

Barbara Robbins, Westall High

2014

Oil on linen

Courtesy of the artist and Tracy Williams Ltd., New York

The Westall UFO encounter that occurred on April 6, 1966, in Melbourne, Australia is one of the most mysterious recorded UFO sightings. At 11:00 am, for twenty minutes, two-hundred students and teachers at Westall High School witnessed a gray saucer-shaped craft that descended into a nearby grass field. According to eyewitnesses, the Westall Principal called for an assembly, and pupils and teachers were told not to talk about what they had seen. Several witnesses were interviewed in the Principal's office by three men assumed to be military representatives. Barbara Robbins, the chemistry teacher who is the subject of this painting, had taken photos of the incident with her camera, and was forced by authorities to hand it over.

Mona Stafford, 1976

2014

Oil on linen

Courtesy of the artist and Tracy Williams Ltd., New York

Gordon Cooper

2014

Oil on linen

Courtesy of the artist and Tracy Williams Ltd., New York

Astronaut Gordon Cooper was one of the seven original American astronauts involved with Project Mercury, the first manned space program of the United States. Cooper claimed the U.S. Government had knowledge about the existence of extraterrestrial life. He also claimed to have witnessed several UFOs, including a lenticular, or lens-shaped object landing at Edwards Air Force Base in southern California.

Marco Eli Chereze

2014

Oil on linen

Courtesy of the artist and Tracy Williams Ltd., New York

On January 20, 1996, three young women in Varginha, Brazil allegedly encountered a five-foot tall creature with a very large head and red eyes. The creature seemed disoriented and appeared injured or sick. The women fled the scene, and later the only remaining signs of the creature were footprints and a strong odor. The story was widely reported by the media. *The Wall Street Journal* published a story with the sardonic headline “Tales of Stinky Extraterrestrials Stir Up UFO Crowd in Brazil.” Marco Eli Chereze was a military police officer in the town of Varginha who supposedly held one of the extraterrestrial creatures en route to an area hospital. He died a short time later from mysterious causes.

O'Hare Incident, 2006

2014

Oil on linen

Courtesy of the artist and Tracy Williams Ltd., New York

During afternoon rush hour on Tuesday, November 7, 2006, federal authorities at Chicago O'Hare International Airport received a report that a group of twelve airport employees were witnessing a metallic, saucer-shaped craft hovering in restricted airspace. The object then shot into the sky at high velocity, piercing a hole in the cloud cover. A ramp worker first spotted the saucer and advised the flight crew of the object. Many credible witnesses—both inside and outside the airport—corroborated the sighting. The story appeared in the *Chicago Tribune* and rapidly spread. The Federal Aviation Authority later explained the incident as a “weather phenomenon.”

Balwyn, 1966 (Von Neumann Probe)

2014

Oil on linen

Courtesy of the artist and Tracy Williams Ltd., New York

Rhodes, 1947

2014

Oil on linen

Courtesy of the artist and Tracy Williams Ltd., New York

On July 7, 1947, William Rhodes of Phoenix, Arizona was disturbed by a “whooshing” sound coming from the sky. He photographed a craft flying in the sky above his home and developed the negatives himself. On July 9, 1947, The Arizona Republic published two cropped photographs taken by Rhodes. The news story led to an investigation and several interviews by Air Force investigators, who concluded the story was a hoax. Afterwards, Rhodes claimed that federal agents took his original photos and his single negative and never returned them.

Kirtland Air Force Base, 1980

2014

Oil on linen

Courtesy of the artist and Tracy Williams Ltd., New York

Japan Air Lines/Alaska, 1987

2014

Oil on linen

Courtesy of the artist and Tracy Williams Ltd., New York

On November 17, 1986, Captain Kenju Terauchi's cargo plane, Japan Airlines flight 1628, reportedly encountered three UFOs above the skies of Alaska. He assumed that the objects were military craft. On-board radar detected the presence of a craft, yet Air Traffic Control could not confirm this information. A target was picked up at nearby Elmendorf Air Force Base. Military radar trailed the plane and the pilot was offered military intervention, which he declined. Afterwards the Federal Aviation Authority launched an intensive, three-month investigation, and eventually attributed the sighting to a "split radar image." For several years, Japan Airlines assigned Captain Terrauchi to a desk job before he was allowed to fly again.

John Callahan, 1986

2016

Color pencil on paper

Courtesy of the artist and Tracy Williams Ltd., New York

After a November 17, 1986, Japan Airlines flight 1628 UFO sighting report, the Alaska region's Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) briefed John Callahan, Division Chief of the FAA's Accidents Evaluation and Investigations division. Callahan recorded what the air traffic controllers had on their display, coupled with the audiotapes from the event. He briefed Admiral Donald D. Engen on the event, who set up a meeting with President Ronald Reagan's scientific staff. Engen turned over all the data from the incident to Reagan's staff. After the meeting all the men were sworn to secrecy and told that neither the meeting nor the UFO incident had happened.

Captain R. Salas, Malmstrom 1967

2016

Color pencil on paper

Courtesy of the artist and Tracy Williams Ltd., New York

Belem, Brazil, 1977

2016

Color pencil on paper

Courtesy of the artist and Tracy Williams Ltd., New York

Grace Askew, Bacchus Marsh, Australia

2016

Color pencil on paper

Courtesy of the artist and Tracy Williams Ltd., New York

Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada Testing Site, 1994

2016

Color pencil on paper

Courtesy of the artist and Tracy Williams Ltd., New York

This drawing is based on infamous footage of a UFO observed at Nellis Air Force Base. In the video, two radar controllers discuss what they witnessed. Their bewilderment is evident. If it is an early drone prototype or similar secret military stealth project, they were clearly not privy to this. The figure in the drawing is Stichbury's imagined radar operator.

Robert and Lisel, Ariel School, 1994

2016

Color pencil on paper

Courtesy of the artist and Tracy Williams Ltd., New York