

JAMES
MAKIN
GALLERY

MAX BOWDEN: PENDULUM



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01 – 16 OCT 2022

Available works are subject to change, including prices and availability. All prices include GST.

Darwin-based artist Max Bowden paints heart-felt depictions of the Top End landscape, providing tangible insights into nature's power in north Australian climates. Her paintings capture the dramatic atmosphere and moods that only the tropical north provides. Not only a depiction of her literal surroundings, Bowden draws upon the landscape as a motif to untangle the idiosyncrasies of human life and the habits of others. For Bowden, painting is a tool to understand and capture the emotional climate of her environment.

In her forthcoming exhibition at James Makin Gallery, Bowden introduces intimate interior scenes to her vocabulary of landscape and suburban scenes. This introduction is a step further inward to the artist's articulation of emotion and place, seeing Bowden capture moments within her own home. Despite their direct, personal link to the artist, these scenes have an apparent universal domesticity to them, drawing viewers to consider, along with the landscape and the suburbs, their internal environment as a potent field of emotional metaphor.

Important to Bowden's work is the visible presence of underpainting – in many works, this is prominent, glowing bright blue around the canvas' edge, or in small moments upon it. For Bowden, this is an important aspect when capturing the emotional barometer of her landscapes. What the artist sees and experiences is only one reading in a moment in time, there is always something happening underneath and around it. What one sees as essential is not a definitive reading, it floats atop a vast and moving realm of experience. There is a shifting pendulum of experience: what you think you know, what actually is, and how your assumptions can impact perception. To Bowden, there is no set reality – it is a malleable surface, layered and shifting.

Max Bowden was born in Melbourne, Australia, and now lives and works in Darwin. She studied visual arts at the Central School of Art in Adelaide, receiving the school's first scholarship. Bowden holds a Bachelor of Visual arts from Charles Darwin University and a Postgraduate Degree in Psychology. In 2022 Bowden won the Hadley's Art Prize Residency. Her forthcoming exhibition at James Makin Gallery is the artist's second major solo exhibition with the gallery, following a debut sell-out showing.



MAX BOWDEN
Shifting over us, 2022
30 x 30 cm
oil on Belgian linen



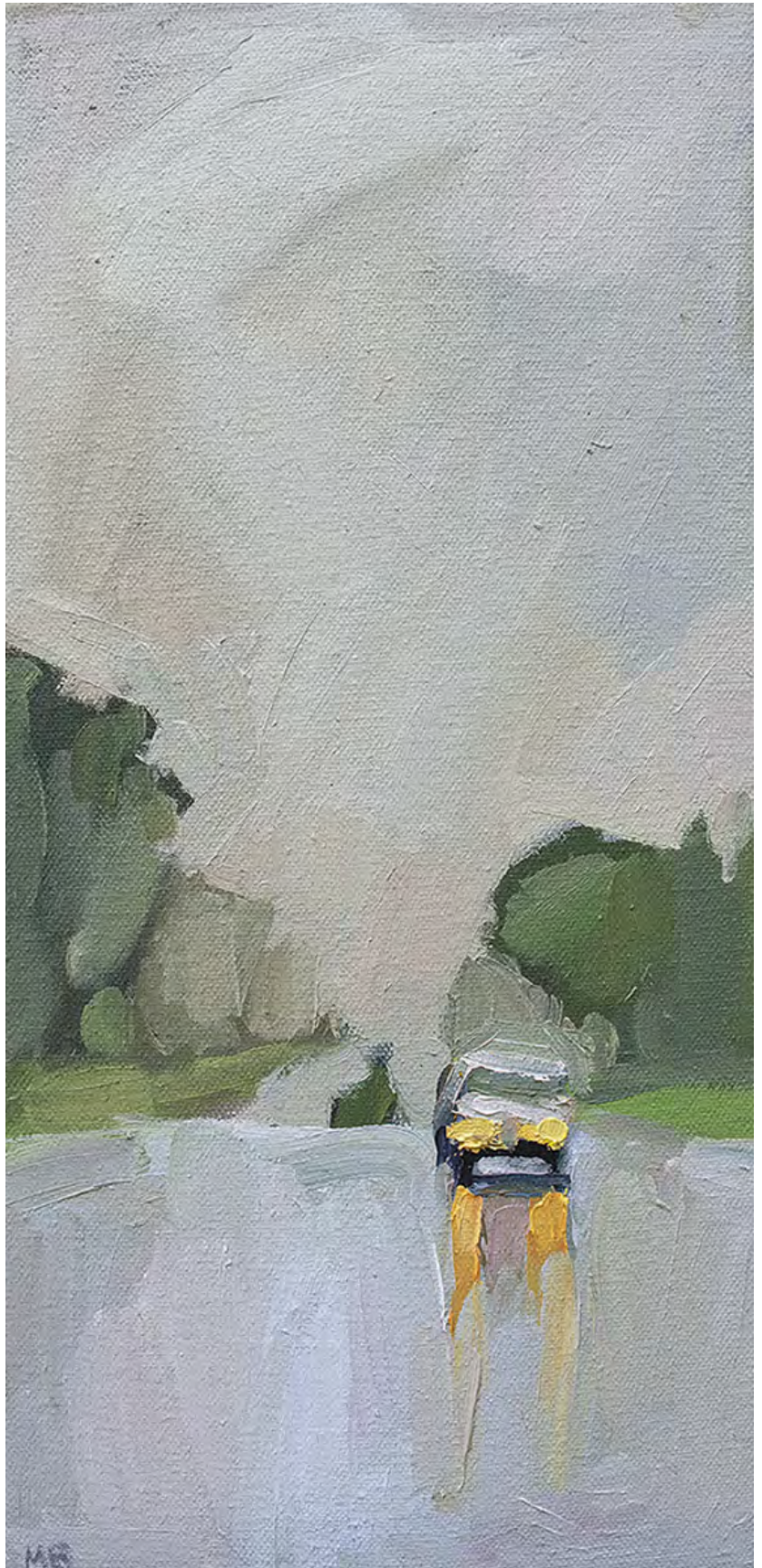
MAX BOWDEN
According to my spouse, 2022
30 x 30 cm
oil on Belgian linen



