

ARTIST PROFILES

ALISON MACKAY's work explores objects and their surroundings through the exuberant use of paint. The paint itself is as important as the subject matter – its movement becomes the language for describing volumes and surfaces; and for the artist, a sixth sense through which to explore form and texture. Her works have been finalists in several national art prizes including The Archibald, The Mosman Art Prize, The Eutick Memorial Still Life Award, The Portia Geach Memorial Award, The NSW Parliament's Plein Air Prize, the Black Swan portraiture prize and The Gallipoli Prize. She was the winner of the Waverley Works on Paper prize and The Fisher's Ghost Prize for traditional work. Alison's work has been shown throughout Australia and overseas.

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ALIX HUNTER is a Melbourne based artist working primarily in oils and contemporary still life. In 2019 Alix was a finalist in the Little Things Art Prize and her work was featured in the 2020 Dulux Colour Forecast. She has exhibited in numerous group exhibitions in Melbourne most recently, at Abbotsford Convent and Red Gallery.

Alix Hunter's still life painting explores light, the landscape of objects and the spaces between them. Alix paints domestic vignettes documenting the everyday. She often includes Australian bush flowers and organic form found around her studio in inner city Melbourne. Alix chooses to concentrate on the strength of chroma, tonality, texture and composition. Colour combinations and loose paint work are key. The palette is muted, detail is edited, the result is an open, minimalist focus with a strong emphasis on space.

AMY CUNEO is a painter and poet residing in Wollongong NSW. Her work is always seeking that point where the mundane intersects with the ethereal. Still life, the natural world, and cropped faces of her children make up many of her works. She was a finalist this year in the FLOW watercolour prize. Strong colour choice is a central part of my painting process inspired by painters such as Doig, Matisse and Bonnard. I search for imperfection, lines that won't quite straighten, rooms that tilt ever so slightly looking for the moment that is more real than what we see. Recently my work has drawn inspiration from the whimsical Mary Feddon.

ANH NGUYEN lives and paints from Thirroul on the NSW South Coast, with her partner and 4 children. She was recently the winner of the Basil Sellers Art Prize 2019 and a finalist in the Rick Amor Self-Portrait Prize, the Eutick Memorial Still Life Award, the Hawkesbury Art Prize and the Len Fox Painting Award.

"My paintings are a response to the visual excitement found in life. My motifs revolve around daily rhythms, human activity and small moments. I am interested in finding that space between perceptual painting and something more abstract."

BEN WATERS. 2019 Northern Beachers Art Prize Finalist, Member of Sydney Road Gallery and Pittwater Artist Trail. Inspired by the landscape of Pittwater and Palm Beach Headland and my experience through physical visits, memory and imagination.

BETH GIBBESSON completed her Bachelor / Honours Degree in Fine Arts Painting at RMIT. She paints full time in her studio at home in Frankston South where she is able to frequently explore the beautiful landscapes of living in the Mornington Peninsula.

The exploration of my surrounding landscape is my main inspiration for my work. I rely on my own unique interpretation through observing the shapes, formations, lines, curves, colours and the spaces in between to de-construct and then re-assemble my work together. In doing so, emerges abstracted representations of my surroundings.

CLARE PURSER has an Honours degree from the Queensland College of Art, Griffith University and has had solo and group exhibitions in Australia and New Zealand. This year Clare received a Commendation in the Hawkesbury Art Prize and has previously been a finalist in The Sunshine Coast Art Prize, The Redland Art Award, The Brisbane Art Prize and the Moreton Bay Region Art Award. In 2016 she was awarded the Milburn Art Prize from the Brisbane Institute of Art.

Part of my art making process includes really getting to know a place through plein air painting, drawing, photography, research and walking. When I'm on a field trip painting I try to pack lightly, using mostly gouache, pastel and watercolour on paper. I paint quickly outside, putting down paint quickly to capture my initial feelings and responses to what I see."

In the studio Clare uses plein air studies and sketches as a jumping off point to start a new body of work. An intuitive approach to oil painting somewhere between abstraction and representation, allows memories and experience to filter through.

DYLAN COOPER's art is a response to the ambiguity of everyday life. "I enjoy the brushstroke, leaving it visible is intentional. I have a need to create painterly artworks that are an impression of reality".

