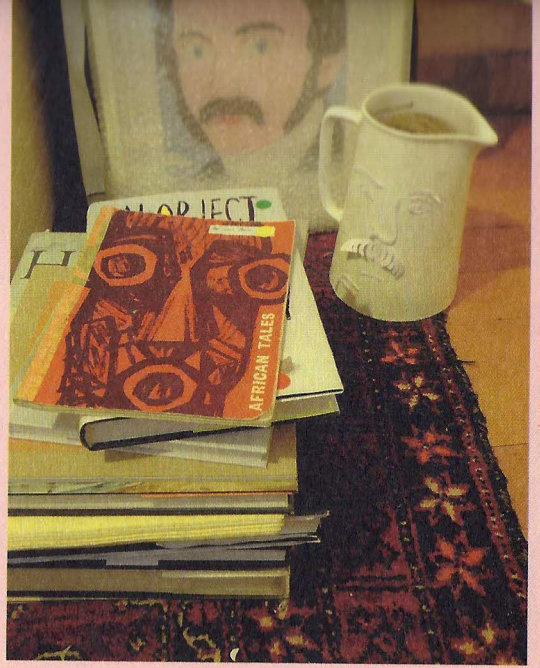
-GAVIN HURLEY

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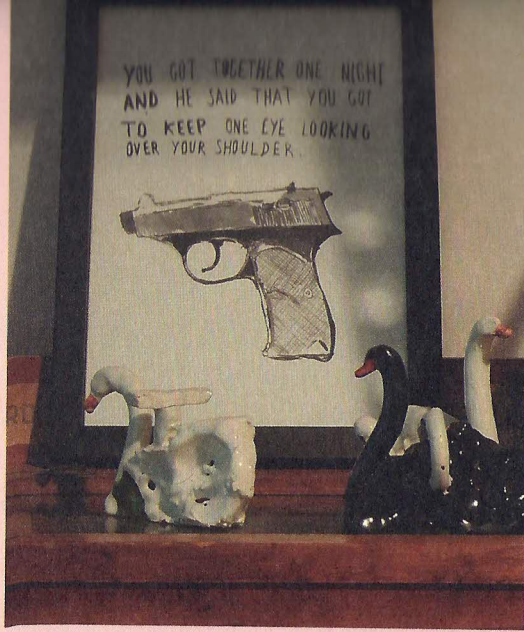
- MEET GAVIN HURLEY -





