

Artist Statement - Mia Hacker

Colours of Country Study number 8

Feeling the ground beneath me, I surrender to the guiding sensation that beckons my gaze into a specific direction. It is in these moments that I immerse myself in the world around me, dedicating my time to the art of truly looking, listening, and seeing, and hearing.

I often reflect upon the scorching flames that once meandered through the bush that envelops me. Every scratch of black and charcoal on my paper evokes a profound sense of melancholy, a visceral connection to the pain and resilience of nature. With each stroke of mark making, I am transported to the imagined experiences these trees have weathered, the stories they silently hold but try to share..

These resilient trees lead my focus downward, to the very earth from which they draw life. My artistic observation becomes an exploration of the ever-changing Colours of Country, and this transformation finds its way onto my paper. I allow the palette of colours to emerge organically from the environment that surrounds me.

Water, harvested from the rain-filled stream, sometimes tranquil and other times cascading with unstoppable force, becomes my medium. I mix it with an array of earth pigments, applying them with a combination of fast and slow, gentle and rough movements. In this process, I interpret, feel, convey messages, and establish connections with the sacred essence of the singular place where I find myself - a place where I often stand alone in communion with nature.

Through my art, I aim to capture not only the visual beauty of the natural world but also the emotional depth and profound stories hidden within it. I invite you to join me on this journey of sensory exploration, where the earth, the elements, and my own spirit unite to create a tangible expression of the beauty and resilience of our surroundings.