ELIZABETH BARNETT studied a Bachelor of Fine Arts Printmaking at The Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne 2002-2004, Bachelor Fine Arts Honours - Printmaking, RMIT, Melbourne, 2006, Masters of Arts- Illustration, Camberwell College of Art, London, 2008-2009 and was awarded the Collie Print Trust scholarship at the Australian Print Workshop in 2006. Elizabeth founded Schoolhouse Studios Inc with Alice Glenn in 2010, a not-for-profit artist studios complex in the former St. Joseph's Technical College in Abbotsford. Elizabeth Barnett's vibrant still life paintings introduce exotic and interesting botanicals to domestic scenes of treasured objects, books and furniture. These intimate arrangements are compelling not just for their subjects, but Barnett's painterly perspective - her scenes do not sit flat on the canvas, but reach up from it. Shadow, line and colour create a visual dynamism that allow Barnett's work to reach beyond the traditional stillness of still life.

EMILY GORDON was raised in Oakland, California, and immigrated to Australia in 2006 and now lives between downtown Sydney and Gunning NSW. Her art practice centres on the co-option and refraction of her visual surrounds for inclusion in her personal narrative, in acrylic paint on wood board. Her work splits into two broad streams – Country and City – representing the duality of her Australian experience. Emily was selected as a finalist in the 2018 Mosman Art Prize for her depiction of Sydney's historic harbourscape.

This is the final piece in my 'Last days of Barangaroo' series examining the visual drama of the Barangaroo Central construction site. This is a tribute to both a transient spectacle and an important year in my practice, conceived to clasp onto the energy and expectancy from when I first engaged with the Harbourside construction site - before the connection inevitably fades, as with all temporal experiences.

EMILY IMSEON was born in Orange, NSW, 1992. Emily grew up in regional areas of NSW, developing her strong connection and admiration towards the land. Recently awarded the acquisitive Macquarie Group Emerging Artist Prize in 2019 for her work 'Alive in the Dead of Night'. The Macquarie Group soon purchased her other exhibiting work 'Meeting Myths and Learning Legends'.

She has been exploring the country with her partner since June 2018, living in the back of their Toyota Troopcarrier. Whilst on the road Emily has continuously painted, developing 2 solo shows for 2019 and is currently working towards her first solo show in Sydney early 2020."

"I am currently undertaking a painting led inquiry into the Australian landscape. For the past 18 months I have been traversing the country to document and gain greater comprehension of my subject. This lifestyle provides a period of inquisition that satisfies natural curiosities I hold towards the Australian environment and to the process of painting itself.

Through methods of embodiment and mark making my practice explores the fundamental understandings of nature, reality and existence. Over time I have noticed the land brings forth an old familiar sense of knowing, a thread that runs throughout place and connects to my primordial self. These notions materialise into paint as the land reveals personified qualities.

These 2 works were painted as the sun was saying "goodnight" and a stand of young River Red Gums 'began their evening dance. 'River Red 1' and 'Reds Shadows' explore an transitory embrace between last light and the evening tide.

EMILY PERSSON is a Melbourne based artist coming from multiple generations of painters who still uses the same palette knife as her great grandmother.

In July of 2019, Emily was invited to be a part of a gallery group exhibition in Sag Harbor, New York.

Emily's art constantly trends worldwide on Instagram and has had her work featured in some of Australia's best lifestyle print magazines including House & Garden, Belle and Country Style. She is a 2019 Hawkesbury Art Prize Finalist.

A postcard snapshot of the natural world painted using the impasto technique to capture the many textural aspects of our habitat.

EMMA FUSS is based in Port Lincoln-based and is best known for her painterly still life arrangements featuring colourful native flora. After completing a Bachelor of Visual Communication, Emma worked for several years as a Graphic Designer before discovering a love of painting. Emma has exhibited in highly successful solo shows, as well as participating in a number of group shows both in SA and interstate. She has been recognised as a finalist in the Little Things Art Prize, and was the recipient of the major prize in the 2019 Port Lincoln Art Prize.

