



Coastal Muse

Vicki Stavrou

Macnaughton Focus Gallery and Kelly Wall

Friday 22 November 2019 – Sunday 16 February 2020

Each time I work *en plein air* in the Northern Rivers coastal area I always think, "My god, what took me so long to get down here?". Getting outside is good for the soul. Each moment is a treasure at these beautiful nature spots. Living with beautiful paintings that pay tribute to the natural world reminds me to slow down and reconnect with nature. When painting *en plein air*, I try to capture the feel, the mood and most importantly the quality of stillness, the particular light, the intensity of silence, and the strong tonal variations that comes from the Australian sun.

I am predominantly a fan of colour so most of my work focuses heavily on producing exciting colourscapes. If I feel excited about the colours, I hope others will too. And within the colourscape I produce shapes and gestures to express what I feel at the initial moment of laying down the colours – letting the painting unfold and take me on a journey.

Vicki Stavrou, 2019

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Brunswick Oyster Farms 2019, acrylic on canvas, 100 × 65 × 5cm

Image courtesy of the artist