- MEET GAVIN HURLEY -



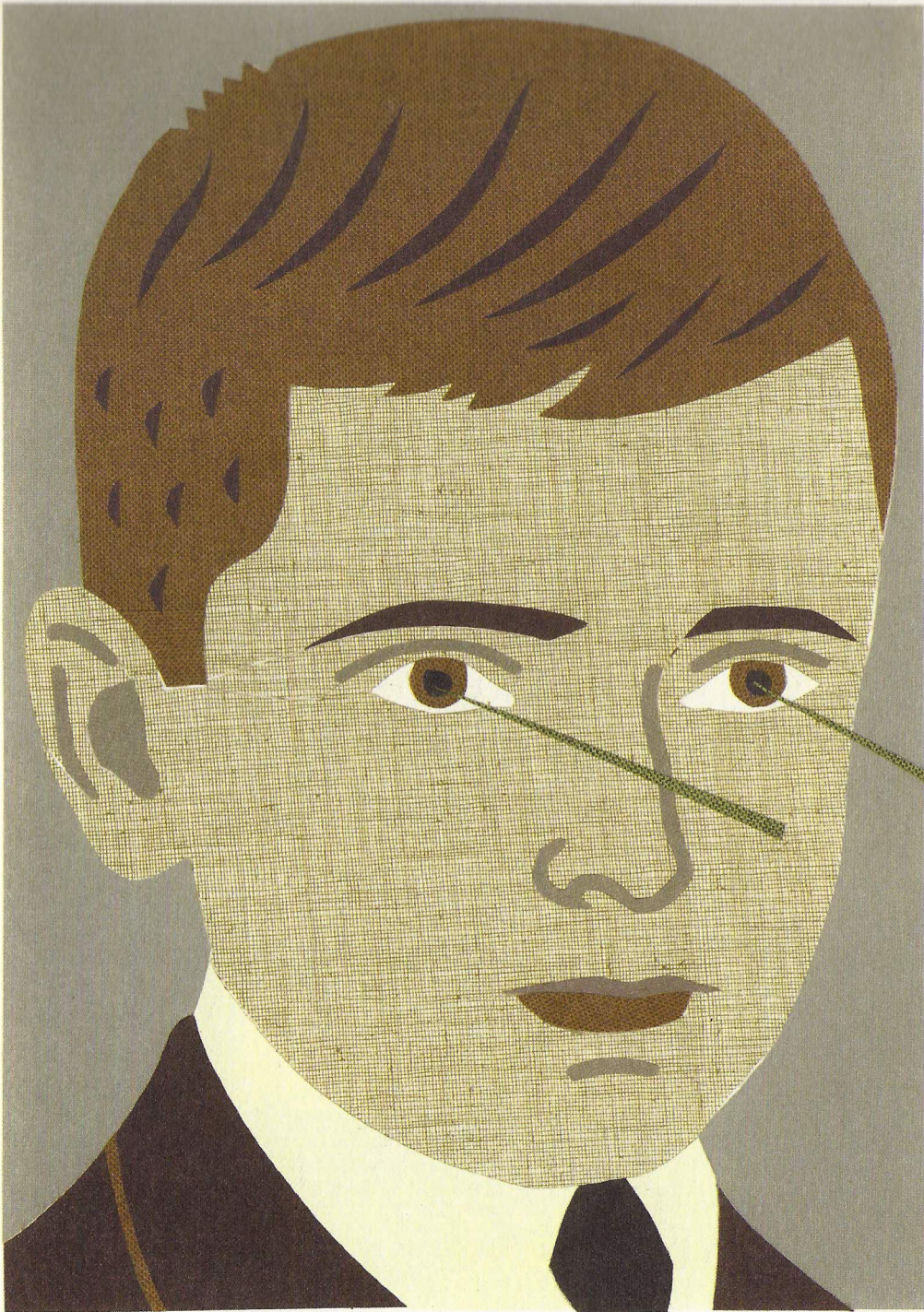




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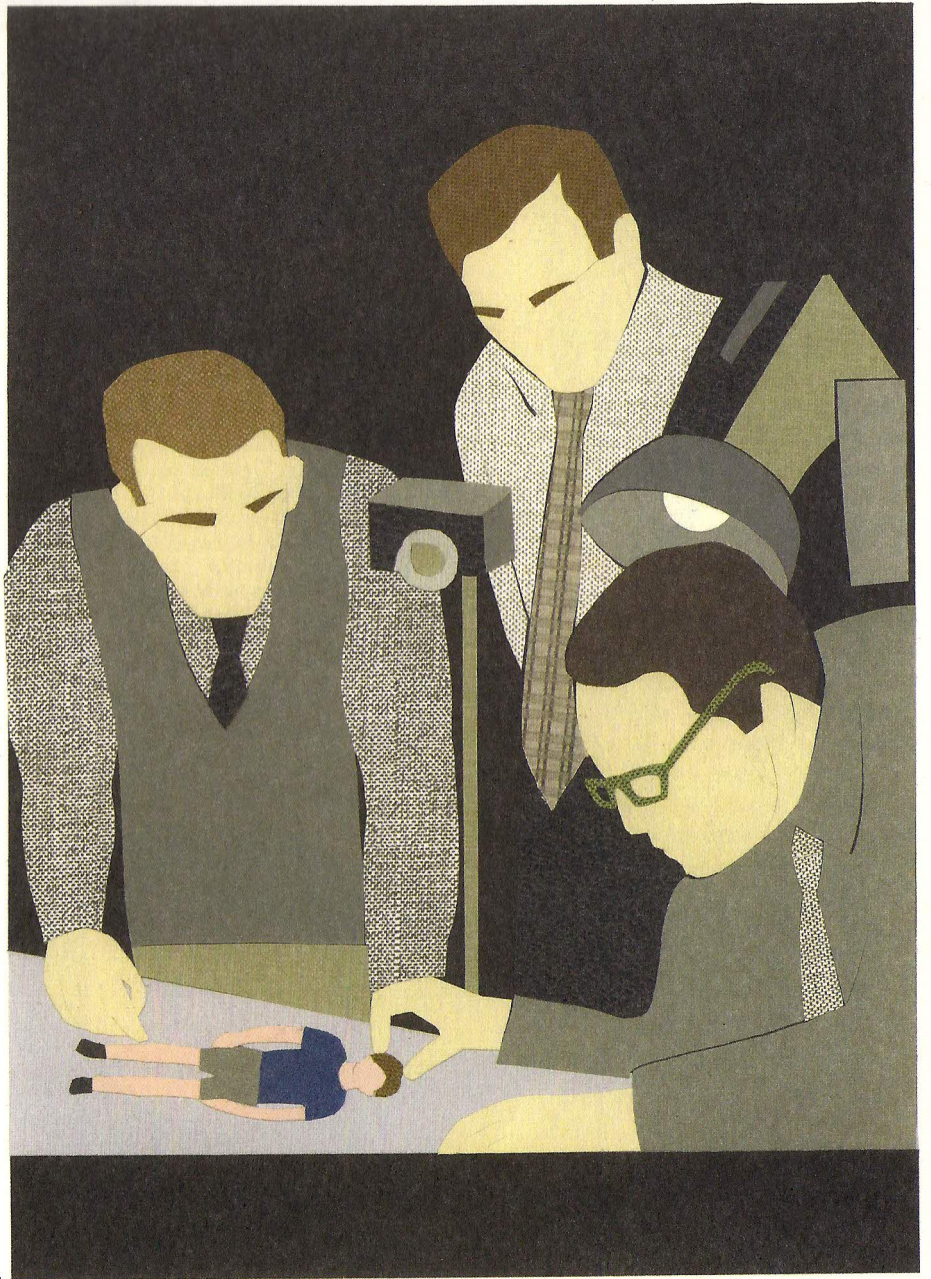
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19. WHAT DRIVES YOU CRAZY?