MAX BOWDEN
The only surf day in Darwin, 2022
30 x 30 cm
oil on Belgian linen



MAX BOWDEN
The barracks, 2022
30 x 30 cm
oil on Belgian linen



MAX BOWDEN
Neighbours, 2022
30 x 12 cm
oil on canvas



MAX BOWDEN
The curly bit, 2022
30 x 30 cm
oil on Belgian linen



MAX BOWDEN
Waving from another world, 2022
40 x 30 cm
oil on canvas



MAX BOWDEN
Phone, coffee, wheel time, 2022
21 x 30cm
oil on canvas



MAX BOWDEN
Salt dog, 2022
30 x 40 cm
oil on Belgian linen



MAX BOWDEN
Everything and nothing all at once and
never, 2022
50 x 40cm
oil on linen



MAX BOWDEN
Myth, 2022
30 x 40 cm
oil on Belgian linen



MAX BOWDEN
One rep, 2022
30 x 30 cm
oil on Belgian linen



MAX BOWDEN
Boys and Flowers, 2022
30 x 30 cm
oil on Belgian linen



MAX BOWDEN

The activity before and after the other
activity, 2022

30 x 30 cm

oil on Belgian linen



MAX BOWDEN
Mother's Day, 2022
30 x 30 cm
oil on linen



MAX BOWDEN
The bower, 2022
40 x 30 cm
oil on linen



MAX BOWDEN
Rising tide lifts all boats, 2022
40 x 30 cm
oil on Belgian linen



MAX BOWDEN
Only the monster's tail, 2022
40 x 30 cm
oil on canvas



MAX BOWDEN
George said the sea was angry, 2022
50 x 40 cm
oil on linen



MAX BOWDEN
Places, 2022
40 x 30 cm
oil on linen



MAX BOWDEN
G&T on the bridge, 2022
21 x 31 cm
oil on canvas



MAX BOWDEN
Take a seat over there mind!, 2022
30 x 40 cm
oil on canvas

MAX BOWDEN

EDUCATION

Postgraduate Degree, Psychology, Charles Darwin University, Darwin

Bachelor of Visual Arts, Charles Darwin University, Major in Oil Painting

Certificate of Visual Arts, Adelaide Central School of Art, Adelaide

Inaugural Scholarship Adelaide Central School of Arts, Scholarship, Adelaide

AWARDS, GRANTS AND PRIZES

2022 Winner Hadley's Art Prize Residency

2019 Finalist Rick Amor National Portrait Prize

2019 First Prize WAGS Art Exhibition

2019 Artist in Residence, Territory Wildlife Park

2013 First Prize WAGS Art Exhibition

2007 High Commendation. 24HR Art Graduate Art Award, Darwin

2007 Raft Gallery Award, Graduate Art Exhibition, CDU

2001 First Prize Whyalla Art Prize, Young SA Artist's Award,

1995 Scholarship - Adelaide Central School of Art,

(under Rod Taylor, Anna Platten and Christopher Orchard)

1995 Studio Residency: Carclew Youth Arts Centre, Adelaide

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITION

2021 Habits, James Makin Gallery - Melbourne

2020 What Was Supposed to Happen, Paul Johnstone Gallery - Darwin

2005 Bookends, Solo show, Wood Street Gallery (DVAA) - Darwin

2002 'ME' Carclew Art Space, Solo Exhibition - Adelaide

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITION

2022 Hadley's Art Prize, Hadley's Orient Hotel - Hobart

2022 Summer New, James Makin Gallery - Melbourne

2022 Monochrome, Mitchell Fine Art - Brisbane

2021 Monsoon, Paul Johnstone Art Gallery - Darwin

2021 Twenty, Mitchell Fine Art - Brisbane

2020 Paul Johnstone Art Gallery - Darwin

2019 Rick Amor National Portrait Prize - Melbourne

2019 WAGS Art Prize - Darwin

2019 Don Whyte 'Off Cuts' - Darwin

2019 Territory Wildlife Park – Threatened species - Darwin

2018 Katherine Art Prize - Katherine

2018 Don Whyte 'Off Cuts' - Darwin

2013 WAGS Art Exhibition - Darwin

2005 Blind Date, Wood Street Gallery (DVAA) - Darwin

2005 Cooperblack, Darwin Festival - Darwin

2005 UNI38 Graduate Art Exhibition, Charles Darwin University - Darwin

2004 Raw, Wood Street Gallery (DVAA) - Darwin

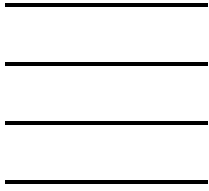
2003 'Ramp' 24 HR Art Gallery (members show) - Darwin

2002 Fringe 2002 'Open Sandwich' - Adelaide

2001 SALA 'conversations 9 by 5' - Adelaide

2001 Whyalla Art Prize 'Onesteel Young SA Artists Award' - Whyalla

2000 Fringe 2000 'Melisma' - Adelaide



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