

Media Release

23 September 2014

Sublime Point: the landscape in painting 11 October to 30 November 2014



Hazelhurst Regional Gallery & Arts Centre is pleased to present *Sublime Point: the landscape in painting*, an exhibition of contemporary landscape paintings by 25 leading artists from across Australia.

The landscape has been a significant aspect of Australian painting and continues to resonate in our consciousness metaphorically and as a presence, backgrounding a range of concerns and experiences for artists and the broader population alike.

This exhibition will demonstrate a wide variety of approaches to and uses of landscape in contemporary painting with some interesting intersections as well as differences. It intends to show how artists are featuring landscape in their work as a signifier for aesthetic and cultural issues and understandings.

The artists selected for this exhibition are based in many different regions from around Australia; rural, remote and urban. Techniques employed by the artists reflect this diversity as does the use of landscape which may originate from a cultural and spiritual attachment to place or an urban sensibility to a changing environment. For others the landscape provides a vehicle for the exploration of self, responses to the historical aspect of landscape and a relationship with nature.

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Some artworks have been created specifically for the exhibition. James Dodd from South Australia has created a new large scale commissioned work, using his signature style combining aerosol and stencilling. Originally a respected street artist using the tag name Dlux, Dodd's practice is influenced by his travels throughout Australia, where he often collects and documents an archaeology of signs represented in random markings, the anonymous traces of the culture and people particular to place.

Locally based artists in southern Sydney seem instinctively drawn to the landscape and natural environs. Represented in the exhibition are Peter Sharp who expresses the sublime experience of encounters with natural phenomena, Ildiko Kovaks who works intuitively using abstract forms to recreate a sense or memory of place, and Alexander McKenzie whose luminous and evocative paintings employ landscape as metaphor for personal narrative while referencing the techniques of Dutch masters.

Other artists in the exhibition include, Churchill Cann (WA), Tony Clark (ACT/Italy), Sally Gabori (QLD), Daniel Boyd (NSW), Noel McKenna (NSW), Imants Tillers (NSW), Neridah Stockley (NT), Caroline Rannersberger (TAS), Stephen Bush (VIC), David Ralph (VIC), Mark Rodda (TAS/VIC), Paul Ryan (NSW), Kate Shaw (Vic), Joanna Lamb (WA), Chris Langois (NSW), George Tjungurrayi (NT), Tjala Women's Collaborative (SA), Amber Wallis (NSW), Oliver Watts (NSW), Philip Wolfhagen (TAS).

Image: Sally Gabori *Dibirdibi Country* 2011, synthetic polymer paint on linen, 198 x 455 cm. Image courtesy of artist & Alcaston Gallery Melbourne.

On Show: 11 October – 30 November 2014

At: Hazelhurst Regional Gallery & Arts Centre, 782 Kingsway, Gymea NSW

Open: Daily from 10am – 5pm

Admission: Free

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