Born and raised in country South Australia, Emma paints almost daily, working predominantly in oil paint. She uses pieces from her stash of vintage fabrics, clippings from roadside plants and simple domestic items to furnish her still life arrangements. Emma aims to capture the brief moments of beauty and silence amongst the chaos of everyday family life, with her signature painterly style.

EMMA GALE's work celebrates a huge love for colour, shape and texture. Her work is layers and layers of paint, mark makings of good and bad mistakes are all part of the the visual landscape of her canvas. "My subjects are everyday people doing everyday things. I take inspiration from other cultures and their daily rituals and routines".

FIONA ANDREWS - KOSTIDIS is an emerging artist who began painting when she moved from a busy city life to the quietness of central Victoria. She is a painter who deeply enjoys painting in solitude, and other times with friends, enjoying the natural connections that develop through shared experiences of being immersed in nature. 2019 Hawkesbury Art Prize finalist.

FIONA BARRETT-CLARK is a Sydney based artist, who completed an Advanced Diploma of Fine Arts in 1998. She has shown in many group shows and is currently working on her 6th solo show, to be held at Saint Cloche in 2020. In 2018 she was privileged to be included in Amber Creswell Bells book, 'A Painted Landscape'. She has been a finalist in the Glover, Hawkesbury, St George and was a winner of Hunters Hill Art Prize - Winner Smaller Works Prize

"As a child, my parents would take my sisters and I on long driving holidays. While mum relayed stories to entertain us and hours of looking out the car window, the land took its hold on me and my love for Australian landscape was seeded. Its colour, contrast of dark shadows and intense light, it is vast and often empty and imbued with an eeriness that can be both uncomfortable and mesmerizing".

HILLARY AUSTIN is a habitual sky gazer. "Its habitual. It tells me everything about the material and matter of our earthly home. I spend my time trying to eliminate detail and say what I want to as a blurry feeling rather than fact". She holds a BA Vis Arts City Art Institute 1984-6 Grad Dip Professional Art Studies City Art Institute 1987-88 Diploma Production Design Australian Film TV & Radio school 1992-3 Many exhibitions 37 years of painting. Work in collections Internationally. Currently Opening and Curating Foundation Gallery and Arts Hub Leigh NZ. Still painting.

INGRID KWONG was originally trained as a graphic and book designer, but is now fulfilling her passion for painting through her seascapes and landscapes on salvaged wood and timber. Inspired by her life by the sea she is compelled to paint it. Spending time at her Mackerel Beach shack and in the surrounding bays and bush of Pittwater and the national park, she can often be found immersed in nature capturing the ever-changing light and movement in the land, sky and sea. She enjoys sitting in the landscape as she paints it – on a rock beside the sea, under a tree in the bush, or on the sand at the beach. With brush in hand she mixes her environmentally friendly paints with sea and rain water. Ingrid creates these paintings to capture lasting memories and connect us with nature. Using salvaged timber, rain and sea water, her work is a true reflection of her environment and her passion to protect it.

JACKI FEWTRELL-GOBERT: Winner Mosman Art Prize 1982 & 1985 - Winner Kiiribilli Art Prize 2011/12- RSL Art Prize 2017-2018

"My work is based on my immediate environment eg interiors"

JAMES LAI is self-taught artist, creating representational abstract art using his distinctive post-impressionism and pseudo-naive style.

James is a finalist in the 2019 Paddington, Hornsby, Hawkesbury and Blacktown City art prizes. His artworks are held in private collections within New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland.

James' abstract paintings are created with a strong focus on vision, the process of abstraction while retaining representational elements, techniques in the application of paint, colour palette and striking a fine balance between technical and emotion. In his abstract landscape paintings, James used an inventive and pseudo-naïve style to project simplicity and employed whimsical elements to give a distinctive character to the Australian landscape.

JANE ALIENDI lives in Tathra on the Far South Coast of NSW. She studied Philosophy and History and worked as an English teacher but has recently begun pursuing a career as a full time artist.

This body of work shows her response to the shapes and colours of objects set against patterned fabric and the crypsis that results from exploring undefined spaces.

Influenced by early modernists like Cossington Smith, Wakeling, de Maistre and Seurat she explores how the mark made by a brush and oil paint can create form and represent light. She aims to capture how colour can create an image that is both vibrant and static and plays with ideas of what is obvious and hidden in our everyday lives.

