

Adam Pyett

New Paintings

23 August – 10 September 2022

Jan Murphy is proud to present Adam Pyett's latest solo exhibition, *New Paintings*.

"Art is not found in the subject but in the interpretation. Realism is not as interesting as poetry; poetry is art. I am trying to interpret the subject of the Australian landscape with poetry of colour and paint. Whilst I always aim to make a painting of a gum tree recognisable I am really only trying to stimulate a memory in the viewer. Once the memory is there, the tree is there. In this group of paintings I have been concentrating on colour relationships and deliberate areas of abstraction. Not because this will give a more accurate illustration of a landscape but because it is more interesting to look at. Given enough information, you will see a tree. Anything more than enough is too much."

Adam Pyett, 2022

Adam's work is an entirely fresh reimagining of a familiar landscape, tapping into the viewer's own memory of reminiscent scenes. The paintings are based on scenery from around his home in the Macedon Ranges (Victoria) and resemble many quintessential features of the Australian landscape. He begins with a charcoal sketch from life before returning to the studio where the distance between subject and canvas affords him the freedom to reinterpret a scene. His memory informs his hand while he works, allowing him to amplify or diminish colour and compositional elements true to his own impression.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Adam Pyett graduated from Victorian College of the Arts with a Bachelor of Fine Art in 1994. In 2017 he was honoured with a survey exhibition *Still Life Painting* at Geelong Gallery. His work has been included in major public exhibitions including *Romancing the Skull* at the Art Gallery of Ballarat (2017) and *Painting More Painting* at the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Melbourne (2016).

Most recently Pyett has been a finalist in the Len Fox Painting Prize (2022), John Leslie Art Prize (2020, 2018), and the Geelong Contemporary Art Prize (2016, 2014). Artworks by Pyett are part of important public collections including National Gallery of Victoria, Monash University Museum of Art, Geelong Gallery, Art Gallery of Ballarat and Artbank, in addition to private collections in Australia and the USA.