

Maunsell Wickes Gallery Paddington

LARA SCOLARI

I am a Contemporary Australian Visual Artist, who lives and works full time on my art making practice within my vibrant light filled studio located in the heart of Sydney's harbour side village of Balmain.

Holding a Masters in Cross Disciplinary Art & Design from the University of New South Wales (MCDArtDes, UNSW) and with many years' experience working in the Arts and Cultural sector, I express this wealth of knowledge within my arts practice.

An action/gestural painter, my work is produced in an Abstract Expressionist style that explores developed experimental techniques and processes. Building up each work using a variety of media, I create depth through transparent layers that reveal hidden dioramas.

In my latest body of work "NOCTURN" I create an enlivening space for contemplation and resting place for thoughts through multilayered forms. It explores and discusses the emotional rural landscapes of the Central Western NSW sheep and wheat belt. The gestural shapes, layers of ink and pastel engage with the sentiments and energy of people on the land. NOCTURN underscores the many facets of the farming community circumstance such as the undercurrents, pressures, negotiation, trade, waiting game and 'lay awake at night' type expectations including its rollercoaster ride of excitement, joy and despair all in unison. The limited earthy palette of Burnt Sienna, Red Oxide, Paynes Grey, Yellow Oxide and White uncovers this soul-stirring territory. I am interested in how energy informs the painting and viewing process.

When I am creating the art works, I am transformed from a state of active energy into one of serene immersion exploring the subconscious and automatic line.

My paintings provide a space for you the viewer to engage with this spectrum of energy: from vitality to calmness.

The works share my thought process, and create a place to retreat to, to muse and to meditate, like being immersed in music.

I hope that when viewing these works of emotional energy, you are free to be transported to another state of mind. Art making for me is a form of meditation and I try to really just let go! I have learnt - not to get too caught up in the outcomes, but to just let the process happen and the magic will come! FREEDOM, ENERGY & SOUL