JESSICA IBBETT paints from my home in Sydney's Inner West. After years of working as a multidisciplinary designer, I recently began painting again (something I hadn't done since high school) in the moments between parenting two young kids, and have enjoyed working with acrylic on canvas and watercolours. In 2019 I was a finalist in the Urban EDGE Contemporary Art Prize. In 2017 I was a finalist in both the Little Things Art Prize and the Greenway Art Prize.

My work aims to explore notions of home, daily rituals and moments of pause, allowing myself to process and respond to memories and the minutiae of daily life through painting.

JIM MOODY is a painter living and working in the northern suburbs of Melbourne. He paints people, landscape and still life from direct observation, simple suburban themes such as objects he finds in Op Shops and the brick veneer houses at the end of his street. He tries to follow the advice from the Australian painter John Brack that "there is a subject to paint within a few feet of your house". His painting is executed in a broad, loose, direct approach bordering on the abstract. Still life might be read as visual metaphor for the landscape and the landscape as still life. His heroes are the great Modernist painters Morandi, Cezanne and Bonnard. Finalist, 2019 Rick Amor Self Portrait Award
Painting and Design works held in private collections in New York, Singapore, Sydney and Melbourne.

JONATHAN KOPINSKI is a Brisbane-based artist whose work encompasses personal, diaristic painting and peculiar narratives of place. Born in Sydney, Kopinski grew up in suburban Brisbane in the 1990s before graduating with a Bachelor of Architecture (Hons) from the University of Queensland. He has gradually developed and refined his painting practice over the years, and is particularly drawn to "earnest" forms of art practice such as folk art and the self-taught. He describes himself as a particularly "Brisbane" artist: sketchy, poetically awkward, and 'very quick on the eye'.

JULIANNE ROSS ALLCORN is an artist and art teacher; 2019 L'Air Arts and DRAWInternational Drawing Residency Paris/Caylus France; Invitation SOLO EXHIBITION by Ravenswood; Invitation back to FRANCE for Artist Residency La Pionte Piente Burgandy 2020 FINALIST in the following 2019/8 Mosman Art Prize [2018 Peoples Choice Award]; Ravenswood 2018/9; 2019/8 Hunters Hill Art Prize [2018 Peoples Choice Award]; 2019 Mini Series Art Prize Orange; 2019 Hawkesbury Art Prize; 2019 Banyule Works on Paper Prize; 2018 KAAF; 2018 Gosford Art Prize
I try to capture the conversations of the Australian Bush, bringing the textures, colours and soft hues from outside to inside

JULZ BERESFORD holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts COFA. Having an emotional and deep bond with the Hawkesbury River I have tried to capture the peace and serenity that encapsulates this place. Finding little inlets and bays which shine the light on this beautiful landscape. Reflecting my connections and its own together in these artworks. A graduate of COFA with a Bachelor of fine arts I'm reconnecting with nature and working full time as an artist. Beginning a new journey of visual discovery.

KATE DURACK is an Australian artist. Born and raised in Brisbane, she completed a Bachelor of Graphic Design from Griffith University (Queensland College of Art) in 1990. She has gone on to work as a graphic designer in Brisbane, Kuala Lumpur and Sydney. In 2011, Kate and her family relocated from Sydney to Walcha NSW. After attending painting classes with local Ross Laurie, she has gone on to have a number of sell out solo and group shows at the Walcha Gallery of Art. In August this year, Kate had a successful solo show at NERAM (New England Regional Gallery) to much acclaim, and also has a number of solo and group shows planned for the coming year. She currently lives in with her family in Walcha, Northern NSW.
"Currently working mainly with oil paints. I like both the immediacy of an instant result (by squeezing paint straight from a tube and applying directly to the canvas), but also the slower unpredictable nature of thinning the paint and overlaying of multiple layers. I try to use both these techniques in my paintings."

KATE VELLA is an emerging artist from the Southern Highlands of NSW. I am deeply connected to still life with florals and vessels. I explore with various mediums and work largely with acrylics. In 2018 I began to enter my works in local exhibitions, local Art Prizes and competitions. I received Commended in Belle Property Bowral Art Prize 2019 and Highly Commended in Artheart Blues Competition. In June this year I had my first solo show 'Antidote' in Sydney, and most recent my second show 'Shadow and Life.'
This work 'Still life with Flannel Flower' is inspired by the spent poppies and the flannel flower in full bloom. It is symbolic to the seasons changing and a reflection on: every end has a beginning.