My very vocal cat and any sudden noise that breaks my concentration.

20. HOW WOULD YOU SPEND ALL THOSE MILLIONS?

I would build a house with a huge studio and another studio to be let like a residency to artists who are just starting out.

21. WHAT WERE YOU SAVING FOR BACK THEN?

A quick escape or an emergency.

22. WHAT DID YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU WERE LITTLE?

A hairdresser and an interior designer, I'm still fascinated with hair and the patterns it forms.

23. WHAT NEVER HURTS YOUR EARS?

80s music.

24. WHAT HURTS YOUR EYES?

I hate seeing the waste I sometimes make with artwork.

25. WHO'S A CUT ABOVE?

The ones who are working hard.

26. WHAT'S LEFT ON YOUR TO-DO LIST?

I have never applied for a residency before; it's not that I haven't wanted to, I have practicality issues.

27. WHAT HAVE YOU ALWAYS JUST KNOWN?

Every day is a new day.

● GAVIN HURLEY

* MARCH 1973 / AUCKLAND

♥ PAINTER, COLLAGE ARTIST

→ WWW.MELANIEROGERGALLERY.COM

◎ BIO

After receiving a BFA in painting in 1998, he was picked up by a gallery owner and has subsequently exhibited works nationally and internationally in both private galleries and public institutions. He specialises in the collage form, and his work usually explores the theme of growing up. His recent exhibitions include: »Whatsisface«, Melanie Roger Gallery, Auckland, 2011; and »Soft Cut«, University of Waikato, Hamilton, 2012. He is currently working on a collection of collages titled »Images«.

L O C A L P I C K S

WHERE DO YOU LIKE TO ... EAT OUT?

I like dining at the bar of The Engine Room and being called »darling« and »sweetie« at Coco's Cantina.

... DRINK?

There is something about a corner bar and meeting a friend there at happy hour; Bonita in Ponsonby is a good example.

... DANCE?

K' Rd has all sorts of places to go dancing, something for everyone.

... PUT UP YOUR GUESTS?

Mollies is the first place that springs to mind.

... SPLASH YOUR CASH?

If I'm buying art-related things I go to Studio Art Supplies for materials, Flotsam & Jetsam for curios and Rare Books for reference materials.

... GO FOR A STROLL?

I window-shop at night along Ponsonby Road and critique the displays.

