

John P O'Sullivan, 'The Best Of What's On This Week', *The Visit* review, The Sunday Times, 16 June

THE TIMES



Prudence Flint: *The Visit*

Mother's Tankstation, a discreet presence in the wilds of Watling Street, has a manifesto that promises thought-provoking art. *The Visit*, a show by the garlanded Melbourne artist Prudence Flint, certainly abides by this agenda. We are drawn into an eerie world of distorted perspectives, of pink and pastel interiors, and strangely expressionless women. They are lying down

(beds are a recurring feature) or occasionally performing mundane domestic tasks such as washing their hair. The women seem more reflective than happy or sad. Their bodies are highly stylised — broad in the middle and narrow in the head. Flint has said women are made to feel shame about their bodies and that she strives "to paint the feeling of being a body" — specifically a woman's. She admits to playing out a "lot of

personal stuff" in her paintings. *Bedsit* recalls sitting at the bedside of her dying mother and contains the notion of our duality, as more explicitly does *Limbo*, in which two similar women occupy a bed — one sitting, one lying. We are both the observer and the observed.

John P O'Sullivan

Mother's Tankstation, Usher's Island, Dublin;
Thu-Sat, noon-6pm;
motherstankstation.com