KATHRYN JUNOR: Landscape paintings in oil are not simply an impression of places in-situ — they are also drawn from my imagination and my lived experience of the place. I am influenced by the cubist movement and the way they reduced their subjects to geometric forms. My colour palettes are arrived by saturating hints of colours found in nature. By combining these two approaches in tandem with a strong graphic qualities and use of pattern, my works straddles abstraction and representational approaches to painting.

KATIE ERASER: For Melbourne based contemporary artist Katie Eraser, emotion is at the core of how art conveys our experience of being in the world. Her work is strewn with private and embodied expressions of lust, loss, and longing, which speaks to her lived experience, and queer ideology. Katie's work incorporates the medias of painting, textile and sculpture. She held her first sell-out exhibition at Boom Gallery in April 2017, followed by an equally successful second show at Besser Space which opened in February 2018. Since then she has gone on to show work in both solo and group exhibitions at Daine Singer Gallery, Tinning Street Gallery, Modern Times, Boom Gallery and FortyFive Downstairs. Katie was awarded the FortyFive Downstairs Emerging Art Award in 2018.

Eraser imbues abstract imagery with musings of flowers, bodies, fruit and furniture. Interested in expressing language and conversation with significant peers within her works, each can be viewed as a record of the intricacy and liberation of living queer, distilled as portraits of objects related to her subjects. Distinct and divergent dialogues play out across the canvas, the intuitive and deliberate strokes clashing with unconscious mark making to distill a deep tension within. The viewer is drawn into a world of sensations and emotions playing out in space, across medias of painting, textile and sculpture.

LEISL MOTT has been painting full time since 2017, her work having been shortlisted in numerous national awards for landscape including the Paddington Art Prize and the Hadley's Prize for Landscape. Leisl's work was also featured in the 2018 Thames & Hudson publication 'A Painted Landscape' by Amber Creswell Bell. Leisl's expressive, contemporary landscape works are recognisable for their painterly, bold brushwork, rural scenes and rapid sgraffito. Working both en plein air and in her Toowoomba studio, Leisl aims to capture the essence of a time and place in her paintings.

LEONIE BARTON : A new exploration into abstraction marks a radical departure from the sculptural and photographic work which had long served as the foundation of my artistic identity. Having subjected my body to the strenuous demands required to create my ephemeral installations over the course of many years, I was forced by physical necessity to adapt my daily art practice of Ephemeral composition and construction, to forge a new way of recording my way of seeing. The comfort of familiarity and experience of place has since shaped a body of work, embracing mark making with deliberate and considered abstraction, which now leans into the still life.

LILLI STROMLAND: BFA Majoring in Painting at National Art School, Darlinghurst
2019 : Finalist in the Portia Geach Memorial Award at S.H. Ervin Gallery, Millers Point ; Finalist in the Emerging Artist section of the Ravenswood Australian Women's Art Prize; Hung in the Salon De Refuses at S.H. Ervin Gallery, Millers Point
2018 : Evelyn Chapman Art Award Finalist
2015: Awarded Chroma Prize for Excellence, 3rd Year Student, National Art School
2014 : Semi-finalist for the Douglas Moran Portrait Prize"
"Spoons and Flower Lei' is a painting of a post-celebration scene - a happy reminder of a family gathering".

LILY CUMMINS works across drawing and installation using spatial experiences and memory as a trigger. Based in the Southern Highlands, she graduated from the National art school, Sydney with a masters in drawing. Moving between expansive and intimate drawings Cummins sits within a wave of contemporary artists who are pushing the definitions of what drawing is in our time. Cummins had been involved in numerous group shows at Factory 49, Sydney and Articulate project space, Sydney and has had two solo exhibitions in the last eighteen months, one at Scratch art space, Marrickville and at The Shac, Robertson. In 2018 she won the Wingecarribee drawing prize and travelled to Leipzig, Germany to partake in a three month international artist residency. Cummins works with a combination of abstract and recognisable forms questioning the idea of representation and creating a dream-like patchwork of memory. Her work has an ambiguous narrative, conceived through repeated forms and structures. The text, characters and settings are all aspects which the viewer can relate to, but simultaneously struggles to make sense of; as though trying to recall a memory.