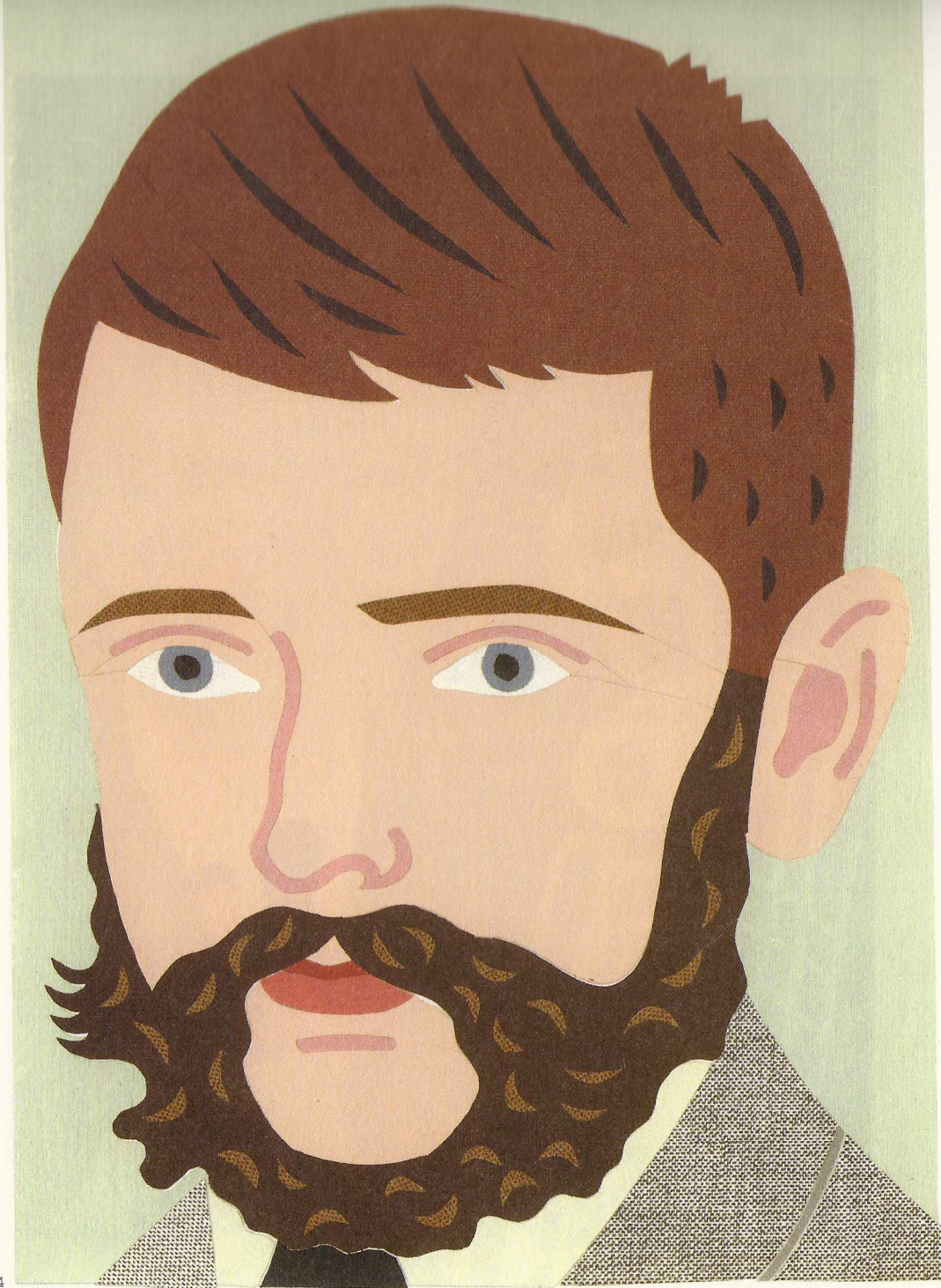
... CULTIVATE YOURSELF?

At second-hand bookshops.

... ESCAPE TO?

I'll take almost any opportunity to go where I can find more bookshops; Wellington rates very highly. The galleries and food places are great there too.

» Flip to p. 241 for details



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Gavin's Paper Collages

1
Snake-Skin
2012

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2
Scrap III
2012

—

3
At The Lab
2012

—

4
Colenso's Beard
2012

—

5
Cage Mother
2012

—

6
1984
2011