

Marina Strocchi

Terra Firma

9 April – 4 May 2019

Marina Strocchi's upcoming exhibition, *Terra Firma*, reflects on her time spent on a residency in Kangaroo Valley, NSW in 2018. Featuring new paintings comprising of acrylic paint and oxides on linen or hand-made recycled Indian rag paper, her works are an intuitive response to nature.

Originally from Victoria, Marina Strocchi has lived in Central Australia for the past twenty-six years. Her distinctive art practice was celebrated with a touring survey exhibition, *Marina Strocchi: A survey exhibition 1992 – 2014*, which commenced at Araluen Arts Centre in the Northern Territory in 2015.

The paintings in *Terra Firma* are Strocchi's response to the dramatic landscape of the Kangaroo Valley. The flatness and verticality that emerges in the Escarpment works is dramatic, with abstracted forms from the landscape pressing up against the picture plane. Her work continues to use a limited palette, but blocks of colour become sculptural, divided by thick lines.

"The tension between the interdependent line work and form creates the counterpoint for the structure and colour in my paintings. I am creating spacial harmony: a place of reprieve and refuge, as nature does in life. A fundamental aspect of my work is my response to the brilliant glare of the central Australian light and its effect on land formations."

Marina Strocchi - 2019

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Strocchi's work is held in prestigious collections, including the National Gallery of Australia, Artbank, Powerhouse Museum, National Gallery of Victoria, and numerous state, corporate and private collections in Australia and overseas. She completed a commission for Old Parliament House in Canberra and has been a finalist in various awards, including the Eutick Memorial Still Life Prize, The Waterhouse Natural Science Art Prize, Fisher's Ghost Art Award and the Wynne Prize.