LLEWELLYN SKYE: Known simply as Skye, raised in Sydney and now living and working on the Gold Coast. Graduating from the National Art School with a BFA in Sculpture followed by a Diploma in Painting at Meadowbank TAFE, Skye now paints in her studio in Palm Beach, QLD while raising her young family.

Awarded the Brewing Local Artists Award, Skye has shown in over 50 local and international exhibitions, completed a painting residency in Italy and various notable public commissions. Skye's work is often playful, coloured and emotionally charged. She is inspired by the possibilities and relationships found through colour. Skye is represented by Lorraine Pilgrim in Southport."

"Over time my work has developed more and more into colour and abstraction. I get really excited about trying new colour palettes and exploring paint with the use of layers, glazing and expressive brushstrokes. Exploring the notion of contrasting emotions and possibilities of young love I am using abstract florals to symbolise hope, romance, despair, raw emotion and the highs and lows and intensities of young love. Based on the lyrics of Lovers in a Dangerous Time by Bruce Cockburn these studies have been done in preparation for my show Bleeding Daylight."

LOUISE FRITH is a Sydney-based artist specialising in oil painting of Australian landscapes and contemporary still life. In 2019 Louise was selected as a finalist in the Hawkesbury Art Prize and exhibited at the White Rhino gallery. Louise has previously been Highly Commended in the North Sydney Art Prize, selected for the Hornsby Art Prize, exhibited at the Ewart Gallery and studied Fine Art at Meadowbank TAFE.

As an oil painter, Louise's work seeks to encapsulate her experience in the landscape. In 2019 a move from her long-time family home has prompted Louise to consider the meaning of home, with works focusing on the objects and environment that provide a feeling of connection. Louise works en plein air and has a studio practice. Recent experimentation with a variety of limited palettes has led to a sense of cohesion and allowed atmosphere and light to play a larger role in her works.

LUCILA ZENTNER: Oil painter of people, gestures, ideas, places and beautiful things. 2019-2020 Winner AGES Society art prize. 2019 Finalist: Southern Buoy Studios Portrait Prize . 2018 Finalist: Basil Sellers Art Prize , Kangaroo Valley art prize, Hurford Hardwood Portrait prize, Fleurieu Biennale Art prize, Pro Hart Outback Prize, semi finalist BP Portrait Award (UK), Percival Portrait prize, Maldon and District Portrait Prize x 2. 2017 Finalist:Portia Geachmemorial Award, Manning Naked and NUde art prize, Corangamarah Art Prize, Rick Amor Self Portrait Prize. 2016 Semi Finalist: Doug Moran National Portrait Prize. 2016 Finalist: Australian Contemporary Art Awards x 2." I paint my love's gesture, a child's story, the evening light. In the studio, the songs of the trees return to me, the shape of the story unfolds, and the lands' whispers echo in my mind. It is these stories and echoes that I paint.

MARNIE ROSS is a contemporary painter & printmaker based in Sydney. Since completing a Masters of Fine Art at COFA she has exhibited in many group and solo shows. Marnie has been a finalist in numerous art prizes including the Paddington Art Prize and Ravenswood Womens' Art Prize.

Marnie's abstract works are a response to organic forms, in particular the evolving shadow patterns cast by tiny details seen in the natural environment. Nature's ever-changing designs created by light, movement and time inspire multi-layered compositions of vividly coloured shapes. Her work represents the moments captured as nature is continually reorganised.

Activation of the surface is an integral part of Marine's practice and adds to the diversity of texture as bold graphic forms float on a base of wood or linen. Marnie explores the contrast between soft dusky tones and saturated bold colours, further enhanced by the variation in paint application in thin frosty glazes and solid layers. Her more recent work is inspired by a visit to central Australia."

MELANIE VUGICH grew up in Broken Hill and made her way to Florence, where she stayed for 24 years working as a fabric designer. Now living in Sydney, she has returned to her passion, painting, taking inspiration from the beauty in the everyday. This is reflected in her quiet interiors and steady still lives, complemented by a love of travel. Her work is very literal. She paints what she sees, the way she sees it.

