

# Laura Peturson

## Artist Statement for *Possible Outcome*

*Possible Outcome* is a body of work comprised of prints created using screenprint, linocut, collograph and lithographic processes.

Each print depicts a child or children engaged in introspective play, often with objects that are commonly viewed as feminine. In some of the prints, the girls have been inserted compositionally into reproductions of 18<sup>th</sup>-century paintings. A toddler reads in front of a Jacques Louis David reproduction, taped to the wall of her nursery. A little girl holds a shadow puppet as she stands amongst Ingres reproductions littered across the floor. These neoclassical paintings reference a heroic male ideal, and present the girls with a differently gendered possibility from their surroundings.

In addition to the narrative aspect of the work, the prints are about formal elements, such as pattern, colour and the tension between illusory space and a flat, silhouetted aesthetic. Influenced by fin-de-siècle art and literature, and by the domestic workings of my own family, the prints present a vision of childhood based in both reality and fiction. These works capture and examine the expectations and sentiments placed upon very young girls.