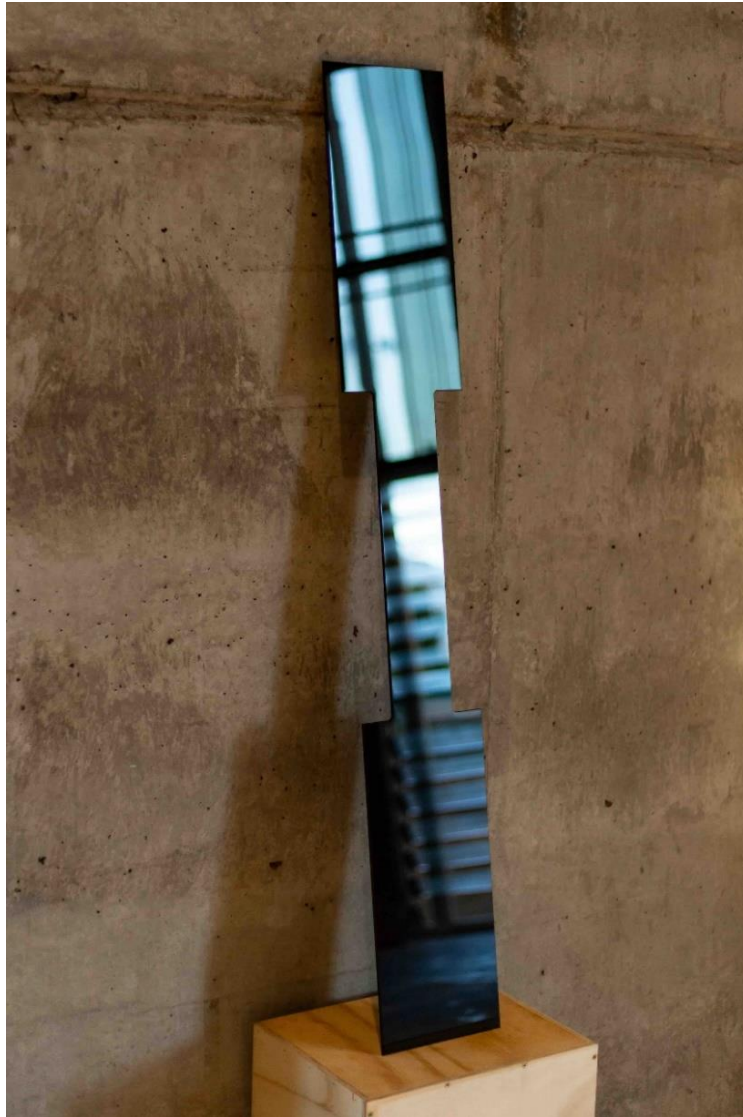


Gill Gatfield, *Suffragette* 2020



Suffragette

Ink on toughened glass
1350mmH x 200mmW
Lifespan: 127+ years
Open edition

Suffragette is a transformative glass sculpture inspired by the power and poise of C19th activists who won the vote for women and the right for women to be defined legally as a 'person'. Shaped as a first person pronoun, the abstract figure highlights a central tenet of C20th feminism: the personal is political. Like an exclamation mark or a paling from a black picket fence, the cut and toughened text punctuates space. Standing tall and addressing the viewer, *Suffragette* asserts a presence and occupies the room, in the present tense.

A Roman numeral 'I', meaning One or First, the sculpture commemorates New Zealand's leadership as the first nation to grant women the right to vote. The I-text makes an extended 'aye' sound, echoing the sound of assent in the NZ Parliamentary chambers when the hard-won 1893 Electoral Act granting women's suffrage was finally passed. Hand-painted in jet-black ink, it celebrates the activism of 25,000 women who signed their names in ink on the petitions presented in Parliament to win the vote, and the 90,290 women who cast their vote for the first time in November 1893. With curved internal corners, the figure is elegant, independent and androgynous, and in its highly reflective surfaces, includes every-one.

Each sculpture is signed and numbered but the edition is endless. While it is necessary to keep a head count, there can be no limit to the number of future Suffragettes.



Pair of *Suffragettes*



NZ Women Vote 1893

Price (incl. GST): \$3,350 (+ packaging / freight outside Auckland Central)

For each artwork sold, 15% of profit (\$120) will be donated to RAW

RECLAIM ANOTHER WOMAN

www.raw.org.nz

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