MELANIE WAUGH was born in Bellingen on the NSW North Coast and currently based in Sydney Melanie Waugh completed a Fine Arts Degree from The National Art School in 2001, followed by a Diploma of Art Therapy at the University Of Western Sydney in 2005. In 2007 she completed a Masters Of Art, UNSW Art and Design. In 2012 Waugh was the Curwoods Lawyers Artist In Residence, Australia Square, Sydney. She was a semi finalist in the Doug Moran Portraiture Prize 2017 and was awarded 2nd place in the 2018 Art In The Open Landscape Painting Prize. This year Melanie was a finalist in the Hawksbury Art Prize and is a Michael Reid Studio Direct artist. She has exhibited extensively across Australia in group and solo exhibitions. Her work is owned in private collections nationally and internationally.

Melanie Waugh's paintings explore the Australian landscape. They capture scapes familiar and unknown from the artists travels. Continuing on the grand narrative of Australian landscape painting Waugh's broad brushstrokes and rich colours reflect the dynamic diversity of Australia presenting a energetic picture of the vast terrain.

MELINDA MARSHMAN has a signature spare and evocative style, her interest lies in recording the small and often ordinary moments in life that when closely observed and recorded can become as monumental as the grand moments.

MICHELE MORCOS is a multimedia visual artist with a studio practice in Sydney, Australia. She graduated from UNSW Art & Design (Collage of Fine Arts) in 1999 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Painting/drawing) and a BA Honours in Art Theory.

Michele has exhibited her work in eight solo exhibitions and over twenty group exhibitions throughout Australia. She has been selected twice as a finalist for The Brett Whiteley Art Scholarship and also for major prizes such as the Mosman Art Prize, and the Urban EDGE contemporary art prize.

During the past 10 years, Michele has worked and taught at Macquarie University, and in a number of art galleries including ADC: Australian Centre for Design in Sydney. She has also completed Artist-in-residence programs in Australia & overseas. In 2016 Michele collaborated on a public art project with DoeandDoe to create a ten minute hand drawn animated film for Transport NSW's Wynscreen project, while exhibiting a new collection of works for her seventh solo exhibition at Koskela Gallery in Sydney.

"I am a conceptual multimedia artist that works in painting, drawing, coil weaving, installation and sculpture. Throughout my art practice and the varying themes explored in each series, my work has three key areas of exploration : colour, light and emotional content".

MYRIAM KINYEE was originally a graphic designer, and has been painting in the Kangaroo Valley, full time since 2004. Accepted twice in Portia Geach and also a finalist in National STILL Life award. Has won Pirtek Still life prize and Copes Portrait Prize (2nd prize), BDAS(Bowral and District Art Society). Work is mainly figurative and representational, though recently focused on the floral still life

NATALIE ANDERSON is a painter from the southwest coast of Victoria who delights in landscapes, sea and sky. She has exhibited for the last ten years but most recently in New York with fellow painter and friend Gus Leunig. Her work is held in collections in Hong Kong, China, USA and New Zealand. Natalie was included in the Painted Landscape - Amber Cresswell Bell.

Wind and weather reveal their characters only by the effect they have on other things. We learn the nature of the wind by the shape of clouds, smoke drifting and branches bending. Equally we might better understand ourselves by the marks left on us by the things we 'weather' in life. Whilst using my daily painting practice as therapy I have both zoned out from my thoughts and tuned in to the secret workings of the weather, vast and intimate all at once. All of the paintings in this series take their titles from Rumi and this one is no exception.

NICOLA WOODCOCK is a Sydney based, self-taught artist from the UK, working from a studio on the edge of Ku Ring Gai National Park. Finalist in the Northern Beaches Art Prize 2019 and Little Things Art Prize 2019. Australian natives bold, hardy and enduring, they are my inspiration. I see them everywhere as I go about everyday life - in gardens, carparks and along roadsides. Oil pastel medium lends itself to gestural mark making, perfect for capturing the graphic forms and strong colours of the native flora.

PAULA JENKINS is a landscape painter from Walcha NSW in the northern tablelands. From a young age Paula has been surrounded by and immersed in a range of landforms and ecosystems which has developed her yearning for capturing the Australian environments. As such she is also passionate about environmental conservation, having studied Environmental Management. Through her painting practice Paula aims to depict the essence of Australia's landscapes using predominately oils (in the studio) and gouache (in the field). Colour and mark-making are essential elements in allowing Paula to fully express herself in a painting and engage with the landscape. This painting 'Macdonald River Bend' was recently painted en plein air at the Macdonald River near Walcha.

"My art is a continuous journey of discovery as I explore, through painting, our incredible and diverse environments around the country. I look deep into a landscape and extract the subtleties and connotations that lie within. My aim is to evoke emotion and a sense of place through my paintings. I create connections with the Australian environment to allow for a deeper understanding of the compelling beauty, the wild, the rugged and the mystery of our unique landforms."

SAM MICHELLE is Melbourne based Kiwi specialising in still life oil paintings. Sam is represented by GallerySmith. The inspiration for this work titled 'Lemonade' was from Queen B herself. Sam wanted to paint a work for this show with a meaning of female strength.

STACEY McCALL lives in the inner Melbourne suburb of Kensington with her husband and their five daughters. She works from her garden studio. In 2018 and 2019, Stacey was a finalist in the Little Things Art prize. She also participated in the Selected Works group show at Boom Gallery, as well as having a solo show at Boom titled "Back Home". Although still a passionate painter of the Australian landscape, over the past few years Stacey McCall's work has moved closer to home, focusing on the intimate arrangements of the objects around her. Gestural brushstrokes often merely suggestions of form, reflecting her watercolour studies, resulting in work that is somewhere between drawing and painting.

"I suppose I would describe my work as 'quiet'. It reaches back to memories faded and distorted, archiving my 1970's childhood as well as the years spent at home with my young family. These objects sit silently around my home, unnoticed, life whirling around them, time passing, children growing older."

STEF TARASOV is an Australian artist who works with a direct and unhesitant brushstroke to explore the everyday, and what may lurk beneath. Fascinated with memory and the narratives that shape us, Stef layers and sculpts the paint to suggest a hybrid space of both the familiar and the inscrutable. In response to Marcus Clarke's writings on the 'weird melancholy' of the Australian landscape, and of our collective myths; notions of strange beauty and a sense of disquiet seem to creep uninvited into the works.

Recent finalist in the 2019 Muswellbrook Prize, the 2019 Mosman Art Prize, and winner of the 2019 Clyde & Co Award, Stef is currently working on a series of paintings that find the beauty, the story and the slight strangeness in the ordinary and the everyday.

SUE TESORIERO is a painter based in Sydney's Inner West. Sue holds a bachelor degree in visual communications. She has studied fine art part time at the National Art School, Art Est. and the Wiesbaden Fachhochschule in Germany. Both Sue's Interior and still life works embody the sacredness of objects; attaching meaning and relationships to the things we hold dear, conjuring memories of people, places and time. Sue works both in acrylic and oil on canvas. Sue has exhibited works in group shows and recently exhibited at the 2018 Glebe Art Show. Her work was Highly Commended and was awarded the winner of the People's Choice Award.

"My inspiration comes from an interest in pattern and light and the way an interior can be transformed by light dancing across the surfaces. Instantly altered, a space comes alive."

VYNKA HALLAM: When I find a moment that inspires me I try to capture and translate it into my art so my audience can feel it as well. My greatest reward with art is to see others enjoy it and appreciate the little bit of humour that I saw too. * 2019 Finalist Lethbridge Gallery Small Scale Art Award
"HIGH TIDE - There are no shortcuts to anywhere worth going".

WANDA COMRIE is a contemporary realist oil painter. 2019 Winner, Frankie magazine Good Stuff award. 2019 Finalist EMSLA. 2018 Finalist, City of Busselton Art Award. 2018 Finalist, Collie Art Prize
2017 Finalist, City of Busselton Art Award. 2017 Finalist, Little Things Art Award, Sydney.
"My creative practice responds to and explores shadow play in domestic scenes. My subject matter is what surrounds me, the stuff of life in random complexity and ordinariness. Australian native flora fascinates me".